

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910459725103321
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Titolo	Clothes // John Harvey
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2014
ISBN	1-317-48872-5 1-315-71036-6 1-282-94737-0 9786612947377 1-84465-419-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (145 p.)
Collana	The Art of Living
Disciplina	391.009
Soggetti	Clothing and dress Fashion Philosophy, Modern - 20th century Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	First published 2008 by Acumen.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half Title; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Acknowledgements; The incident in Stubbylee Park; 1 Why can't we trust our clothes?; 2 On trend, off trend: fashion and freedom; 3 What shall I wear, who shall I be?; 4 Clothes and the body within the clothes; 5 Team colours; 6 Couturiers and objets d'art; Conclusion: dream clothes and future clothes; Further reading; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Clothes protect our vulnerable skin and they keep us warm or cool. They help us show that we are young or old, rich or poor, at work or play, and whether we may be good to know. But though they are basic, much as food and shelter are - and also may be beautiful - they have long had a bad press in serious, moral and philosophical writing. The main reason for this is that they are external to us, a cover we may hide behind, and one on which some people spend too much money, perfecting a pompous plumage of vanity: also they, and the fashions for them, may not last long. Nonetheless, when we choos