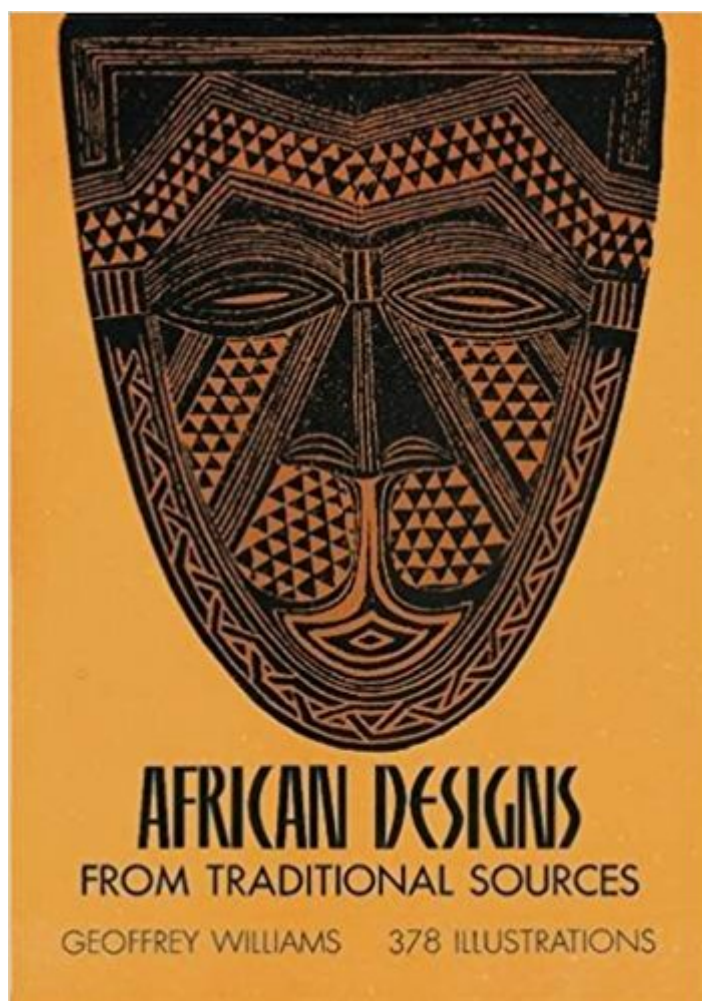


The book was found

African Designs From Traditional Sources



Synopsis

Since the discovery of African art by the Cubists, the primitive strength of its motifs has held a fascination for contemporary artists and designers and has exercised a considerable influence on the development of modern art. This book brings together an unusually varied selection of African designs which will find many uses in advertising and in the creation of book designs, bookplates, labels, and patterns for textiles and wallpaper; or may simply serve as inspiration for the creation of original designs. Rendered in stark black-and-white, they may be reproduced, enlarged, reduced or altered at will. Symbolic and simple geometric motifs, repetitive designs and textural patterns, representations of human beings, animals and mythical figures, masks, abstract motifs, and artifacts and objects with figural components are reproduced from the work of the Ndebele, Ashanti, Zulu, Masai, Bushongo, Mangbetu, Bariba, Toma, Baule and many other tribes. There are designs from carved ivory pendants and bracelets, helmet masks, wooden combs, altar slabs and shields, and designs printed on cloth and painted on doors and walls. Each is identified by original use, and the source is listed for each. Geoffrey Williams, himself a practicing designer, has reproduced most of these designs by means of linocut prints in order to capture the power of the originals. His sources have been artifacts in museums and private collections with a few designs gathered from the pages of important publications on the subject. A bibliography refers the reader not only to the sources of material used for this book, but to other major sources of information about African tribal art.

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Customer Reviews

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fascination for contemporary artists and designers and has exercised a considerable influence on the development of modern art. This book brings together an unusually varied selection of African designs which will find many uses in advertising and in the creation of book designs, bookplates, labels, and patterns for textiles and wallpaper; or may simply serve as inspiration for the creation of original designs. Rendered in stark black-and-white, they may be reproduced, enlarged, reduced or altered at will. Symbolic and simple geometric motifs, repetitive designs and textural patterns, representations of human beings, animals and mythical figures, masks, abstract motifs, and artifacts and objects with figural components are reproduced from the work of the Ndebele, Ashanti, Zulu, Masai, Bushongo, Mangbetu, Bariba, Toma, Baule and many other tribes. There are designs from carved ivory pendants and bracelets, helmet masks, wooden combs, altar slabs and shields, and designs printed on cloth and painted on doors and walls. Each is identified by original use, and the source is listed for each. Geoffrey Williams, himself a practicing designer, has reproduced most of these designs by means of linocut prints in order to capture the power of the originals. His sources have been artifacts in museums and private collections with a few designs gathered from the pages of important publications on the subject. A bibliography refers the reader not only to the sources of material used for this book, but to other major sources of information about African tribal art.

I'm an artist and I travel a great deal- thus I value my portability, but there is ALWAYS room in my suitcase for this book- the black and white illustrations are accurate and the author goes as far as to name the tribe/region from which the design/object comes. It has an perfect mix of drawings of artifacts, patterns, and figures [people and animals]. If you're an artist looking to incorporate or be inspired by African design, start with this book; you won't regret it.

Just what I was looking for to provide lots of examples quickly for my art students. Very little info is given about each design, but this is more of a picture book than a research book.

Great book for surface designers who want ideas to serve as a jumping off point.

Loved the range of cultures, ages & art forms included. Great inspiration for artists, needleworkers & craftspeople, & a fascinating insight into links between the art of Africa & other continents

I recommend this book because offeres different kinds of designs, which is very useful when we are looking for ideas or is interested in learn more.

Just what I expected!

This book is a great source for African designs for other art or craft projects. The black and white presentation easily translates to many other uses. While viewing the designs on the object (pottery, wood, etc) is great, looking at these designs in a two-dimensional format is terrific for translation to other projects

This book contains art from a variety of sources and is very helpful. I have used it as an inspiration for several knitted and printed fabric and clothing designs.

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