



True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World

By Lisa Birnbach, Chip Kidd

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“Wake up, Muffy. We’re back.”

From Lisa Birnbach, the author of *The Official Preppy Handbook*—and designer Chip Kidd—comes a whole new take on the prep world that Birnbach turned into an international best-selling phenomenon thirty years ago.

True Prep is a contemporary look at how the old guard of natural-fiber-loving, dog-worshipping, G&T-soaked preppies adapt to the new order of things. Birnbach considers the prep attitude towards money (ambivalent), schools (good investment), wardrobe (now your clothes fit), work (some careers will never be prep), decorating (ask mummy), scandal (including rehab and prison), and food and drink (with some classic recipes for both). She also looks at weekends (and what to do to get asked back), entertaining, sports (including sailing and shopping), weddings, etiquette, the Internet and electronic gadgetry, political correctness, reality TV, and . . . polar fleece. And last but not least: a do-it-yourself eulogy.

With more than 200 original illustrations and photographs, *True Prep* promises to be a whole new, old sensation.

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True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World By Lisa Birnbach, Chip Kidd Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review
Look Inside *True Prep*



Casual Friday. Saturday.
View larger

Henry's Head
View larger

From Publishers Weekly

Thirty years after *The Official Preppy Handbook* was published comes this new how-to, updated to incorporate such 21st-century givens as gay marriage, dad's new wife, and rehab, all while underscoring the importance of tradition, which ought to be as reliable as those monogrammed L.L. Bean canvas totes. From what to keep in the pantry (box of raisins, food dye for Easter eggs, etc.) to how to not talk about money, the terse advice and blue-blood humor throughout make this a good stocking stuffer for all those 20-somethings who may have no idea what they've inherited with their Sperry top-siders. And tried-and-true Izod fans, who were around the first time, will appreciate the novelty that much more. Especially worthwhile are Edmund White's contribution on "Where do gay preppies go," a "real" prep's response to *Gossip Girl*, the spot-on Edith Wharton quotes throughout, and the drawings of Randy Glass. Illus.

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Review

"[T]his book touches many bases. And it's funny without exactly being satirical. The authors take their mission sort of seriously and approach the prep ethos with obvious affection . . . *True Prep* makes a point of flaunting the sexual, racial, ethnic and class diversity that were in short supply the first time around . . ."
—Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

"*True Prep* is a hilarious send-up of the frills and foibles of the elite and privileged. It's satire, of course, but it's cringe-inducingly on target at times."
—Lylah M. Alphonse, *The Boston Globe*

"[T]here's something very interesting going on in *True Prep* . . . One need no longer be white, Protestant,

heterosexual—or even accomplished at tennis—to be a preppy . . . [T]here’s a sense in the book that the contemporary iteration of preppiness has far more to do with savoir faire than pedigree . . . [T]o dig beneath the surface of this thing that’s been labeled ‘prep’ is to arrive at a surprising and perhaps even counterintuitive theory about the whole gestalt. Perhaps preppiness is less about demographics and style than it is about living decently in an often indecent world . . . [P]reppiness at its core is ultimately about self-respect. It’s about pulling your pants up . . . It’s about knowing that you don’t necessarily need to have money to have class. And what better time to be reminded of all this than now?”

—Meghan Daum, *Los Angeles Times*

“The first thing you notice about *True Prep* . . . is its design. Chip Kidd, a celebrated graphic designer, has made this book a visual pleasure, with precise illustrations, vivid photographs and a colour palette that would make Kate Spade swoon. Paging through this book, which considers the current state of the North American “preppy” style, the words “gift material” come to mind. This isn’t to undersell the writing. Ms Birnbach has a sly wit, an editor’s eye and an excellent vocabulary. Every sentence is quotable. Really . . . *True Prep* is frivolous, but comprehensively, amusingly, and intelligently so. All too few books fit that description. Like its predecessor, this is a fond and inventive satire for the ages.”

—*The Economist*

“Birnbach . . . and Kidd, well-known as book-jacket designer, novelist, and natty dresser, have produced a book as witty as, and more thorough than, the original . . . The most important change from *The Official Preppy Handbook* to *True Prep* is the more capacious sense of who is preppy . . . *True Prep* is as noisily inclusive as *The Preppy Handbook* was quietly exclusive . . .”

—Mark Oppenheimer, *Slate*

“[W]hat was once a rarefied blue-blood clique has become a bona fide social phenomenon . . . The basic prep values—politeness, sportiness, and adherence to tradition—have, however, remained the same.”

—Jennifer Wright, *New York Post*

“Lisa Birnbach and Chip Kidd’s long-awaited sequel to *The Official Preppy Handbook* is good for a laugh, no matter how many pastel polo shirts you own.”

—*Parade* magazine

“Birnbach is back with *True Prep*, an updated field guide to the preppy lifestyle in 2010. You know, things like rehab (the new boarding school) and texting (not at the dinner table). There’s vital information on how to keep that sporty tan in an era when overexposure to the sun is frowned upon, without resorting to Snooki-type tanning salons.”

—Jura Koncius, *The Washington Post*

“*True Prep* . . . is a slyly written and debatably satirical take on what it means to be “preppy” in today’s age . . . It makes a great gift for your favorite Sperry-wearing Yalie, or someone that just enjoys a quick read and an easy laugh.”

—Benjamin Clymer, *Forbes.com*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Phillip Ruiz:

Information is provisions for people to get better life, information these days can get by anyone at

everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even an issue. What people must be consider if those information which is inside former life are difficult to be find than now's taking seriously which one is suitable to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen with you if you take True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World as the daily resource information.

Katherine Humphrey:

The reserve untitled True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World is the guide that recommended to you to see. You can see the quality of the book content that will be shown to anyone. The language that creator use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of investigation when write the book, therefore the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World from the publisher to make you far more enjoy free time.

Marie Avis:

The book untitled True Prep: It's a Whole New Old World contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains her idea with easy means. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read that. The book was written by famous author. The author provides you in the new age of literary works. You can read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can start their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice read.

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