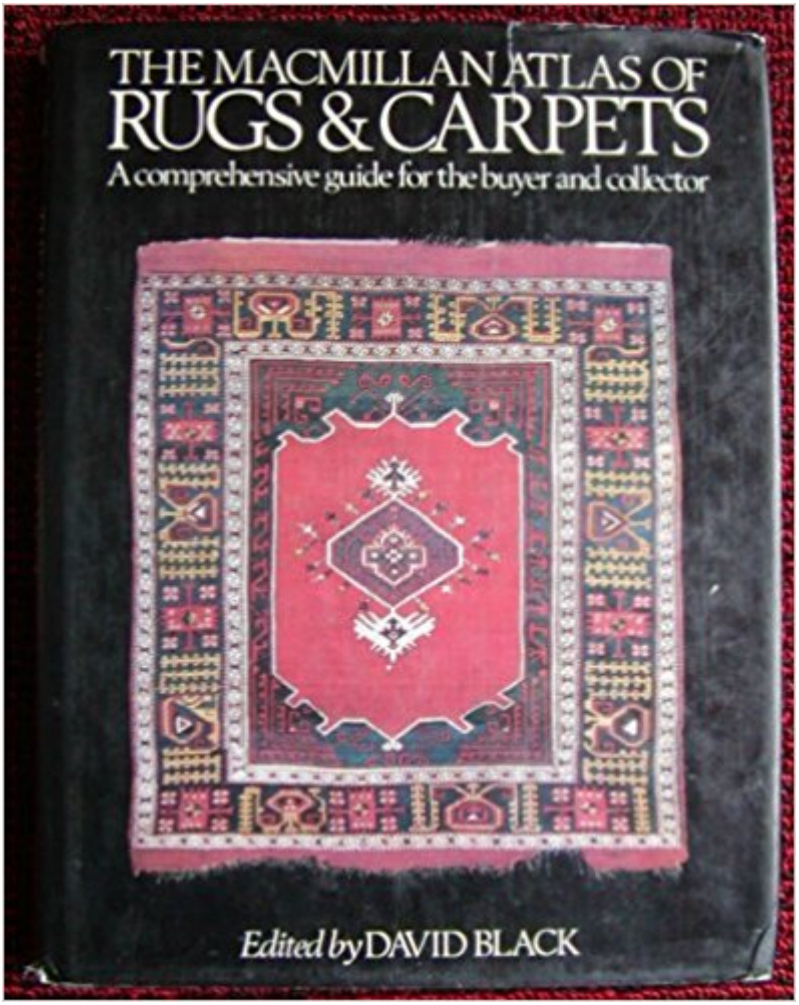
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The Atlas Of Rugs And Carpets: A Comprehensive Guide For The Buyer And Collector



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Synopsis

Traces the history of carpets, discusses dyes, weaving techniques, and symbolic patterns, explains how to buy and care for carpets, and looks at examples from Turkey, Russia, Persia, China, India, and North America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Macmillan Atlas provides the interested layperson with an overview of carpet history, production, and design. The main part of the volume is a gazetteer, with maps, of carpet production areas the world over. Data for each region include history and typical characteristics of carpets woven in that area; clear photographs provide visual examples. The atlas covers not only Oriental carpets, but also European and North American. A few words of advice on the buying and care of carpets are appended. A good choice for public libraries. Shahsavan is an extraordinary work, a thorough portrait of an almost extinct art form. The Shahsavan are a confederation of Turkish-speaking tribes who inhabit northwest Iran. Given the political state of Iran and the breakup of tribal traditions, the rugs illustrated hereprimarily flat weaves with specific tribal usesare rarely produced anymore. The work is very well written and translated, and, despite the wealth of scholarly detail, can be appreciated by anyone with a love for and interest in carpets. The many clear diagrams and charts make this a good choice for weavers as well. An outstanding, beautifully illustrated example of research on carpets. Patricia R. Hausman, Williamsburg Regional Lib., Va.Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Large format book, about 14" x 9", with about 250 pages of text. Practically every page has one or more pictures, well chosen, most of them in color.The first 40 pages discuss production and design. The next 45 pages cover history, decently but no better. The next 150 pages are the most valuable part of the book: they go through all the major production regions of the world, listing typical names and designs along with information on patterns and weaving technique. and numerous photographs.The book covers traditional regions well. It is written in 1986, so the last 30 years of production are not covered. Reasonably well-covered regions are Turkey, Persia, Caucasus, Turkoman/ Turkestan regions. India, China, Tibet, Nepal, Africa have seen a lot of development since the book was written and are not adequately covered.All in all, a worthwhile book - but there are better ones I think.

David Black edited this book which is marvelous in its scope and authorship. The contributors of the chapters include: Schuyler Cammann, Walter Denny, Ulrich SchÃƒÂ rmann, Jennifer Scarce, Ian Bennett, John Eskenazi, and Jennifer Wearden, all highly credentialed names that are familiar to lovers of the rugs and carpets of the world. This is a partial listing of the Table of Contents:Carpet production and design; the history of carpets; the care and purchasing of carpets and the sources of carpets are these:TurkeyThe CaucasusPersiaBaluchTurkomanEast TurkestanTibetChinaIndiaMoroccoEuropeNorth America (Navajo weaving)The book is heavy on mostly color photos of carpets that often take up a whole page with detailed descriptions. As a student of Tudor times, I love hearing details of the holdings of Cardinal Wolesy, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I. When Henry died, he owned over 400 rugs of "turkey work." This refers to the knotting of rugs and the court portraitist, Hans Holbein, so finely detailed the rugs in his painting that they can be sourced and dated. In Europe, Spanish Eleanor of Castille is known to have introduced carpets in large quantity to decorate her rooms in London when she married Prince Edward in 1255. I appreciate seeing for every carpet the origin, method of construction, discussion of design, dating and size both in the metric system and English measurement. It makes a big difference if the carpet pictured is 2 square feet vs. 200 square feet. This tells you, in addition to the number of knots and of people working on the carpet, why some carpets can be made in a couple weeks or take a couple years. It will always amaze me how some carpets can have 3,600 knots in a square inch.This isn’t the largest tome on oriental carpets that I own--and I own a lot--but it is one of the most comprehensive and interesting.

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