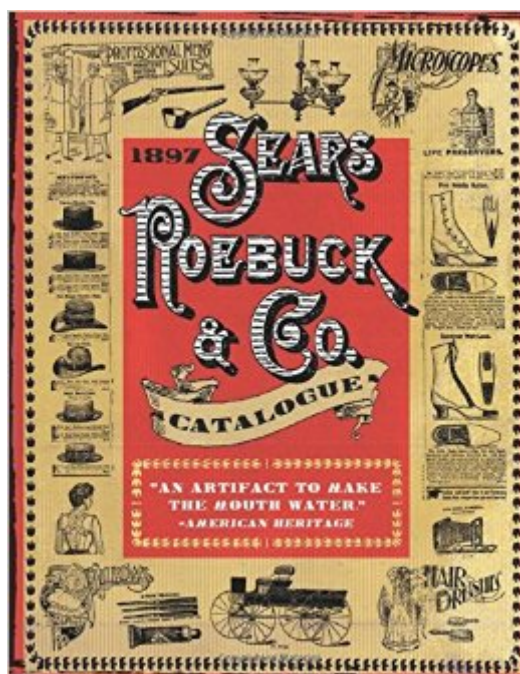


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# 1897 Sears Roebuck & Co. Catalogue



## Synopsis

Imagine it's the end of the nineteenth century, and, with one catalog, you can buy everything from beds and tools to clothing and opium. (Yes, opium.) Not to mention ear trumpets, horse buggies, and Bibles. The 1897 Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalogue is both a wonderfully fascinating collector's item and a valuable piece of American history. For every recognizable item included, there are plenty of others guaranteed to confuse or interest 21st century readers like Bust Cream or Food and Sweet Spirits of Nitre. What was once standard household fare is today a sometimes strange, often funny look at what life was once like for the average American family. It's amazing to see that a Princely Shirt for Princely Men cost \$0.95 or three for \$2.75 or that a Complete Violin Outfit (with bow and case) cost only \$2.00.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (90 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #69,438 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Americana #14 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Popular Culture #624 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture

## Customer Reviews

The 786-page reprint of the '1897 Sears, Roebuck & Co. Catalogue' is a priceless piece of Americana. Profusely illustrated, readers will enjoy studying the surprisingly enormous range of consumer goods then available, most of which are obsolete or little used in American life today. From the \$4.90 'Cast Iron Pig Trough' to the \$3.00 'Cleveland Ball Bearing Wringer,' from the \$1.75 'Magic Lantern Slide Projector for Juveniles' to the \$3.35 'Velocipedes' bicycle and the \$2.00, mohair-covered 'Ear Trumpet,' readers will turn the pages in delighted awe. Those interested in fashion and costuming will find the extensive pages on clothing remarkable. The average description for most items tallies at about 100 words, most of which are superfluous but fun to read. There are 55 very detailed pages on clothing, hats, and accessories for men and boys,

including \$6.95 'Cashmere Suits,' \$9.90 'Blue Flannel Grand Army Of The Republic Suits,' and 'Brownie Suits,' 'Fancy Sailor Suits,' and 'Children's Kilt Suits.' These sections are bolstered by idealized figures of mustached men strolling by the seaside in striped suits and straw boaters, pipe-smoking deep thinkers poised in velvet smoking jackets, and bashful lads posing in knee britches. An equal number of pages are devoted to clothing, shoes, hats, and other accessories for women and girls, including 'Dr. Warner's Abdominal Corset' made with "extension steels, side lacings, and elastic gores on each side," girl's "reefer jackets," the \$2.95 'Rich's Patent "Julie Marlowe" Lace Boot,' and 2 pages of heavily - festooned women's hats with names like 'the Leader,' 'the Susanne,' 'the Evangeline,' and 'the Bon Ton.

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