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Korea Style



Synopsis

With over 500 stunning photographs, this design book reveals the relatively unknown but unique aesthetics of Korea. Korea Style reveals the intrinsic elements of Korean design; simplicity, moderation, constraint, and a deep respect for all things natural. Despite the filtering of Japanese and Western design ideas into Korea over the millennia, the peninsula has maintained its own identity and is gaining recognition for its own particular "style". Spatial, spiritual and material qualities are reflected in the simple beauty of its architectural design, while classic objects that immediately distinguish themselves as being uniquely Korean are used with distinctive flair in interior design and decoration. Korea Style is the first book devoted to the country's architecture and interior design- featuring twenty-two exceptional homes, studios and public and heritage buildings. Ranging from vernacular to cutting-edge creations, all are a celebration of the country's natural landscape, arts and crafts and architectural heritage juxtaposed with a drive towards invention, experimentation and individuality.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Many Americans are somewhat familiar with the Japanese style of decor and architectural design from restaurants, "Zen" commercial goods, and samurai movies. In contrast, Korea is fairly unknown, which is surprising since the United States has had a large military presence since 1952. As a visitor to Korea and student of Korean Buddhism, I am delighted in obtaining this grandly illustrated book on contemporary Korean architectural design. This book helps fill a large gap in appreciating the culture of Korea, which looks to China and to Japan but is its own, unique creation.

The only text, other than captions, are the brief introductions to the book and to each chapter or building. Images are of small and large homes and institutions, landscapes, decorative accessories, all contemporary and also traditional in approach. The Korean style has, for the most part, clean thick and strong lines and simple ornamentation; but rather than being Stoic stark, rooms have a welcoming warmth. Each of the 224 pages offers new insights and perhaps inspiration.

Simplicity, modernity and nature all combine to maximum benefit in Korean style and represent a new movement in that country that reaches out across the waters to interior designers interested in Asian style. Any library collection strong in Asian style representations will find KOREA STYLE a welcome focus: it's also the first international publication to reveal the country's architecture and interior design, so it should be a 'foundation title' for any college-level specialty collection or international home style library. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

I love this book, and have used it for my first home. Being Korean, it helped me to understand where the designs originated and different styles I could incorporate into my home. Now, if the US could just get the under-the-floor heating...

This is a great book to explore for inspiration and appreciation of the beauty of Korean design. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is looking to create an amazing space in your own environment.

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