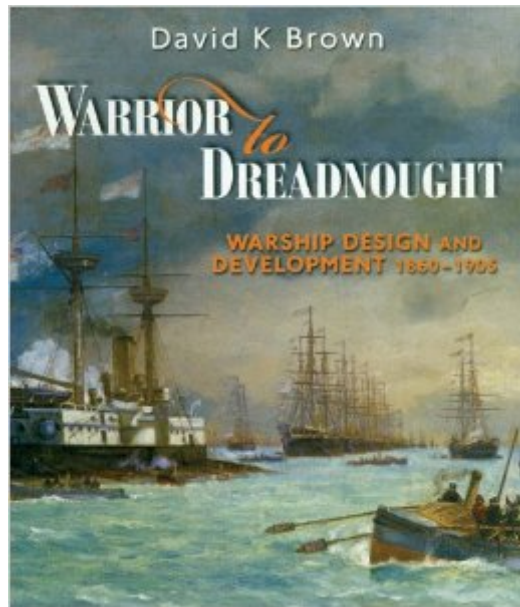


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Warrior To Dreadnought: Warship Development, 1860-1905



Synopsis

In the 50 years that separated HMS Warrior from Dreadnought there was a revolution in warship design unparalleled in naval history. It was a period that began with the fully rigged broadside ironclads and ended with the emergence of the great battleships and battle cruisers of World War I. Noted naval historian D.K. Brown explains how the Victorian Royal Navy, far from being the reactionary body it is often depicted to be, was, in fact, at the forefront of technological change.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a book that far exceeded my expectations. Many "review/summary" military books today seem to be creatures of committees. These texts are modular efforts where the author's responsibility ends with the text and a bunch of "creative" types take over to deal with the visual aspects, probably utterly unaware of how ill-equipped they are to do a decent job. The end result is a book with a fairly decent text, poorly chosen photos, and pathetically inaccurate drawings, giving the average reader a false understanding of the subject in hand, however. . .Mr. Brown has produced what is close to a history of the evolution of British warships from wood to the Dreadnaught! I can not heap enough superlatives this work. The clear, impartial-yet-probing text covers just about every aspect of the trials and tribulations that faced the Admiralty and their designers over 60 years rapid technological progress. The manner in which they coped with ever-changing conditions is facinating to read. Even what appear to be blunders become understandable as Mr. Brown traces the process to failure, high-lighting the clash of personalities, financial constraints, voter-driven political pressure, threatening foreign naval developments. One

becomes so engrossed with this myriad of factors that only admiration for those long-passed gentlemen results. "Warrior to Dreadnought" is the finest military/technical book i've read in several decades. To saturate one's understanding of this most challenging and interesting period in British naval history, "Conway's All the World's Fighting Ships, 1860-1905" is the ideal companion to "Warrior...".

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