

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817323903321
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Titolo	The Capetians : kings of France, 987-1328 // Jim Bradbury
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London, [England] ; ; New York, New York : , : Hambledon Continuum, , 2007 ©2007
ISBN	0-8264-3514-9 1-282-31011-9 9786612310119 0-8264-2491-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (361 p.)
Collana	Dynasties
Disciplina	944.021
Soggetti	France History Capetians, 987-1328 France Kings and rulers Biography
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Illustrations; Preface; Abbreviations; 1 Carolingian Francia; 2 The rise of the Robertians; 3 The new principalities, 800-1000; 4 The first Capetian kings, 987-1031; 5 Successful failures, 1031-1108; 6 The Fat and the Young, 1108-80; 7 Philip the Great; 8 King and Saint, Louis IX, 1226-70; 9 The Bold and the Fair, 1270-1314; 10 The end of the line, 1314-28; 11 Achievements and legacy; Notes; Bibliography; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Following the demise of the Carolingian dynasty in 987 the French lords chose Hugh Capet as their king. He was the founder of a dynasty that lasted until 1328. Although for much of this time, the French kings were weak, and the kingdom of France was much smaller than it later became, the Capetians nevertheless had considerable achievements and also produced outstanding rulers, including Philip Augustus and St Louis. This wide-ranging book throws fascinating light on the history of Medieval France and the development of European monarchy.