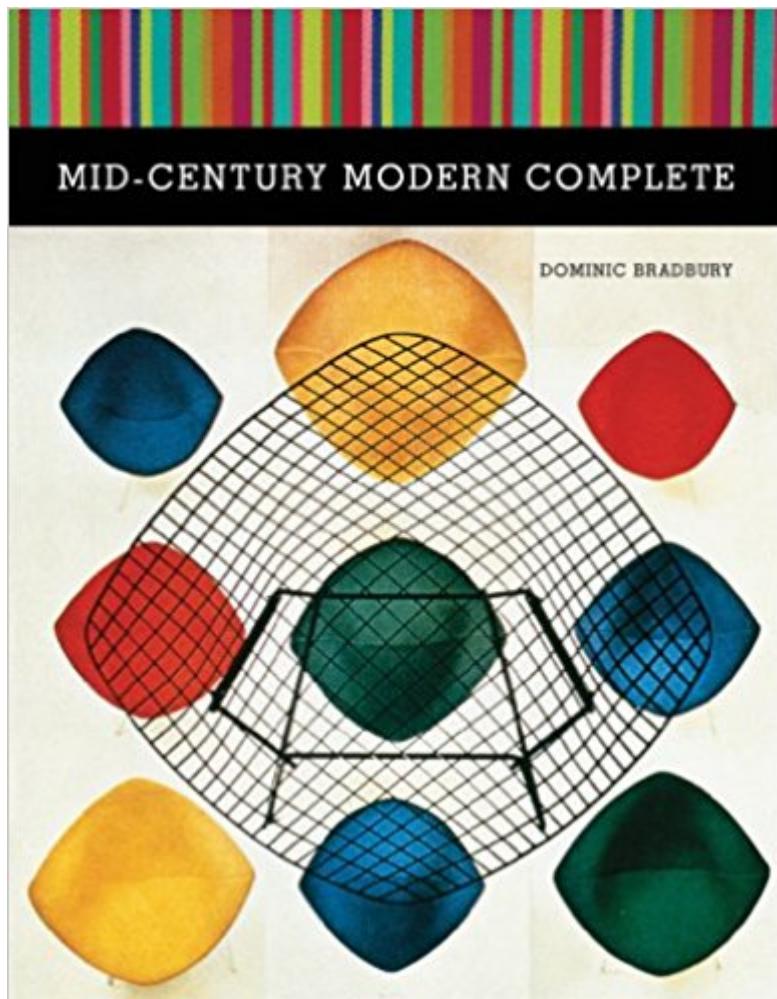


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Mid-Century Modern Complete



Synopsis

This volume is the single best source for anyone interested in exploring and experiencing Mid-Century Modern, the international design movement that still influences homes and lifestyles from Palm Springs to Long Island and from Japan to Scandinavia. It is divided into three main sections: "Media and Masters" profiles key creators, including Charles and Ray Eames, George Nakashima, Jean Prouvé, and Eero Saarinen; "Houses and Interiors" presents 20 seminal and complete Mid-Century Modern homes and their furnishings, including buildings by Philip Johnson, Mies van der Rohe, Alvar Aalto, and Marcel Breuer; and an alphabetical dictionary of people, terms, and places is a comprehensive reference to the movement. The informed and accessible texts are illustrated with more than 1,000 images that bring together classics and rarities, mass-produced items and unusual objets d'art.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Mid-Century Modern Complete is an encyclopedic volume that sets out to create a comprehensive portrait of every aspect of post-war production. That means a shelf-busting size, around 1,000 illustrations and a fascinating text that places objects in their often tumultuous historical context. (Wallpaper) "The organization is impeccable. . . . With each flip of the page, there is another recognizable image, and the reader is constantly in awe of the breadth of this movement and its evident impact on contemporary design. (InteriorDesign.com)

Dominic Bradbury is the author of Mediterranean Modern, The Iconic House, New Natural Home, and The Iconic Interior. He writes about design for House & Garden, the Daily Telegraph, the Sunday Times (London), and Wallpaper*.

The essence of this book are ninety-five heavily illustrated biographies of the designers and artists from around the world who produced the feel and look of mid-century creativity. The seven chapters cover: Furniture (109 pages) Lighting (42) Glass and ceramics (58) Textiles (46) Industrial and product design (48) Graphics (55) Houses and interiors (123). This is a very comprehensive coverage of modernity though, in my view, with some slight idiosyncrasies: why does the rather narrowly defined Lighting get so many pages and the broad scope of Industrial design only forty-eight and not one Case Study House is featured in the Houses chapter. Each of the chapters has one or two essays with an overview of the subject with Furniture and Houses also looking at the collecting aspect. I thought these illustrated essays well worth reading especially Steven Heller's on 'Type, design and technology' and the author neatly sums up modernity with his six page intro. There is also a useful thirty-three page illustrated A-Z at the back of the book with about three hundred entries of individuals and companies, looking through these I found it hard to think of someone who had been left out. Because the biographies are more or less standard detail, the sort of thing you can read in books by design historians Charlotte and Peter Fiell, it's the photos that made the pages come alive for me, there are over a thousand of them, all in color and mostly big on the page. Slightly annoying that several hundred are cutouts floating on the page without a slight drop shadow, some do have this shadow effect and it makes them look much more interesting. The Houses chapter, the longest in the book, is particularly fine with plenty of wonderful interiors, rather the opposite of many architectural books that tend to favor just an exterior shot of a house. 'Complete' in the book's title is very true.

This is a great book. Looks of info and photos. The best reference I have come across for Mid Century modern furniture and art. Some coverage of homes as well, but there are better books on homes only if that is all you are interested in.

This a good looking book well organized for those who either want to get more familiar with mid century furniture or are already well versed in the subject. I personally can never have too many books on the subject.

This a fantastic book. Loads of color photos and many many designers included. If you want to learn about mid century or just want to see orginal pieces - this is the book for you

Hands down the best modern architecture and design book I've ever owned. Covers everything and anything you'd expect to see in a MidCentury Modern book, without all the nonsense you find in other books. Top flight images. Really a terrific book. Could not recommend it more highly

Great collection and history but it's heavy and bulky as heck.

Excellent source book for the mid-century modern fan. First borrowed it from the library but had to buy it to add to my design library. Excellent images, well organized, very thorough.

Informative book! Love the cover art! It has all the big designers, but not many copycat designers.

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