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Authentic Decor: The Domestic Interior 1620-1920

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Synopsis
A sumptuously illustrated interior design book covers six fifty-year periods, portraying all manner of houses around the world--ranging from the homes of aristocrats and artists to those of the bourgeoisie--and including 299 black-and-white illustrations. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information
Hardcover: 408 pages
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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Customer Reviews
The best comprehensive history of interiors to be found. However, I wish the author’s attention to decor had spanned as far west as California. Far too much happened in the same time frame (Spanish Colonial Revivalism in all of its manifestations!!!!) to have been so glossed over in the brief mention of Mission style furniture. Oh well...

As of today when I write this this book is still cheap. Get it, love it, treasure it. I can look through this cornucopia of pictorial delights in either b&w or full color depending upon the period and the picture of course, and know about the period, understand the fashion and get the right feel. And if that's not enough, Thornton helps me recreate it. This is the best there is. Highly recommended.

Love this book, it was perfect for my interior course. Great breakdown of different time periods of furniture design. Definitely recommend if you study interior design.
It couldn't be better!

Amazing book on interior design history.

great shape

Authentic Decor: The Domestic Interior 1620-1920, is far more than a history of the evolution of the domestic interior. Written by Peter Thorton, of the Victoria and Albert Museum, it shows first and foremost that an interior is a reflection of its owner. Everyone is well represented in its 408 richly illustrated pages, from the poor, to the middle classes, to the rich & the grand. Much valuable insight is to be gained from reading this book. I have kept it on my coffee table for years and have guarded it with my life, because people are so engrossed by it. I hope that somebody will use all of their powers of persuasion to convince Viking Penguin, Inc. to re-issue this stunning & informative book!

This is an essential tool for anyone interested in historic European (incl. England) interiors. From a discussion of spatial relationships, to room arrangement, to the minutiae of room decor - ceiling to floor- Thornton describes interiors from 1620 to 1900 with fluidity and wit. The book reads like a good novel, but the information is rock-solid.

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