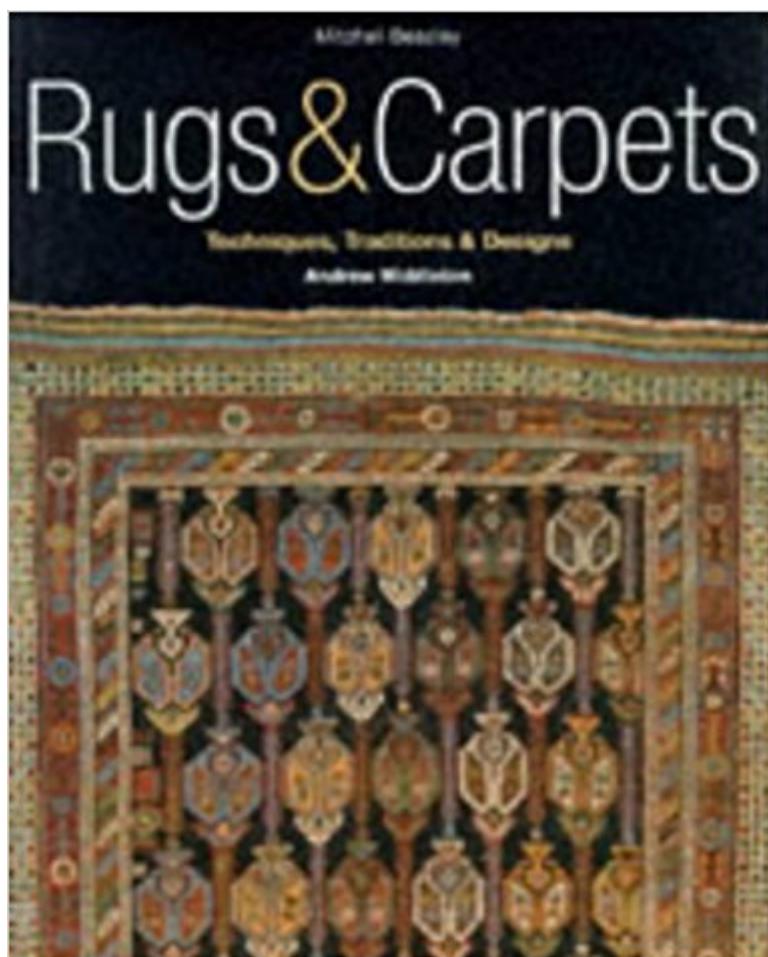


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Rugs & Carpets: Techniques, Traditions & Designs



Synopsis

In this handsome guide, auction house expert Andrew Middleton traces the development of carpet making, explains the different techniques involved and covers all the major production centers. Illustrated with 300 colour photographs and eight maps, this authoritative, yet accessible book is an invaluable work of reference.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lots of color pictures in clear, brilliant focus make the difference in any home furnishings book; and collector, dealer, and now auction-house employee Middleton provides an easy-to-read one.

Nuggets of information abound; for instance, Persians were the first to create carpets of curvilinear design, and the temperate climes of India dictated the development of the dhurrie, or cotton flat-weave rug. Occasionally, the data are a bit skimpy, as in the China-Tibet section; but the author points to a genuinely helpful bibliography. Maps introduce each of the eight rugs-by-geographic-origin chapters, which, in turn, are preceded by a detailed outline of the how, where, why, and who of carpet making. Knowledge that shouldn't be swept under the rug. Barbara Jacobs

Great book for the rug enthusiast! It has some of the best information out there for people wanting a great source on Antique Carpets.

I have many, many books on rugs and carpets and this is one of my favorites. I have a large machine-made oriental carpet in my living room and yearn for the day I'll be able to afford a genuine one. Until that time, I have to satisfy myself lusting over luscious pictures in books like this. As of the writing of this the book, author Andrew Middleton had only been collecting rugs for 14 years. But he must have studied really hard because this book is chock-full of expert information and truly gorgeous pictures. I have many big tomes and this book does stand up in comparison to them. The contents include the standard areas: Turkey, The Caucasus, Persia, and Turkestan. The it goes a little far afield from some books and covers India, China & Tibet. It goes even further to include the Navajo weaving in North America. Finally--and few books include this--Europe is thrown in for good measure. I like it that on the average page I open to, I see three carpets in clear, bright color. Often, one carpet fills up a whole page and then two smaller ones appear opposite. Through repetition and numerous examples, we're shown the ins and outs of the design and make-up of carpets. I just breezed through the whole book and didn't see a single page w/o a color photo. I like the extreme close-ups where you can make out just how complicated and time-consuming the knotting is. I keep lingering over the book and interrupting myself from this review. Now I'll sit down and read the book again more carefully. It's really engrossing.

As a new and small collector of Oriental rugs I found Middleton's book a great source of information for a beginner. It's loaded with great color photos, is easy to read and is laid out very well. I'd recommend it to anyone looking to start an education on Oriental rugs.

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