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Nota di contenuto	Front Cover; A History of European Women's Work; Copyright Page; Contents; Illustrations; Acknowledgements; 1. Introduction; Part I: The eighteenth century, c. 1700-90; 2. Women, household and farm; The idea of woman in society and economy; Domestic responsibilities; Household, life cycle and female upbringing; Women as farm workers; Gender and the tasks of the field; 3. Making, selling, serving; The verlagsystem and proto-industry; Women and rural industry; Women in towns: the guild model; Apprenticeship; Urban women and family working; Masterless women: life cycle and independence Woman as worker4. Location, skill and status; Domesticity, time and place; Gender and skill; Part II: The nineteenth century, c. 1790-1880; 5. Domesticity, the invention of housework, and domestic service; Domesticity; Housework; Context and chronology of domestic service; Who were the domestic servants?; The experience of domestic service; Living-out servants; 6. Rural women-farmhouse and agriculture;

Periods and trends; Field work and its organization; Dairying; Fishing; Women's skills and gender differences; 7. Industry, commerce and public service; Women and industrial change  
Technology, skill and gender  
Handicrafts, homeworking and sweating; Businesswomen and public service; 8. Continuity and change: gender, skill and status; Woman as worker; Domestic roles, family issues and women's work; The family wage; Gender, skill and craft traditions; Part III: The twentieth century, c. 1880-1980; 9. Home and work; The shape of work; The meaning of the wars; Domesticity and beyond: redefining women, wives and mothers; Life cycle: 'birds of passage'; Housework; Domestic service; 10. Continuities in country and town; Agriculture and rural women; Homework and sweated trades  
Manufacturing and 'new industries'  
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### Sommario/riassunto

The work patterns of European women from 1700 onwards fluctuate in relation to ideological, demographic, economic and familial changes. In *A History of European Women's Work*, Deborah Simonton draws together recent research and methodological developments to take an overview of trends in women's work across Europe from the so-called pre-industrial period to the present. Taking the role of gender and class in defining women's labour as a central theme, Deborah Simonton compares and contrasts the pace of change between European countries, distinguishing between Europe-wide issues and

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