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Skate Crazy: Amazing Graphics From The Golden Age Of Roller Skating



Synopsis

By 1942, there were more than 3,000 roller rinks in America, and more than 10 million people skating. That era is captured in this glorious graphic portrait of the country's Golden Age of roller skating (1939-1959), which also illuminates America's rapidly changing society from the end of the Depression through the wartime '40s to the '50s. This provocative look at a pop-culture phenomenon is lavishly illustrated with full-color photographs of skate rink memorabilia, including promotional stickers, postcards, advertisements, programs, and matchbooks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A tip of the hat to Lou Brooks for making this book such a delight to look at! The subject matter is pretty mundane and in the hands of many other book designers 'Skate Crazy' would just look bland but Mr Brooks knows his stuff. He knows how to select the right photos, handle color panels, overlap graphic images, choose a relevant typeface for headings and all the other little design elements that make each page sparkle and this book has 144 of them in a neat square format. Although much of the material is similar Brooks has managed to split it into sixteen chapters and write a bit about each subject but the book is essentially visual. The four hundred rink stickers are the main pictorial items and nicely the index in the back is a geographical listing of past rinks across America. Strangely, despite a thorough coverage there are no close-up photos of skates, a page or two from a manufacturer's sales brochure would have been helpful I think. 'Skate Crazy' is a wonderful bit of nostalgia and if you rolled (or danced) around one of the three thousand rinks

across the Nation in the Forties or Fifties you'll really enjoy looking at this book. Just super!***FOR AN INSIDE LOOK click 'customer images' under the cover.

I love the old photos. The roller rink stickers. The stories, of days gone by. I still skate to this day. The colors are great!

Although this book makes a perfect gift for someone who loves to skate, it's just as good for art students, pop culture buffs, and lovers of quirky, crazy stuff. The infinite variety of roller-skate images is dazzling. "Skate Crazy" belongs on the shelf of every graphic designer. Plus, it's a lot of fun! Some of the old roller-rink photos made me laugh out loud, and the wild assortment of vintage stickers are a joy to look at. I've only been roller skating twice, but I loved this book!

SPECTACULAR! Great Graphics! Nostalgic! Lots of examples!

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