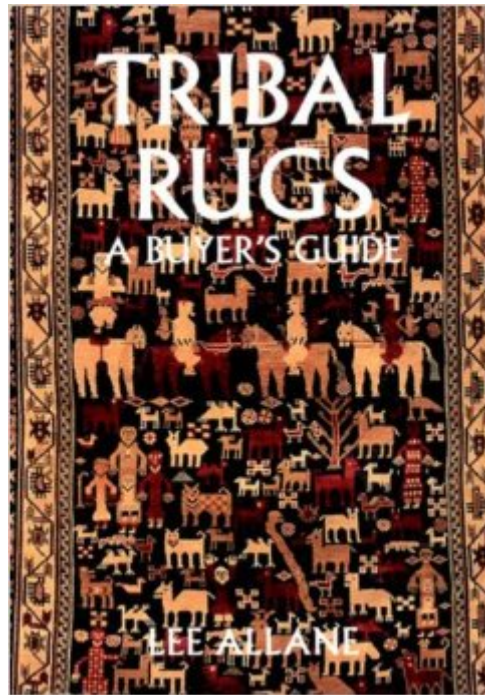


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Tribal Rugs: A Buyer's Guide



Synopsis

The distinctive rugs still made by many peoples of tribal origin in Asia, the Americas and North Africa have become widely sought after for their decorative and functional role in enlivening today's interiors. This comprehensive guide contains independent advice for the buyer. It explains what tribal rugs are, and exactly how they are made, discussing how weaving techniques, tools and material affect their character and quality. It offers advice on how to buy a rug from choosing the right one to value for money. The cultural context in which these various rugs are made is explored, with descriptions of the different ethnic weaving groups, and sections on their historical, religious and cultural backgrounds.

Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Thames & Hudson; First U.S. edition (November 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0500278970

ISBN-13: 978-0500278970

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 7.5 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #747,193 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Houseware & Dining > Rugs](#) #1363 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Antiques & Collectibles](#) #21701 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies](#)

Customer Reviews

...I disagree with the author saying that "every rug needs a degree of breathing space". I realize that is a Westernized viewpoint, and tastes vary...but these beautiful one-of-a-kind works of art were originally intended to cover a tent floor...to the point of overlapping at times ! My preference is to see them in close proximity to each other, a glorious mosaic of rich color and design. I also disagree with the statement that the rug has to "match its surroundings", which is like buying a painting to match the sofa. To my way of thinking, a piece of art, whether a painting or rug, should give one an uplifting thrill, not "match" something. The first 4 chapters are on everything from detailed descriptions of how rugs are made, where to buy them, their care and repair, and the ethnic groups worldwide that make them. This is followed by brilliantly colored illustrations of 44 rugs and 3 bags,

from the marvelous Belouch animal design that graces the cover to a Navaho pictorial flatweave. Chapter 5 is about the designs, and how to identify them. Chapter 6 is on the regions (maps are included). 7 and 8 are on the tribal groups, from those in Adirondack, to the Yurks, and describes the patterns, colors, and quality produced by each group. So though I don't agree with the decorating ideas, it's 5 stars for the research and remarkable detail that has been put into this volume. It's an excellent primer, as well as a good reference book.

If you wouldn't know a Kilim if it bit you in the leg, you'll soon be able to do a lot more than just bluff your way in the world of rugs! This book takes you through it all quite painlessly! Beautifully illustrated with full colour pictures of rugs from all around the world, it is a pleasure to leaf through as much as to read for its detailed information on what makes these wonderful rugs what they are. Maps, texts and illustrations take you through the cultural and practical aspects of rug design and manufacture. For the professional dealer or the enthusiastic amateur like me, this is an indispensable book! Anyone who has read it will know how much better equipped they are to snap up the best buys with confidence.

Very nice photos and good info

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