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A Brief History Of Handbags And Purses

By Cindy Stewart

What is a handbag?

The term handbag is a rather literal description of most purses: a bag held by a hand. A handbag is simply a purse. It is an American term and usually refers to smaller purses, also known as coin purses, pocket books, and clutches.

Early handbags

Among the first handbags and purses were simple bags used to hold money usually tied to a man's belt or a woman's girdle during the fourteenth century. But archeological excavations in Egypt have shown images of men with small bags tied clearly to their waists. While clearly not a new concept, the handbag has come to be far more than a sack for holding coins. The evolution of the purse is inevitably linked to changes in fashion and culture.

Changes in Style

When changes in fashion, during the nineteenth century made it harder to conceal a coin pursed designed to be worn underneath clothing, the handbag began to come into use. In 1892 French luggage designer Louis Vuitton began selling handbags.

Over the years handbags have developed in every shape and size. They can have short straps, long straps, no straps at all, bamboo handles and just about anything else.

Buying Handbags

There are so many different styles of handbags available on the market now that sifting through the myriad of styles to find the perfect bag would be quite an achievement. With the growth of designer fashion it is possible to find handbags to match the most unique dress. It is also common for women to buy different handbags to suit different occasions.

A Brief History Of Handbags And Purses

While the sheer variety of handbags available can seem almost ridiculous, the handbag is an extremely individual accessory. Everyone carries a bag for specific and personal reasons. It may hold simply money but it may also hold a wide collection of other valuables that range from cell phones and keys to make-up and medicine.

Designer Handbags

In the fashion world there are bags and there are Designer bags. Designer handbags are finely crafted objects. A great deal of attention is given to even line and seem of a designer bag, and the effects can be striking. Designer handbags are luxury items and are very expensive. Many designer names are perceived as status symbols. Because of the popularity of designer bags an increasing number of bags made in imitation of designer bags are being made and those looking into buying designer bags must be wary of these knock-offs.

Cindy Stewart has worked in the fashion industry for over 23 years. To learn more about designer handbags visit her Web site

<http://www.designerhandbagreview.com>

today. Don't miss the information

about spotting fake handbags, it could save you lots of money.

The Purse - The One Accessory Women Just Can't Live Without

By Ken Wilson

The purse or handbag as it is sometimes referred to is a small bag that is normally used as an accessory by women. These purses or bags are used to hold items such as wallets, keys, tissues, cell phones, makeup, keys, and other items that women just can't be without.

Available in many different shapes, sizes, and styles, the purse has become a must have accessory for all women. In addition to this purses have also become a fashion accessory with many designer labels now producing their own range of purses. These include Gucci and Louis Vutton, to name but a few. The purse can come in a wide range of materials and fabric including leather, animal fur, animal skin such as crocodile is also very popular, silk, and cotton. Small to medium sized purses with short handles that are designed only to be carried are referred to as clutch purses and these are very popular for night time use.

A coin purse is one that is just big enough to hold money and cards and this can be stored in larger purses. Whilst purses are normally only carried by women, there is an alternative for men, and this is the backpack. Many men and women carry these backpacks and they have become very popular in today's modern society.

A Brief History Of Handbags And Purses

For many women one purse is not enough and for many purses has become one of their many accessories. Different purses for different outfits and occasions are now very common and there are many women who may have up to ten or more purses in their possession.

Whether it's a designer label purse or one from the local high streets you can be sure that in today's fashion conscious world, every woman will own at least two or three purses and will always be on the lookout for the latest model to add to her collection.

Ken Wilson for

<http://www.purse-resource.com>



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