



The Kaiser's Battlefleet: German Capital Ships 1871-1918

By Aidan Dodson

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The battleships of the Third Reich have been written about exhaustively, but there is little in English devoted to their Second Reich predecessors. This new book fills an important gap in the literature of the period by covering these German capital ships in detail and studying the full span of battleship development during this period. The book is arranged as a chronological narrative, with technical details, construction schedules, and ultimate fates tabulated throughout, thus avoiding the sometimes disjointed structure that can result from a class-by-class approach. Heavily illustrated with line drawings and photographs, many from German sources, the book offers readers a fresh visual look at these ships. A key objective of the book is to make available a full synthesis of the published fruits of archival research by German writers found in the pre-World War II books of Koop & Schmolke, Großmer's on the construction program of the dreadnaught era, Forstmeier & Breyer on World War I projects, and Schenk & Nottelmann's papers in *Warship International*. As well as providing data not available in English-language books, these sources correct significant errors in standard English sources.

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Editorial Review

Review

“This heavyweight tome is exceptionally well researched... For the vast majority of readers it will give an insight into how the Imperial German Navy’s principal warships were designed, built, fought and died ranged against the might of the Royal Navy in World War One.”? *Warship World*

About the Author

Aidan Dodson is a senior research fellow in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Bristol. In his primary field of study, he is the author of seventeen books and over 300 articles and reviews. He has also published a number of papers on naval matters and has worked on naval projects such as the Offshore Patrol Vessel HMS *Clyde*.

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