Contemporary Fashion Illustration Techniques

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The primary skill needed by anyone who works in fashion is the ability to convey to clients and the general public alike images of the designs. The impression given to the viewer depends on whether the fashion design drawings are good. Contemporary Fashion Illustration Techniques thoroughly describes the basics of fashion illustration, and covers the latest trends such as vivid images, sprightly movement, and garment material texture. After all, fashion drawing is not simply about sketching a body and face; only when you accurately reproduce the garments and their colors can the designs truly come to life.

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Customer Reviews

Naoki Watanabe is a veteran of fashion design drawing who has taught for twenty years at Kuwazawa Design School, one of Japan’s foremost fashion institutions.

I'm a fashion major and I'll be graduating this upcoming spring. I bought this book to help me with my senior portfolio and it's absolutely AMAZING it breaks down everything I was taught in my Fashion Sketching class, unfortunately the class is only for one semester and this will definitely help anyone who wants to build and work on developing their own style of fashion croquis!!!

Ch 1. Focuses on the basics of fashion design drawing (Body Proportion, Drawing the Head (eyes, mouth, nose, ears. Giving you several sketched out variations you can copy and practice! Drawing the Arms and legs. Don't worry she breaks down each step in detailed drawings she's stress understanding the beauty of the body and has different body figures to stress this point!) Ch 2. Dressing Technique (drawing 2
This book has great tips and ideas on how to start drawing fashion, but unfortunately it gives no ideas or direction on creating your own fashion pieces from scratch. Instead, the techniques seem more focused on how to make a sketch look aesthetically pleasing. For example, there is not as much focus on how to draw the silhouette as I had hoped for. To be fair, I would possibly attribute some of my disappointment to what I was expecting - I was hoping for a book that would help me put my ideas on paper, make sure they would be a practical fit for a real person, and then transfer those ideas from fashion sketches into real life patterns. In reality, I think it might be more useful for someone who is drawing fashion to be viewed from a purely illustrative eye in order to provide inspiration to others, who would then draft patterns from those ideas. Nevertheless, if you are purchasing the book with the right viewpoint in mind, I would say it’s a good book. Just make sure you are aware of what you are getting.

Love this book. The sketching style and portion instructions are wonderful. The only complaint I would have is that it starts teaching you the 8 head proportion and, in fashion, I think the 9-10 head proportion is best. I bought this and Figure Drawing for Fashion Design by Elisabetta Drudi. I strongly recommend both books!

I was halfway through my fashion drawing course when I came across this book. I was speechless - here were the answers to all my questions, explained so you could understand it, examples of all that hard. During one day this book developed my wide litter ready models with their malformed limbs to long legged graceful models - and best of all - it’s true. This book gives you basic drawing techniques in a, at once simple and understandable way, yet thorough, with small tweaks, so I have no doubt: even the most basic pages I enjoy from time to return to. It is never too late to obtain this book, but I wish I had had it from the first day of school, and preferably a little before.
I love this book. I follow the instructions and achieve the results I desire. The book explains so well the technique, concepts and how garment works once it gets transferred onto illustration. I take this book everywhere with me when I draw. I also love her drawing technique as they look more lively and real than other books. The models are pretty and pleasantly presented. I'm not even enrolled in any fashion design courses yet but considering to do so. This book helps me test my skills and confirm certain areas that I have missed.

A fantastic book, both the execution and the structure. I have reviewed a ton of instructional fashion illustration books for my students and this one tops my list. A smaller format than some, but don't let it fool you, it's got all you need to get started. The material is presented in a very logical manner, beautifully illustrated and just thorough enough to not be too boring or unapproachable. There are so many bad-taste-80s illustration books out there written by the older illustrators. And they are supposed to be inspiring for the new artists... how? Well, not the case with Naoki Watanabe's book. This one has fresh fashion and fresh styling... Enjoy!

Thank you.

I ordered this and some other books for a class I intend to teach. This book is a great resource for beginners and experienced designers/illustrators alike because it breaks down the task of drawing the human form in its fashionably elongated form in small manageable steps that have a clear method behind them. Even though the final outcome might seem intimidating at first, I believe that with a bit of practice, it is achievable to create beautiful fashion drawings. Once the mastery of clear fashion illustration is achieved, every student will have found their own expression through the drawn figure.

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