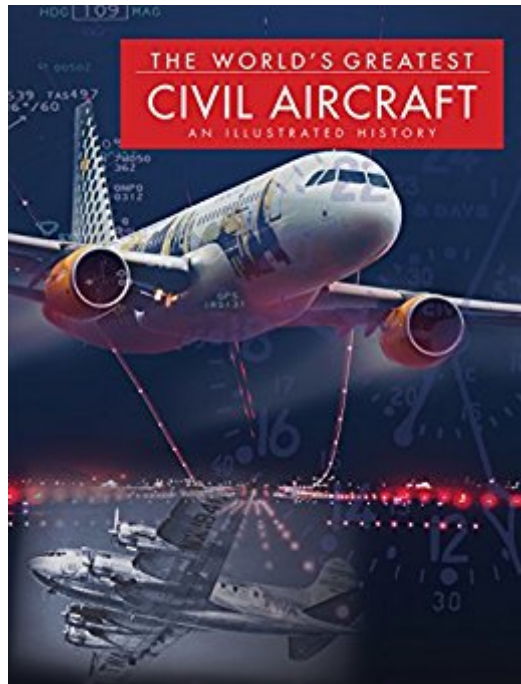


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The World's Greatest Civil Aircraft: An Illustrated History



Synopsis

Commercial air travel began just over a century ago. In that time there have been groundbreaking civilian aircraft, such as flying boats, the first pressurized cabin aircraft, jet and supersonic aircraft, as well as immense changes in the capacity of a typical airliner: in the 1920s aircraft struggled to carry 20 passengers, today some models can carry up to 800 people. The book includes many types, from cargo transports and freighters, through flying boats, passenger airliners, business jets and supersonic carriers. Featured aircraft include: the Ford Trimotor TM, one of the great workhorses of early aviation history; the first post-war intercontinental airliners, such as the Douglas DC-4 Skymaster, De Havilland Comet and Boeing 377 Stratocruiser; the Vickers VC10, one of the greats of the 1960s golden age of commercial airliners, when jet-powered air commerce was new and airliners pampered passengers; the massive Super Guppy heavy transport, one of the widest aircraft in aviation history; the supersonic Tupolev Tu-144 TM and Concorde, Cold War competitors in aviation excellence; the Embraer ERJ, part of a new range of narrow-bodied airliners; and the most popular passenger aircraft of the present, including the Boeing 747 and Airbus A320. Each entry includes a brief description of the model's development and history, a profile view, key features and specifications. Packed with more than 200 artworks and photographs, *The World's Greatest Civil Aircraft* is a colourful guide for the aviation enthusiast.

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Customer Reviews

Many identification guides have been written concerning commercial aircraft, but this field guide is the latest in my memory that features the Boeing 787 Dreamliner and the new Bombardier CSeries regional jet. I like how the writer provided concise specifications and 3-view illustrations of each aircraft.

Excellent detail of the greatest planes that have been flown. Great drawings that show specifications and how each planes difference . Also, good reading about them and what makes each one so special.

This book is nicely laid out with photos and drawings, but as an historic review of the world's major commercial airliners, it neglects to include the Consolidated Convair series of airliners (240/340/440). This significant airliner basically replaced the DC-3 for short haul work and was purchased and used extensively by virtually every major US airline and most of the major European carriers. A book of this type cannot fail to include this important airliner in the history of commercial aviation. In addition, the authors include the Russian supersonic airliner, which hardly flew and never made a mark on civil aviation history.

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