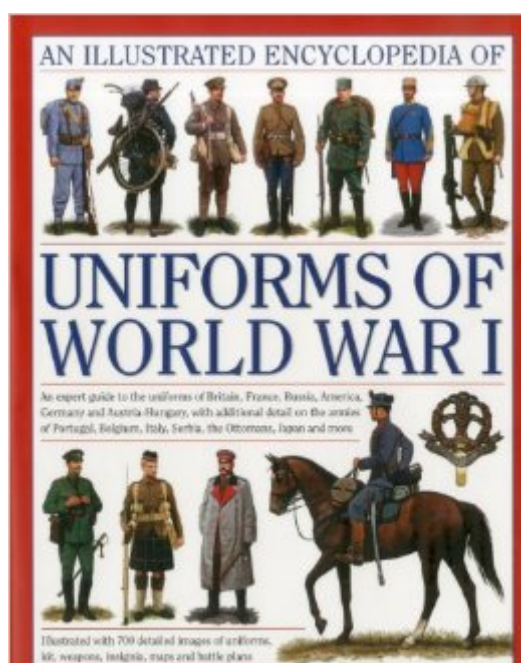


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# The Illustrated Encyclopedia Of Uniforms Of World War I: An Expert Guide To The Uniforms Of Britain, France, Russia, America, Germany And Austro-Hungary With Over 450 Colour Illustrations



## Synopsis

Expert and stunning illustrations show in painstaking detail the uniforms and their developments for all the major nations involved in World War I.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Lorenz Books (October 16, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0754823407

ISBN-13: 978-0754823407

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 1 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (31 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #107,613 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Military](#) #80 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > History](#) #89 in [Books > History > Historical Study & Educational Resources > Reference](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is one of the better titles of the Lorenz/Anness "Illustrated Encyclopedia of Uniforms of (insert title here). As a basic reference it works but I found the coverage of the armies of the United States, Italy & Belgium to be far too brief and in the case of the latter two nations almost insulting considering their part in the war effort. Almost no mention was made of American infantry weapons with a major error of fact that the few U.S. Cavalry regiments to deploy to France were armed with carbines when no such weapon existed as there was no carbine version of the M1903 Springfield rifle & the Krag-Jorgensen carbine had long been replaced by the Springfield for all branches. While there is little variety of U.S. uniforms of WW I, basically Army olive-drab or Marine Corps forest-green a figure showing the use of British P1902 uniforms as replacement clothing by the four divisions of the AEF's II Corps would have made the section more complete. Also showing a U.S. Air Service pilot in actual flight gear would have been beneficial. I do give the book points for a number of things: the color illustrations of artillery pieces & machine guns, coverage of the lesser known combatants such as Romania & Greece, some of the nations' air forces uniforms/flight gear and the color variations on German uniforms as the war progressed which could be more green or brownish than a true feldgrau. While the section on British & Empire forces was more or less complete where are the Royal Marines? The Canadian Corps & ANZACs were also poorly

represented. I understand a book of this scope will always have some omission or another but did we really need four illustrations of basically the same British cavalymen of the early war period? There are some other sloppy errors such as the descriptions to the figures misidentifying officers & NCO's but those are all too common with these Lorenz/Anness titles. The publishers do deserve credit for employing outstanding artists for the figure plates. One coloring error though was the French Cuirassier officer of the early war period in a blue tunic as officers of this & some other branches wore black while the enlisted ranks wore the normal blue. A major highlight of the book is the expansive coverage of the Russian & Austro-Hungarian armies as aside from the Osprey Men-at-Arms titles published in the last decade I can't recall any other new works on those nations' armies since Andrew Mollo's *Army Uniforms of WW I* for Blandford back in the 70's.(got that one at the age of 14 in 1981! As always with my reviews of the other three Lorenz/Anness books, highly recommended (especially for younger readers) but with reservations.

This book is all about the World War I uniforms, insignia, equipment and weapons from 1914 to 1921. It also includes the Russian Civil War uniforms. It starts with the major powers in the war and includes some lesser powers as well. You see some uniforms that you never saw before. There are some black and white photos but not very many. There are no combat pictures. This book is better than the *Army Uniforms of World War I* by Andrew Mollo from 1978. There is more detail to this book. The only thing I would change about this book is to have the book 512 pages and include more of the uniforms from the lesser powers and have more black and white photos. The book is pretty good and doesn't cost a lot. There are not a lot of World War I uniforms books still in print.

Talk about a product that is well worth the money spent!! This is an introduction to the uniforms of all the major, and most of the minor participants in World War I. The illustrations and details are first rate. You would have to have a small library of Osprey Men at Arms and Warrior series to cover the same ground.If you are a World War One model-maker, as I am, this would be a very important reference indeed!

If you know little about World War 1 uniforms, this is an outstanding, well-organized introduction to the subject. The "Introduction" introduces neophytes to the war, discussing its causes, campaigns, and final outcome. As for the uniform-related information, it is true that a lot of this information can be found in multiple Osprey volumes and assorted other out-of-print titles. However, it is nice to see it all placed in a single, reasonably priced volume. The narrative of the most of this book is devoted

to the presentation and evolution of uniforms, with very little mention of arms and equipment. I think many readers will be tempted to skim over this rather dry text, and just examine the color uniform plates. For the most part, the quality of the color illustrations is outstanding, and very much in keeping with the standard set by Osprey. I cannot give this volume 5 stars for the following reason: some of the major powers (UK, Britain, Germany, Russia) receive very thorough coverage in this book. Other major powers (namely Austria-Hungary, Ottoman Empire, Italy, USA) get much less detail. The "lesser powers" (Serbia, Romania, Greece, Belgium, Greece, etc) are covered only superficially. This is a real disappointment given the dearth of information in print on these countries. I am guessing that the publisher believed that most of their English-speaking readers would be more interested in learning about the combatants in the Western Front, so this is largely my own preference being expressed here.

If you are interested in the uniforms of WW1 this book is a great way to start, but its just that, a start. The illustrations are for the most part...good, but some of the computer generated illustrations are a little lacking. That said I would recommend readers to check out Osprey's men at arms series for a ton more info, in particular accurate rank insignia charts. It's not bad, just a little bit fluffy.

I was a little disappointed in this book in that it does not provide as much detailed information about the uniforms and their wear as I would like. I do not collect or study world war 1 uniforms and wanted a good overview of the them. This book did provide that and does provide some good illustrations. However, not a lot of detailed photos or information. For the price, I recommend it. It will give you enough coverage for you to determine if and where you want to conduct a more detailed and indepth study.

This is an excellent book that's very detailed and part of an excellent series (that sadly I haven't finished collecting). It's good for historians and hobbyists and presents a lot of excellent pictures as well as detailed descriptions along with historical explanations behind the units, changes, kit, etc. A great title and reference for a subject that is otherwise somewhat difficult to find references on.

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