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French Battleships of World War One

Author: John Jordan, Philippe Caresse

Highlights

- The only comprehensive study of early French battleships in English
- Combines technical and historical coverage
- Heavily illustrated with photos and specially commissioned artwork

Description

When war broke out in August 1914 France had only two dreadnoughts in service, with a second pair running trials. The main body of the elite Armée Navale was made up of the eleven battleships of the Patrie and Danton classes, both of which were intermediate designs with two main gun calibres. Older ships included survivors of the notorious Flotte d'echantillons ('fleet of samples') of the 1890 programme and their successors designed during the 1890s.

This book traces the development of French battleships from 1890 to 1922, and also covers the extensive modifications made to the survivors during the interwar period. The structure follows that of previous books in this highly successful series, with Part I by John Jordan devoted to design, followed by historical chapters by Philippe Caresse covering 1900 to 1945. It is liberally illustrated throughout with line drawings and labelled schematics, plus photographs from the extensive Caresse collection, many of which are previously unpublished.

This is the most comprehensive account of these ships published in English or in French, and is destined be the standard reference for many years to come.

Author Details

JOHN JORDAN is the Editor of the *Warship* annual and a lifelong student of French naval history. This title is part of his series of monographs on French Battleships (two volumes), Cruisers, Destroyers, Armoured Cruisers and Aircraft Carriers published by Seaforth to critical acclaim and commercial success.

Author Details

PHILIPPE CARESSE was born into a naval family in 1964 and joined the French Navy in 1982, serving in the destroyer *d'Estrées*. He has published an extensive range of ship monographs on the French, German, US, and Japanese navies from the late-nineteenth century to the Second World War, and is co-author with John Jordan of a series of volumes on French warships, including *French Battleships of World War One*, all published by Seaforth. Philippe has recently been appointed as Editor of the bimonthly journal 'Navires & Histoire'.

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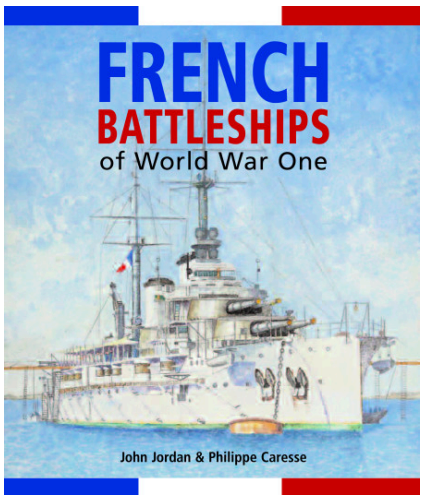

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