

1: The suburbs: A brief history of French housing estates | History | Al Jazeera

A BRIEF HISTORY OF UNDERWEAR. By Tim Lambert. Early Underwear. The ancient Egyptians sometimes wore loincloths. The Romans also wore underwear. Both Roman men and women wore a loincloth or shorts called subligaculum.

Details F Earliest recorded mention of eyeglasses Roger Bacon made the first recorded comment on the use of lenses for optical purposes. However, by that time reading glasses made out of transparent quartz or beryl were already in use in both China and Europe. The wristwatch allowed him to keep his hands free for piloting. A memex is a device in which an individual stores all his books, records, and communications, and which is mechanized so that it may be consulted with exceeding speed and flexibility. It is an enlarged intimate supplement to his memory. This was followed by his patent in for the "Sensorama Simulator" US Patent 3,, , a virtual reality simulator with handlebars, binocular display, vibrating seat, stereophonic speakers, cold air blower, and a device close to the nose that would generate odors that fit the action in the film. See "Virtual Reality" by Howard Rheingold, , pp. The term was used to describe a human being augmented with technological "attachments". Though the system was invented in , it was first mentioned in E. Thorp, Beat the Dealer, revised ed. The details of the system were later published in Review of the International Statistical Institute, V. Another system determined where the user was looking and projected a monoscopic wireframe image such that it looked like a cube was floating in mid-air. In one, the head-mounted display was coupled with an infrared camera that would give military helicopter pilots the ability to land at night in rough terrain. Using high and low-pass filters, the system would determine if a spoken phoneme was a fricative, stop, voiced-fricative, voiced stop, or simply voiced. An LED mounted on ordinary eyeglasses illuminated to indicate the phoneme type. The system included one-handed keyboard, word processing, outline processing, split windows, hypermedia, mouse, shared documents, e-mail filtering, desktop conferencing, annotation of shared documents, interactive sharing, quarter sized video sharing, turn taking, and network information. Collins of the Smith-Kettlewell Institute of Visual Sciences developed a five pound wearable with a head-mounted camera that converted images into a point, 10" square tactile grid on a vest. The system was tested as a visual prosthetic for the blind. The remaining keys were meant to be pressed with a stylus that snapped into the clasp of the bracelet. This is the only known roulette machine of the time to show a statistical profit on a gambling run, though they never made the "big score. Bass, Houghton Mifflin Company, Later products would include Music CD-players. The display was a camera viewfinder CRT attached to a helmet, giving 40 column text. Input was from seven microswitches built into the handle of a flash-lamp, and the entire system including flash-lamps was powered by lead-acid batteries. It included a packet data communication system for email via ham radio, an offline HP laptop, chording keyboard for typing while riding, and 20 watts of solar panels. Only Too Heavy , a more sophisticated system that included a heads up display. Screen size is 1. The badges measured 55x55x7mm, weighed 40g, and could be made extremely cheaply. The screen was a Reflection Technology Private Eye display and the keyboard was an Agenda palmtop used as a chording keyboard attached to the belt. It included a 1. Later versions incorporated additional equipment from Park Engineering. The systems was integrated into Emacs, and later was rewritten as part of continuing research by Bradley Rhodes. Knowledge-based Augmented Reality for Maintenance Assistance. Users would wear a Private Eye display over one eye, giving an overlay effect when the real world was viewed with both eyes open. KARMA would overlay wireframe schematics and maintenance instructions on top of whatever was being repaired. For example, graphical wireframes on top of a laser printer would explain how to change the paper tray. The system used sensors attached to objects in the physical world to determine their locations, and the entire system ran tethered from a desktop computer. It interacted via wireless transmitters in rooms and with equipment in the area to remember who was there, who was being talked to on the telephone, and what objects were in the room, allowing queries like "Who came by my office while I was on the phone to Mark? The system debuted at the CHI conference in Boston, and is now being productized under the the name "half keyboard". Develops a variety of products including computers, radios,

navigation systems, human-computer interfaces, etc. The images were processed by the base station and displayed on a webpage in near real-time. The system was later extended to transmit processed video back from the base station to a heads-up display and was used in augmented reality experiments performed with Thad Starner. In attendance were researchers and administrators from industry, academia, and independent laboratories. Several vendors of displays, speech recognition systems, and full wearable computers were also present. There were people registered for the event. Beginning in April , designs were iterated and clothes produced, with the final runway fashion show was held at the Pompidou Center in Paris in February The symposium was a full academic conference with published proceedings and papers ranging from sensors and new hardware to new applications for wearable computers. There were people registered for this event.

2: Brief | Definition of Brief by Merriam-Webster

A History of Men's Underwear, in Brief.

Refined Flour The earliest bread grains would have been ground by hand with rocks. This would have resulted in coarse, whole grain bread—the descendants of which are dark, rustic breads from Europe, like pumpernickel. The Mesopotamians refined this process around B. These stones were continuously rotated by draft animals or slaves. The desire for the whitest, most refined bread continued through the modern era, and later advancements included the sifting of flour to remove the bran and the germ and the bleaching of the flour itself. For hundreds of years, the finest white breads were sold in whole loaves to be cut at home—like a French baguette or Italian ciabatta. For ladies and children, the bread was supposed to be sliced very thinly and the crusts removed. For workers, thick slices with crusts were deemed more appropriate. Progress led us to what was supposed to be the ideal loaf of bread: But modern science has uncovered the nutritional benefit of whole grains, and more and more consumers prefer the toothsome texture and nutty taste of a rustic loaf. Then, visit your local home improvement store, and poke around the slate tiling. You may be able to nab a few pieces of broken tile for free. Or, if you live somewhere they are easily accessible, simply walk outside and pick up a flat rock. Now, you need to build a big fire. Let the flames die down until you have a bed of glowing, hot coals. Set the slate tiles on top of the coals, and wait about 10 minutes. Combine three cups of grain with about a cup of water and mix into a thick, workable paste. Form the dough into one-inch thick patties, and place them on the stones. They may stick, so I recommend greasing your cooking rocks before hand. The outside is crunchy and tastes like popcorn, the inside is moist and dense. We strive for accuracy and fairness. Twice a week we compile our most fascinating features and deliver them straight to you.

3: A Brief History of Time - Wikipedia

The loincloth is the simplest form of underwear; it was probably the first undergarment worn by human beings. In warmer climates the loincloth was often the only clothing worn (effectively making it an outer garment rather than an undergarment), as was doubtless its origin, but in colder regions the loincloth often formed the basis of a person's clothing and was covered by other garments.

Terminology[edit] Undergarments are known by a number of terms. Underclothes , underclothing and underwear are formal terms, while undergarments may be more casually called, in Australia, Reg Grundys rhyming slang for undies and Reginalds, and, in the United Kingdom, smalls from the earlier smallclothes and historically unmentionables. They also are called intimate clothing and intimates. An undershirt vest in the United Kingdom is a piece of underwear covering the torso , while underpants often pants in the United Kingdom , drawers , and shorts cover the genitals and buttocks. Terms for specific undergarments are shown in the table below. Not wearing underpants under outer clothing is known in American slang as freeballing for men and as going commando [1] for either sex. The act of a woman not wearing a bra is sometimes referred to as freeboobing. They keep outer garments from being soiled by perspiration , urine , [3] semen , menstrual blood , and feces. For additional support and protection when playing sports, men often wear more tightly fitting underwear, including jockstraps and jockstraps with cup pocket and protective cup. Women may wear sports bras which provide greater support, thus increasing comfort and reducing the chance of damage to the ligaments of the chest during high-impact exercises such as jogging. Conversely, some types of underwear can be worn for sexual titillation, such as edible underwear , crotchless panties and thongs. The suitability of underwear as outer clothing is, apart from the indoor or outdoor climate, largely dependent on societal norms, fashion, and the requirements of the law. If made of suitable material, some underwear can serve as nightwear or swimsuits. To conform with societal dress codes, the tallit katan is often worn beneath the shirt. Following their endowment in a temple , Mormons wear special temple garments which help them to remember the teachings of the temple. One of the five articles of faith panj kakaar worn by Sikh men and women is a certain style of underpants similar to boxer shorts and known as the kacchera. Zoroastrians wear an undershirt called a Sedreh that is fastened with a sacred girdle around the waist known as a Kushti. In most ancient civilizations, this was the only undergarment available. A loincloth may take three major forms. The first, and simplest, is simply a long strip of material which is passed between the legs and then around the waist. Archaeologists have found the remains of such loincloths made of leather dating back 7, years. Another form is usually called a cache-sexe: Egyptian king Tutankhamun BC – BC was found buried with numerous linen loincloths of this style. Men are said to have worn loincloths in ancient Greece and Rome , though it is unclear whether Greek women wore undergarments. There is some speculation that only slaves wore loincloths and that citizens did not wear undergarments beneath their chitons. Mosaics of the Roman period indicate that women primarily in an athletic context, whilst wearing nothing else sometimes wore strophiae breastcloths or brassieres made of soft leather, along with subligacula which were either in the form of shorts or loincloths. Subligacula were also worn by men. Only the upper classes could have afforded imported silk. The loincloth continues to be worn by people around the world – it is the traditional form of undergarment in many Asian societies, for example. In various, mainly tropical, cultures, the traditional male dress may still consist of only a single garment below the waist or even none at all, with underwear as optional, including the Indian dhoti and lungi , or the Scottish kilt. The loincloth was replaced by loose, trouser -like clothing called braies , which the wearer stepped into and then laced or tied around the waist and legs at about mid-calf. Wealthier men often wore chausses as well, which only covered the legs. In the later Middle Ages they were used exclusively as undergarments. A – portrait by Titian of the Holy Roman Emperor , Charles V , in a codpiece By the time of the Renaissance , braies had become shorter to accommodate longer styles of chausses. Chausses were also giving way to form-fitting hose , [6] which covered the legs and feet. Fifteenth-century hose were often particolored, with each leg in a different-coloured fabric or even more than one colour on a leg. However, many types of braies, chausses and hose were not intended to be covered up by other clothing, so they were

not actually underwear in the strict sense. Braies were usually fitted with a front flap that was buttoned or tied closed. This codpiece allowed men to urinate without having to remove the braies completely. Henry VIII of England began padding his codpiece, which caused a spiralling trend of larger and larger codpieces that only ended by the end of the 16th century. It has been speculated that the King may have had the sexually transmitted disease syphilis, and his large codpiece may have included a bandage soaked in medication to relieve its symptoms. Codpieces were sometimes used as a pocket for holding small items. Women wore a chemise underneath their gowns or robes, sometimes with petticoats over the chemise. Elaborately quilted petticoats might be displayed by a cut-away dress, in which case they served a skirt rather than an undergarment. During the 16th century, the farthingale was popular. Corsets also began to be worn about this time. At first they were called pairs of bodies, which refers to a stiffened decorative bodice worn on top of another bodice stiffened with buckram, reeds, canes, whalebone or other materials. These were not the small-waisted, curved corsets familiar from the Victorian era, but straight-lined stays that flattened the bust. There is a myth that Crusaders, worried about the fidelity of their wives, forced them to wear chastity belts. There is no reference, image, or surviving belt to support this story. Most historians of this period are of the view that a chastity belt was worn to prevent sexual assault and that the woman kept the key. The Month of February by Gerard Horenbout. In, findings in Lengberg Castle, in Austria, showed that lace and linen brassiere-like garments, one of which greatly resembled the modern bra, date back to hundreds of years before it was thought to exist. This allowed factories to mass-produce underwear, and for the first time, people began buying undergarments in stores rather than making them at home. Coloured stays were popular. With the relaxed country styles of the end of the century, stays became shorter and were unboned or only lightly boned, and were now called corsets. As tight waists became fashionable in the s, the corset was again boned and laced to form the figure. By the s, a tiny "wasp" waist came to be seen as a symbol of beauty, and the corsets were stiffened with whalebone or steel to accomplish this. Tight lacing of a corset sometimes led to a woman needing to retire to the fainting room. By the s, the dress reform movement was campaigning against the pain and damage to internal organs and bones caused by tight lacing. The corset was usually worn over a thin shirt-like shift of linen or cotton or muslin. Pantalettes originated in France in the early 19th century, and quickly spread to Britain and America. Pantalettes were a form of leggings or long drawers. They could be one-piece or two separate garments, one for each leg, attached at the waist with buttons or laces. The crotch was left open for hygiene reasons. By the s, stiffened crinolines and later hoop skirts allowed ever wider skirts to be worn. The bustle, a frame or pad worn over the buttocks to enhance their shape, had been used off and on by women for two centuries, but reached the height of its popularity in the later s, and went out of fashion for good in the s. Women dressed in crinolines often wore drawers under them for modesty and warmth. Another common undergarment of the late 19th century for men, women, and children was the union suit. Invented in Utica, New York and patented in, this was a one-piece front-buttoning garment usually made of knitted material with sleeves extending to the wrists and legs down to the ankles. The union suit was the precursor of long johns, a two-piece garment consisting of a long-sleeved top and long pants possibly named after American boxer John L. Sullivan who wore a similar garment in the ring. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. The Hanes company emerged from this boom and quickly established itself as a top manufacturer of union suits, which were common until the s. The invention of new, flexible but supportive materials allowed whalebone and steel bones to be removed. The emancipation or liberty bodice offered an alternative to constricting corsets, and in Australia and the UK the liberty bodice became a standard item for girls as well as women. One product manufactured by his firm was tightly fitting boxers that resembled modern underwear. Underwear advertising first made an appearance in the s. Leyendecker of the "Kenosha Klosed Krotch". Early underwear advertisements emphasised durability and comfort, and fashion was not regarded as a selling point. By the end of the s, Chalmers Knitting Company split the union suit into upper and lower sections, effectively inventing the modern undershirt and drawers. Women wore lacier versions of this basic duo known as the camisole and tap pants. A corset over "step ins" and camisole, In, the US had its first professional underwear designer. Lindsay "Layneau" Boudreaux, a French immigrant, established the short-lived panty company Layneau.

Though her company closed within one year, it had a significant impact on many levels. Boudreaux showed the world that an American woman could establish and run a company, and she also caused a revolution in the underwear industry. In 1851, a New York socialite named Mary Phelps Jacob created the first modern brassiere by tying two handkerchiefs together with ribbon. Jacob began making brassieres for her family and friends, and news of the garment soon spread by word of mouth. By 1859, Jacob had a patent for her design and was marketing it throughout the US. By the end of the decade, trouser-like "bloomers", which were popularized by Amelia Jenks Bloomer but invented by Elizabeth Smith Miller, gained popularity with the so-called Gibson Girls who enjoyed pursuits such as cycling and tennis. This new female athleticism helped push the corset out of style. Steel-laced corsets were dropped in favour of the brassiere. Bathing suit contest, Swimsuit competition, Meanwhile, World War I soldiers were issued button-front shorts as underwear. The buttons attached to a separate piece of cloth, or "yoke", sewn to the front of the garment, and tightness of fit was adjusted by means of ties on the sides. This design proved so popular that it began to supplant the union suit in popularity by the end of the war. Rayon garments also became widely available in the post-war period. In the 1920s, manufacturers shifted emphasis from durability to comfort. Union suit advertisements raved about patented new designs that reduced the number of buttons and increased accessibility.

4: Boxers, Briefs or Loincloth? A Brief History of Men's Underwear | Mental Floss

The Orson Also Rises is a brief, complicated history of how the legendarily "lost" Orson Welles film 'The Other Side of the Wind' was saved. *The Orson Also Rises: A Brief History of 'The Other'.*

Publication[edit] Early in , Hawking first approached Simon Mitton , the editor in charge of astronomy books at Cambridge University Press , with his ideas for a popular book on cosmology. Mitton was doubtful about all the equations in the draft manuscript, which he felt would put off the buyers in airport bookshops that Hawking wished to reach. With some difficulty, he persuaded Hawking to drop all but one equation. The book does employ a number of complex models, diagrams, and other illustrations to detail some of the concepts it explores. Contents[edit] In A Brief History of Time, Stephen Hawking attempts to explain a range of subjects in cosmology , including the Big Bang , black holes and light cones , to the nonspecialist reader. His main goal is to give an overview of the subject, but he also attempts to explain some complex mathematics. In the edition of the book and subsequent editions, Hawking discusses the possibility of time travel and wormholes and explores the possibility of having a universe without a quantum singularity at the beginning of time. In the first chapter, Hawking discusses the history of astronomical studies , including the ideas of Aristotle and Ptolemy. Aristotle, unlike many other people of his time, thought that the Earth was round. Aristotle also thought that the sun and stars went around the Earth in perfect circles, because of "mystical reasons". The Aristotelian and Ptolemaic ideas about the position of the stars and sun were disproved in The first person to present a detailed argument that the earth revolves around the sun was the Polish priest Nicholas Copernicus , in To fit the observations, Kepler proposed an elliptical orbit model instead of a circular one. Nevertheless, Newton believed that the universe was made up of an infinite number of stars which were more or less static. Many of his contemporaries, including German philosopher Heinrich Olbers , disagreed. The origin of the universe represented another great topic of study and debate over the centuries. Early philosophers like Aristotle thought that the universe has existed forever, while theologians such as St. Augustine believed it was created at a specific time. Augustine also believed that time was a concept that was born with the creation of the universe. More than years later, German philosopher Immanuel Kant thought that time goes back forever. In , astronomer Edwin Hubble discovered that galaxies are moving away from each other. Consequently, there was a time, between ten and twenty billion years ago, when they were all together in one singular extremely dense place. This discovery brought the concept of the beginning of the universe within the province of science. Scientists are still looking for a complete unified theory that would describe everything in the universe. Moreover, Galileo Galilei also disproves Aristotle theory that heavier body falls more quickly than the lighter one just because of its mass. He experimentally proves it by sliding objects of different weights, and even concludes that both these object would fall at same rate and would reach the bottom at the same time, unless external force acts on them. Aristotle and Newton believed in absolute time. He observed that Io appeared sometimes quicker and sometimes later when it revolves around Jupiter, because the distance between Earth and Jupiter changes every time because of their orbital motion around the sun. The actual propagation of light was published by James Clerk Maxwell who told that light travels with a fixed speed. Later, many argued that light must travel through a hypothetical fluid called Ether , which was disproved by Michelson–Morley experiment that there is nothing called Ether through which light travels. The Special Theory of Relativity is based on this, that light travels with a finite speed no matter what the speed of the observer is. Moreover, the speed of light is assumed to be the ultimate speed. A new way of defining a metre using speed of light is also developed. The new 4-dimensions is also described, how different the path is seen when one changes reference from 3D to 4D or 3D to 2D. It is space-time curvature where light moves in a straight path in 4D which is seen as a curve in 3D. These straight line paths are Geodesics. Twin paradox , a part theory of Relativity which explains that two twins can age differently if they move at relatively different speeds or even at different places where spacetime curvature is different. Special relativity is based upon arenas of space and time where events take place whereas General Relativity is dynamic where force could change spacetime curvature, which gives rise to the expanding universe. Hawking and Roger Penrose worked

upon this and later proved using general Relativity that if the Universe had a beginning then it also must have an end. The picture shows the Universe expanding over time. In this chapter, Hawking first describes how physicists and astronomers calculated the relative distance of stars from the Earth. In the 18th century, Sir William Herschel confirmed the positions and distances of many stars in the night sky. In , Edwin Hubble discovered a method to measure the distance using brightness of the stars. The luminosity , brightness and distance are related by a simple mathematical formula. Using all these, he fairly calculated distances of nine different galaxies. We live in a spiral galaxy just like other galaxies containing vast amount of stars. The stars are very far away from us, so we only observe their one characteristic feature, their light. When this light is passed through a prism, it gives rise to a spectrum. We use thermal spectra of the stars to know their temperature. But in , when scientists were examining spectra of different stars, they found that some of the characteristic lines of the star spectrum was shifted towards the red end of the spectrum. The implications of this phenomenon was given by the Doppler effect , and it was clear that some stars were moving away from us. So, it was assumed that since some stars are red shifted, some stars would also be blue shifted. But when found, none of them were blue shifted. In fact, Hubble found that the amount of redshift is directly proportional to relative distance. So, it was clear that Universe is expanding. Moreover, many astronomers also tried to avoid the face value of General Relativity and stuck with their static universe except one Russian physicist Alexander Friedmann. He made two very simple assumptions: Homogeneity and that this would be true wherever we look from i. His results showed that the Universe is non-static. At the same time nearly, Robert H. Dicke and Jim Peebles were also working on the microwave radiation. They argued that they should be able to see the glow of the early universe as microwave radiations. But, Wilson and Penzias already did this, so they were awarded with Noble Prize in His work, though remained largely unknown until similar models were made by Howard Robertson and Arthur Walker. First, the universe would expand for a given amount of time and if the expansion rate is less than the density of the universe leads to gravitational attraction , it would ultimately lead to the collapse of the universe at the later stage. Secondly, the universe would expand and at sometime if the expansion rate and the density of the universe become equal, it would expand slowly and stop at infinite time and would lead to somewhat static universe. Thirdly, the universe would continue to expand forever if the density of the universe is less than the critical amount required to balance the expansion rate of universe. The first model depicts the space of universe to be curved inwards, somewhat earth like structure. In the second model, the space would lead to a flat structure, and in the third model resulted in negative curvature, or saddle shaped. Even if we calculate, the current expansion rate is more than the critical density of the universe including the dark matter and all the stellar masses. Its predictions also matched with the current Universe structure. But the fact that radiowave sources near us are far less than the distant universe and there were numerous more radio sources than at present, resulted in failure of this theory and everybody finally stuck and supported the big bang theory. Evgeny Lifshitz and Isaak Markovich Khalatnikov also tried to avoid the big bang theory but also failed. Finally, Roger Penrose used light cones and general Relativity and proved that a collapsing star could result in a region of zero size and infinite density and curvature called a Black Hole , so Hawking and Penrose proved together that the universe should have arisen from a singularity which Hawking himself disproved once Quantum effects are taken into accounts. The Uncertainty Principle[edit] The uncertainty principle says that the speed and the position of a particle cannot be found at the same time. To find where a particle is, scientists shine light at the particle. The uncertainty principle disproved the idea of a theory that was deterministic, or something that would predict everything in the future. Here is a picture of a light wave. How light behaves is also talked more about in this chapter. Light interference causes many colors to appear. Light waves have crests and troughs. The highest point of a wave is the crest, and the lowest part of the wave is a trough. Sometimes more than one of these waves can interfere with each other - the crests and the troughs line up. This is called light interference. When light waves interfere with each other, this can make many colors. An example of this is the colors in soap bubbles. Elementary Particles and Forces of Nature[edit] Quarks and other elementary particles are the topic of this chapter. Quarks are very small things that make up everything we see matter. There are six different "flavors" of quarks: Quarks also have three "colors": There are also anti-quarks, which are the opposite of the regular quarks. In total, there are 18

different types of regular quarks, and 18 different types of anti quarks. Quarks are known as the "building blocks of matter" because they are the smallest thing that make up all the matter in the universe. A particle of spin 1 needs to be turned around all the way to look the same again, like this arrow. All particles for example, the quarks have something called spin. The spin of a particle shows us what a particle looks like from different directions. For example, a particle of spin 0 looks the same from every direction. A particle of spin 1 looks different in every direction, unless the particle is spun completely around degrees. A particle of spin two needs to be turned around halfway or degrees to look the same.

5: A History of Women's Underwear

A Brief History of GSA. GSA was established by President Harry Truman on July 1, , to streamline the administrative work of the federal government.

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The Cable: A Brief History of Attempted Russian Assassinations by Poison Russian security services appear to be increasingly targeting dissidents and renegade spies for death by poison. March 9, , 2: Skripal was walking with his daughter on Monday when they fell ill, collapsed on a park bench, and were promptly rushed to the hospital, where they remain in critical condition. On Thursday, British police said that around 21 people had sought treatment as a result of exposure to the unidentified poison. A police officer who aided the two is in stable condition, and is conscious and talking. A Russian court convicted Skripal of spying on behalf of Britain in , but he was returned to England as part of a spy swap in . With the announcement by British police that a nerve agent was involved, suspicion immediately fell upon Russian spy services, which have a history of assassinating renegade spies and dissidents, sometimes with poison. The Kremlin immediately denied any involvement, and no conclusive evidence has emerged tying Russian security services to the attempted assassination. The use of a highly toxic nerve agent, however, is typically only employed by state security services, and Russia is not alone in deploying nerve agents against its enemies. And in , Israeli agents attempted to assassinate a Hamas leader, Khaled Mashal, with a lethal dose of fentanyl. Yet the list of Russian men and women targeted for assassination after falling afoul of the Kremlin includes quite a few felled by poison. The tactic sends a clear message to those thinking of defection or dissent, says Steve Hall, who up until his retirement in ran Russia operations for the CIA: The dissident Russian spy was killed in when he ingested polonium, a highly radioactive substance, that had been slipped into his tea. The use of polonium to kill Litvinenko served another purpose. He has survived attempted assassination by poison not once, but twice. The first incident came in , when he suddenly fell ill during a meeting. Doctors told him he had been poisoned. Then, in , it happened again. He immediately fell ill and was rushed to the hospital. The umbrella, as it turned out, was tipped with a pellet filled with ricin, the toxin produced from the castor plant. He was on his way to work at the offices of the BBC when he was killed by an agent believed to be working on behalf of the Bulgarian secret service. It has long been speculated the assassination was carried out with KGB assistance. Khattab A screenshot from a video eulogizing the Chechen rebel leader Khattab. YouTube In , the Arab fighter and prominent Chechen rebel leader Khattab opened a letter that would be his last. It contained what is believed to have been a lethal dose of sarin or one of its derivatives, likely planted by Kremlin operatives. When he reappeared, his face was disfigured, the result of what his doctors described as a near-fatal dose of dioxin. Yushchenko, a pro-Western candidate, would go on to win the highly contested election that culminated in widespread street protests in support of him, dubbed the Orange Revolution. While responsibility for his poisoning has never been definitively established, suspicion immediately fell on Russian and Ukrainian security services. Alexander Perepilichny Investigators found trace amounts of the toxic variant of the gelsemium flower in the stomach of Alexander Perepilichny. After running about a hundred feet, he collapsed and died. Perepilichny had handed over evidence to Swiss investigators probing allegations of massive fraud by Russian authorities on an investment fund, Hermitage, controlled by the American businessman Bill Browder. Moskalenko delayed her return to Moscow after feeling ill with intense headaches and a strange giddiness. Moskalenko and her husband soon found liquid-metal pellets likely mercury under a seat of their car. Anna Politkovskaya A picture taken March 17, , shows Russian human rights advocate, journalist, and author Anna Politkovskaya during the book fair in Leipzig, Germany. Politkovskaya, who won countless enemies for her coverage of the Russian invasion of Chechnya, was attempting to travel to North Ossetia in to help negotiate during a school siege in Beslan. She boarded a flight, but promptly fell ill after drinking some tea that she believed contained poison. In a article for the Guardian, she described the moment she woke up in the hospital to a nurse leaning over her in the hospital. Elias Groll is a staff writer at Foreign Policy covering cyberspace.

6: BBC - iWonder - A brief history of nudity and naturism

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LADIES UNDERWEAR. By Tim Lambert. Early Women's Underwear. Ancient Greek women wore a form of bra called an apodesme. Both Roman men and women wore a loincloth or shorts called subligaculum.

These laws were in place to maintain racial segregation after the Civil War ended. Initially, Jim Crow laws required the separation of white people and people of color on all forms of public transportation and in schools. Eventually, the segregation expanded to include interaction and comingling in schools, cemeteries, parks, theaters, and restaurants. Often, anyone who was suspected of having a black ancestor, even just one in the very distant past, was considered to be a person of color and therefore subject to the Jim Crow laws. The overarching purpose of Jim Crow laws was to prevent contact between black people and white people as equals, establishing white people as above black people. During the ensuing years, states passed laws instituting requirements for separate and equal accommodations for blacks on public modes of transportation. Black people also had separate schools, hospitals, churches, cemeteries, restrooms, and prisons, and these facilities were usually inferior to facilities for white people, although the laws called for the separate facilities to be of equal quality. Jim Crow laws also influenced social interactions between blacks and whites. Failure to enforce these laws resulted in fines or imprisonment. Into the 20th century, Jim Crow laws continued to govern everyday life in America, prohibiting black and white interaction. For instance, in the state of Georgia, blacks and whites had to use separate parks. Blacks and whites could not play checkers together in Birmingham, Alabama, under a law. And in , blacks and whites were forbidden from boating together in Oklahoma. Blacks who violated these laws could be physically beaten by whites without reprisal; lynchings occurred with startling frequency when blacks violated Jim Crow laws. Racial segregation was an integral part of society in some parts of the country, and so black men who served in the military were assigned to segregated divisions. Black servicemen were given lesser support positions such as grave-digging or cooking, and they were served food in separate lines from white servicemen. At first, black servicemen did not engage in combat, but as the war went on, increasing numbers were placed in front-line positions, where they served with distinction. President Harry Truman created a committee to investigate the issue, and in , Truman issued an executive order that eliminated racial discrimination in all of the military branches. The tide began to turn noticeably toward equality in the following years with a series of Supreme Court victories for civil rights. Black people finally began breaking down racial barriers and challenging segregation with success, and the pinnacle of this effort was the passage of the Civil Rights Act of , which abolished the Jim Crow laws. This law outlawed discrimination in any type of public accommodation. Learn more about Jim Crow laws and how they have affected people by visiting these websites:

7: A History of Men's Underwear, in Brief

Today is National Underwear Day! It's taken thousands of years to perfect the boxers or briefs that you're wearing right now. Here's a brief and incomplete look at the history of men's underwear.

Loincloths Offer Some Coverage The first known underwear dates back almost years, when prehistoric man used leather to cover and protect his loins while running prehistoric errands. For several millennia, not much changed. Ancient Egyptian art shows everyone from the pharaohs on down the line decked out in loincloths of their own. **Codpieces Become All the Rage** Variations on the loincloth seem to have persisted into the Middle Ages, when loose-fitting trousers called braies came into fashion. These linen duds extended from the waist to around mid-calf, and once the wearer stepped into his breeches he had to lace them tight around his waist and shins. These early codpieces were practical, but as hemlines rose, they started to take on a decorative function, too. When Henry VIII began to pad his codpiece in the 16th century, all of his loyal subjects followed suit. Codpiece padding and growth continued throughout the mid-sixteenth century before tailing off around **Prizefighters Get Stretchy** "Boxers or briefs? Jacob Golomb, the founder of the venerable boxing equipment company Everlast, started to tweak designs for the trunks worn by pugilists. After some experimentation, Kneibler introduced a new kind of snug, legless underwear with an overlapping Y-front fly. Although the weather was awful—Chicago was in the grip of a blizzard—the entire load of pairs of Jockeys sold out on the first day. Within three months, the company sold 30, pairs of Jockey shorts. Coopers kept making and marketing its wildly successful underwear, and in the company changed its name to Jockey. **The Secret Service Gives Joe Boxer a Boost** Designer underwear became all the rage in the s and 80s as labels like Calvin Klein began to transform our drawers from something we hid under our pants into the sort of fashion and lifestyle choice one could flaunt in a bad music video. Cuts became tighter and sexier, and underwear designs became flashy, loud, and often humorous. Joe Boxer really jumped into the spotlight in , though, when it made boxers printed with the image of hundred-dollar bills. The Secret Service decided that these duds violated forgery laws and confiscated 1, pairs of the offending underwear. Instead of simply hiring lawyers, Joe Boxer turned the seizure into a lighthearted news event, and the image of boxers as a playful alternative to stolid briefs grew. The logic Greenspan outlined regarding underwear was both simple and elegant. As such, when men start fearing the economy is in a downturn and need a place to save a little cash, they simply stop replenishing their underwear drawer with fresh Jockeys. Sounds reasonable enough, right?

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A brief history of naturism, from athletes in Ancient Greece to radical Women's Institute fundraisers. A brief history of naturism, from athletes in Ancient Greece to radical Women's Institute.

Both Roman men and women wore a loincloth or shorts called subligaculum. Women also wore a band of cloth or leather around their chest called a strophium or mamillare. After the fall of Rome women did not usually wear panties until the 19th century. Their only underwear was a long linen garment called a shift, smock or chemise, which they wore under their dress. From the 16th century women wore corsets made with whalebone. Also in the late 16th century women began to wear a frame made of wire or whalebone called a farthingale. From the end of the 16th century women wore skirt-like garments called petticoats, which were sometimes embroidered. A petticoat was originally a petty coat, a short coat worn by a man but women borrowed the term. Where does the word knickers come from? In Britain the illustrations for the book showed a Dutchman wearing long, loose-fitting garments on his lower body. When men wore loose trousers for sport they were sometimes called knickerbockers. In the late 19th century the word was shortened to knickers. However the word panties has never been common in the UK. At the beginning of the 19th century women still wore a long nightie-like garment under their dress but it was now called a chemise not a shift. However after about 1850 they also wore drawers. Sometimes they came to below the knee or sometimes they were longer garments with frills at the bottom called pantalettes. However by the 1850s only girls not women wore pantalettes. Today we still say a pair of knickers or panties. In the winter women often wore woolen knickers and woolen vests. In the 1850s some women began to wear colored petticoats and drawers although white remained very common. Elizabeth Miller invented loose trousers to be worn by women. Amelia Bloomer promoted the idea from and they became known as bloomers. In time long underwear became known as bloomers. In stockings and knickers were first made of rayon at first rayon was called artificial silk. Nylon was invented by Wallace Carothers in 1935. The first nylon stockings were sold in 1939. Later knickers were also made of nylon. Meanwhile in 1889 Mary Phelps Jacob invented the modern bra. She used two handkerchiefs joined by ribbon. The wonderbra was invented in 1960. In the 19th century knickers came down to well below the knee. In the 1850s they became shorter. They ended above the knee. By the 1880s and 1890s many women wore briefs. Knickers became briefer still in the 1920s. In the 1930s thongs became common. Meanwhile in 1915 an American tennis player named Gertrude Moran or Gussie Moran caused a sensation when she appeared at Wimbledon wearing frilly panties. She was called Gorgeous Gussie and it was very daring in 1915! Women have worn stockings for centuries but tights pantyhose were introduced in 1947. Finally our word lingerie is derived from the French word for linen, lin. Lingerie were things made from linen.

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'An example of technical and social progress' The government faced a housing crisis and, in response, it prioritised collective housing and housing estates, which appeared innovative for two reasons.

A brief history of French housing estates From the functional to the dysfunctional: How France fell out of love with its high-rise housing estates. The separation of functions - life, work, recreation and transportation The separation, for the purpose of health and hygiene, of housing and transportation routes, such as roads That a certain quality of well-being be accessible to everyone, regardless of their financial status. And there was a great need for such housing in post-war France. A significant portion of the population lived in unhealthy conditions in former military barracks, war-damaged buildings and overcrowded slums. They offered modern comforts such as running water, central heating and a separation between the kitchen and other rooms. They integrated postwar technical innovations such as the easy utilisation of concrete and quick methods of large-scale construction. It was an example of technical and social progress working hand-in-hand. In the s, the housing estates represented an improvement in living and economic conditions [Illustration: The state and local municipalities, which considered these neighbourhoods to be a step towards a new society, promoted them through photographs and films. This was particularly the case for communist municipal authorities, like the one in Montreuil, in the eastern suburbs of Paris, which celebrated the more equal access to sanitary facilities, libraries, swimming pools and other amenities. By the end of the s, working and middle-class families were increasingly leaving the estates for detached houses elsewhere, as the government encouraged home ownership and selective social mobility. These families were gradually replaced by poorer ones from the French countryside and by immigrants. Voice of the Suburbs These new residents were among the most deeply affected by the economic hardships of the s - when an oil crisis led to a steep rise in energy prices, the economy contracted significantly and a wave of mass layoffs followed. Unemployment among their residents, a lack of public investment and the degradation of buildings that had been built in haste became the new reality of the estates. The result was a dramatic shift in how they were perceived. While, in the s, they had represented an improvement in living and economic conditions, by the s, they had become synonymous with poverty and social exclusion. Having been built, for financial reasons, on the outskirts of cities, their residents became victims of a form of spatial segregation. And, as many of their inhabitants were now immigrants, that also meant racial segregation. The urban society of the 19th century, built upon a melting pot, was now gone.

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