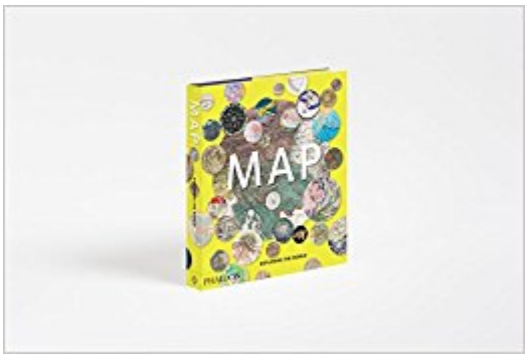
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Map: Exploring The World



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Synopsis

300 stunning maps from all periods and from all around the world, exploring and revealing what maps tell us about history and ourselves.Map: Exploring the World brings together more than 300 fascinating maps from the birth of cartography to cutting-edge digital maps of the twenty-fist century. The book's unique arrangement, with the maps organized in complimentary or contrasting pairs, reveals how the history of our attempts to make flat representations of the world has been full of beauty, ingenuity and innovation.Selected by an international panel of curators, academics and collectors, the maps reflect the many reasons people make maps, such as to find their way, to assert ownership, to record human activity, to establish control, to encourage settlement, to plan military campaigns or to show political power. The selection includes the greatest names in cartography, such as James Cook, Gerard Mercator, Matthew Fontaine Maury and Phyllis Pearsall, as well as maps from indigenous cultures around the world, rarely seen maps from lesser'known cartographers, and maps of outstanding beauty and surprising individuality from the current generation of map makers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An unprecedented collection of remarkable maps and tales of adventure, discovery and innovation."Ã¢â ¬â •Ranulph Fiennes, Explorer and Writer"Map is an exquisite record of the miles and the millennia."Ã¢â ¬â •NPR"The book successfully juxtaposes sets of maps in a provocative manner, replete with substantial descriptions and contextual captions... Presents humanity's quest for a sense of place in a way that invites even a casual reader to savor its pages over a

rain-soaked afternoon."Ã¢â ¬â •Forbes.com"Captivating... Brings together more than 300 visually arresting maps spanning 3,000 years and every corner of the planet."Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review"Catnip for map geeks... More than 300 gorgeous images from milestone moments in cartography... The range is pulse-quickening."Ã¢â ¬â •Los Angeles Times"The selections in the book reveal the infinite forms that maps can take, the diversity of information and perspectives they can convey, and their essential role in understanding our world."
Ã¢â ¬â •TravelandLeisure.com"Profound, whimsical, wondrous, the book is a cartographer's dream."Ã¢â ¬â •Chicago Tribune"[A] compendious testament to the beauty of maps... A coffee table treat for the armchair traveller... It is amazing to see how much our world view has changed." Ã¢â ¬â •Homes and Antiques"This fascinating survey shows that a map can be an act of faith in ink on vellum (the Mappa Mundi), an arrangement of sticks and shells made by a pre-literate canoeist in the Marshall Islands, or a pointed political sculpture by the artist Ai Weiwei."Ã¢â ¬â •Telegraph Travel"Exquisite... As one expects from Phaidon, the design and presentation of the book is second-to-none, making it a perfect present... Thoughtfully curated pairings reveal the huge variety of the cartographer's art... So delightful are the images in this book that any one of them would look good on a wall. [A] wonderful journey."Ã¢â ¬â •Aga Living"The fascinating progression of cartography."Ã¢â ¬â •Wanderlust"A fabulous book to put cartography where it belongs: on the map."Ã¢â ¬â •Tatler"A sumptuous meal for carto-philes."Ã¢â ¬â •Library Journal"Collects some of the most significant examples throughout cartographic history." Ã¢â ¬â •The Independent"A stunning cartographic encyclopedia... Draws connections between eras, places, and themes with each turn of the page"Ã¢â ¬â •TheAtlantic.com"A visual bonanza... This is a big, beautiful book of wonder." Ã¢â ¬â •Architectural Digest"A celebration of cartography."Ã¢â ¬â •MentalFloss.com"I can stare at maps for hours. At home, the children and I draw intricate fantasy maps of magical places - and this this book is definitely the best inspiration."Ã¢â ¬â •Samantha Cameron, Porter

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I was quite disappointed. The maps are not only so much reduced as to be mostly illegible, but the reproductions are mediocre, using a relatively coarse half-tone screen and less than vibrant colors.

Why reviewers have not noted these limitations is a mystery. Phaidon could and should have done much better -- especially given the Introduction’s claim that "this book puts the emphasis back on the experience of viewing rather than of describing. The accompanying photo shows an enlargement of a typical square inch of a reproduction.Compare, e.g., MoMA’s *The Printed Picture* by Richard Benson (2008), whose illustrations are superbly reproduced (even viewed with a powerful loupe the screen is so fine as to be virtually undetectable) and with thumbnail enlargements of small sections in the case of reproductions that had to be much reduced.

I’m a map freak - love maps. That said, this book was a complete disappointment. The maps are printed so small that you cannot read them without a magnifying glass AND in bright light. I do not expect to pay this for a book and have these problems with it. If I could leave no stars, I would. Don’t waste your money on this one - totally not worth it.

A gift for an adult son who has always loved maps. He keeps it on his coffee table to pick up and look at whenever. The organization of the maps contrasting old and new is unique and most interesting.

The organization and comparisons of maps of the ancient, old and new and of many cultures make for hours of pleasure.

From an NPR review, I greatly enjoyed this book. While is is not a scholarly treatment of cartography, it IS a "coffee table" grade overview of a galaxy of ways to deliver information.

This book was informative and beautiful. Bought as a gift for someone who loves maps (in fact, she was a cartographer) and she loved it!

The book makes a nice gift for several of our brainer grandchildren. Send along a magnifying glass or it is a waste..

It was a gift for my wife - she says it’s a very cool book. I heard about it on NPR, and for those who like the process of map-making, not just the use of them, it’s a fascinating book.

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