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How To Make A Japanese House



Synopsis

Nowhere in the world have architects built homes as small as in Japan, and nowhere have they done so with such ingenuity and success. *How to Make a Japanese House* presents 21 lessons in how to design a single-family home from three decades of architectural practice. From the Western perspective, in which more space is better space, small interiors may once have seemed undesirable, but Japanese architects have long excelled at overcoming the limitations of building in densely populated areas and creating brilliant effects of spaciousness with minimal square footage. As urban areas across the world grow only more dense in population, a knack for the economic handling and design of domestic space has clearly established itself as a key virtue of contemporary architectural practice. Through a rich array of research, interviews, drawings and photographs, *How to Make a Japanese House* demonstrates that Japanese homes present a radically different way of thinking about architecture, and provide inspiration for dwelling on a smaller scale.

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Customer Reviews

An Incredible book!! If you Like Japanese culture, small space solution, and esthetic, this is the book to have, excellent quality of printing and paper. this is the book to have and share.

Really enjoyable book, not only has beautiful images but also all the information you may want to read about for each one of the projects included. The size is nice as well, it is not bulky or heavy.

The recent architectural glutonny and obsession for innovative ways of living, has found in the Japanese house its most significant fad. More than ever keen attention to each of these buildings is dedicated in blogs and diverse publications mainly through pictures and plans. Even with great illustrations, this book is not the case, as architectural critic Taro Igarashi has well remarked, of a coffee table book. It is rather a valuable contribution to understand some of the forces and constraints Japanese architects have to deal with when building in a city as Tokyo. Opening a dialogue through interviews with the authors of these singular dwellings, it is a first-hand documentation of thier own design strategies. Nuijsink has somehow decoded wisely what lies behind the contemporary Japanese house-making scene by tracing the ideas and connecting threads from the 50's generation such as Kuma, Sejima and Aoki, passing through Chiba, Tsukamoto and Nishizawa (60's generation), to the younger generation (70's) with architects as Fujimoto, Tanijiri and Ishigami, for mentioning few. A fundamental publication for those aiming to better understand the design mechanisms for such ec(zen)tric ways of living. Rafael A. Balboa. PhD candidate. Kengo Kuma Laboratory. The University of Tokyo.

After finding this book on the shelf of my school's library and reading it completely through I knew this book would become a great resource in the future in my career as an architect. I bought this book and it arrived right on time and was neatly packed in the box. The book is filled with countless pictures of varying homes as well as interviews with some of the most influential architects in Japan today. Additionally in the back of the book there are multiple essays from different architects to promote what might become of architecture in the future and how we should go about approaching it now.

This book reads like a philosophy text. What makes it so good is the philosophers are architects and their medium is private homes in a country with very small plots and construction budgets. The book illustrates the creation of the illusion of inner space and a sense of interior design minimalism that has changed the way I look at the inside of rooms. The pictures are plentiful and striking. It would make a great coffee table book, except for the lack of status of the genre. Oh hell, leave it on the coffee table anyway. It will increase the frequency of your access and explode the mind of your friends.

Highly recommended. Terrific interviews from a great assortment of Japanese architects.

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