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Fashion and Status in Elizabethan Times



In the Elizabethan era,	clothing was more than just a	practicality; it was a sym	bol of one's
	The wealthy could afford expe	nsive materials like silk o	and velvet, while the poore
classes wore wool or lin	en. Queen	herself was known fo	r her extravagant gowns,
	e embroidery and sparkling jew		
	h were sometimes padded to er		
Women's fashion was po	articularly elaborate, involving	corsets that emphasized	l a small
	and large, puffed sleeves. Colo	ors also played a significar	nt role in clothing, with
bright	being particularly popu	lar among the upper clas	ses. Only the most
privileged could wear _	, a color i	reserved for royalty and ·	the highest nobility due to
the cost of the dye.			
The	of the land even regulated	d what people could wear b	ased on their social
standing. These regulat	tions were called sumptuary _	The	y were designed to ensure
that only certain classe	es could wear certain types of	clothing, which helped to	maintain the social
·	For instance, only nobility cou	uld wear clothes trimmed	with ermine, while other
furs were available to t	hose of lower	·	
•	y important in Elizabethan at		
intricate jewelry, includ	ling necklaces and bracelets o	f gold and	Men accessorized
with hats, which could be exotic	e just as lavish as the rest of t 	their attire, often decora	ted with feathers from
Footwear was another d	istinctive aspect of Elizabetha	ın fashion. Shoes were typ	oically made of leather and
were highly decorated.	The higher one's social	, the more	e elaborate one's shoes
•	t, some shoes were so delicate being worn only inside or in c	•	ot suitable for outdoor
By studying Elizabethan	n fashion, one gains insights ir	nto the social norms and v	values of the
	Clothing was not just about pe	ersonal style, but a clear	indicator of wealth and
power.			
bodies time ran	k status hierarchy st	tatus pearls birds	Elizabeth waist
[wear] [dyes] stand	ding][laws][purple][law]		