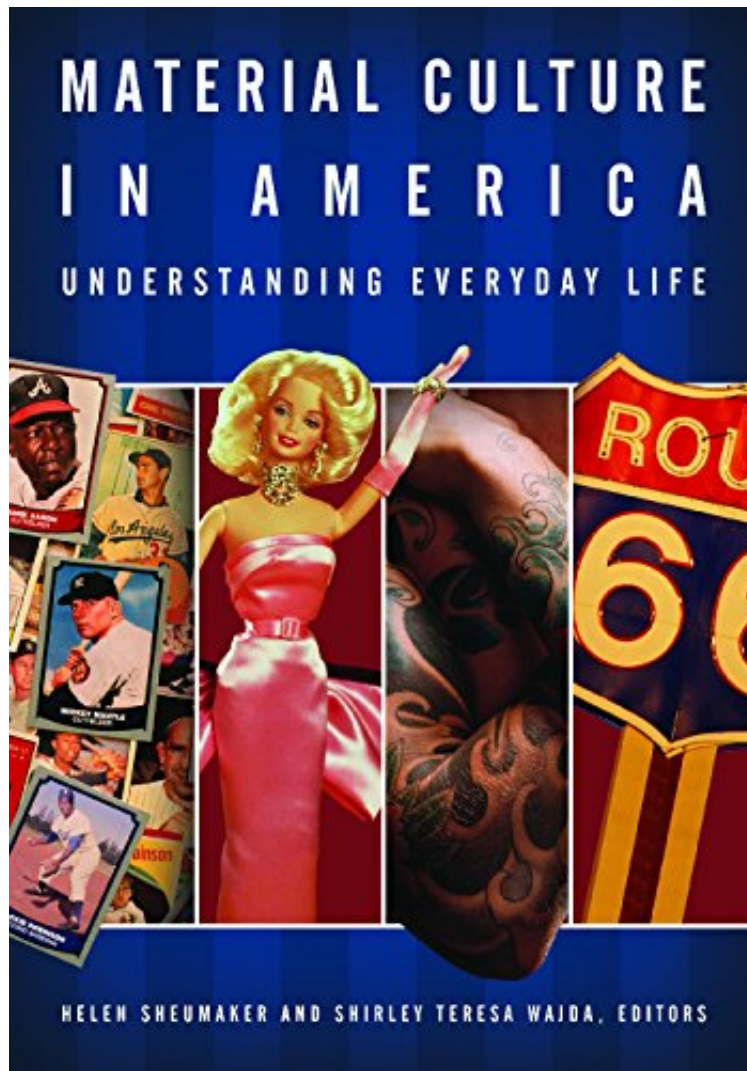


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about Barbies, Model T's, Art Deco...it's a great reference. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Useful and lively introduction
By Katherine C. Grier
It's too bad that this is an ABC-CLIO reference book with a big price-tag, for this is a useful and lively introduction to a wide range of interesting scholarship on American material culture. I recommend individual articles for use as a way to start undergraduates in the study of material culture, and the essays are a helpful quick study when I am working with both undergraduates and graduate students.

The first encyclopedia to look at the study of material culture (objects, images, spaces, technology, production, and consumption), and what it reveals about historical and contemporary life in the United States. Nearly 200 entries tracing the history, production, consumption, and reception of various types of goods and exploring the uses and meanings of artifacts within changing social, cultural, economic, and political contexts. A detailed introductory essay unites each entry with a common thread. Contributions from over 50 scholars, curators, and teachers working in the field of material culture studies today, representing cutting-edge scholarship in museums and historical societies, universities and colleges. Illustrations include advertisements, such as a 19th-century trade card and a Singer sewing machine ad, plus photographs of a 1949 "Torpedo pedal car" and a life-size modernist-style streamlined locomotive prototype by Raymond Loewy.

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