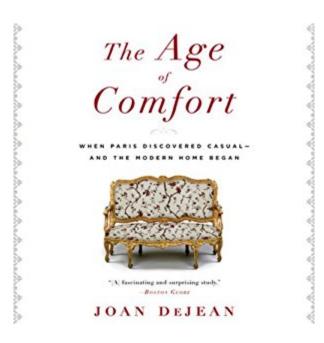
# The book was found

# The Age Of Comfort: When Paris Discovered Casual - And The Modern Home Began





## Synopsis

Today, it is difficult to imagine a living room without a sofa. When the first sofas on record were delivered in 17th-century France, the result was a radical reinvention of interior space. Symptomatic of a new age of casualness and comfort, the sofa ushered in an era known as the golden age of conversation; as the first piece of furniture designed for two, it was also considered an invitation to seduction. With the sofa came many other changes in interior space we now take for granted: private bedrooms, bathrooms, and the original living rooms. None of this could have happened without a colorful cast of visionaries-legendary architects, the first interior designers, and the women who shaped the tastes of two successive kings of France: Louis XIV's mistress Madame de Maintenon and Louis XV's mistress Madame de Pompadour. Their revolutionary ideas would have a direct influence on realms outside the home, from clothing to literature and gender relations, changing the way people lived and related to one another for the foreseeable future.

### **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 10 hours and 48 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: Audible Studios for Bloomsbury Audible.com Release Date: February 28, 2013 Whispersync for Voice: Ready Language: English ASIN: B00BN1M1P2 Best Sellers Rank: #59 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Architecture #1114 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Europe #2553 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Interior Design

### **Customer Reviews**

How much is too much? Joan DeJean addresses these questions in her history of 17th and 18th century French architecture and design, "The Age of Comfort."The story begins at the grandiose court of Louis XIV. Essentially since the renaissance, rulers had been building bigger and less comfortable edifices. When news of the Florentine Renaissance reached the popes in Rome, they wanted much the same thing only bigger. When France discovered, under its late 15th century kings, the innovations of Italy (during wars with the Holy Roman Empire to gain control of it) they

wanted the same thing. Buildings became bigger and more grand and at the same time less comfortable, harder to heat and more and more oppressive. Versailles was the crescendo of these attempts at royal grandeur making. It is very likely that during his lifetime Louis XIV never at hot food in his life, the kitchens were so far removed from the dining room. While it set the standard for regal living quarters, every ruling house built something along its lines, Versailles with its uncomfortable furniture made out of silver, and its lack of comforts sent people in a radical new direction. The novel approach was to build and design for comfort and not just show. This meant houses with flush toilets, smaller easier to heat rooms and more effective chimneys, bathing. Furniture was to be upholstered instead of wood with no padding. The arm chair and the sensual sofa came into vogue. This desire for comfort by the courtiers of Versailles was seen as the thin edge of the wedge in terms of standards declining. Had not one of Louis's mistresses, the formidable Madame de Montespan, this 17th century comfort craze might have died on the vine.

#### Download to continue reading...

The Age of Comfort: When Paris Discovered Casual - and the Modern Home Began Comfort Knitting & Crochet: Babies & Toddlers: More than 50 Knit and Crochet Designs Using Berroco's Comfort and Vintage Yarns How Paris Became Paris: The Invention of the Modern City How to Grow Marijuana at Home in 60 Days: A Complete Step by Step Guide to Growing Cannabis in the Comfort of Your Home Bay Area Bike Rides Deck: 50 Rides for Mountain, Road, and Casual Cyclists A Casual Trip to Guangzhou (Photo Gallery): Guangzhou Tower, Guangzhou Sightseeing, Guangzhou Temple, Guangzhou Bridge Casual Power:: How to Power Up Your Nonverbal Communication & Dress Down for Success Work Clothes (Chic Simple): Casual Dress for Serious Work (Chic Simple Guides) Beyond Business Casual: What to Wear to Work If You Want to Get Ahead Judgment of Paris: California vs. France and the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting That Revolutionized Wine Paris 1789: A Guide to Paris on the Eve of the Revolution (Sightseers) Judgment of Paris: California vs. France & the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting That Revolutionized Wine Paris, France: Travel Guide Book: A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Paris, France & Unforgettable French Travel: Best Travel Guides to Europe, Book 1 The Glow of Paris: The Bridges of Paris at Night Paris Changing: Revisiting Eugà ne Atget's Paris Maus : A Survivor's Tale. I. My Father Bleeds History. II. And Here My Troubles Began Maus II: A Survivor's Tale: And Here My Troubles Began (Pantheon Graphic Novels) When Fish Got Feet, Sharks Got Teeth, and Bugs Began to Swarm: A Cartoon Prehistory of Life Long Before Dinosaurs When Fish Got Feet, Sharks Got Teeth, and Bugs Began to Swarm First Life: Discovering the Connections between Stars, Cells, and How Life Began

<u>Dmca</u>