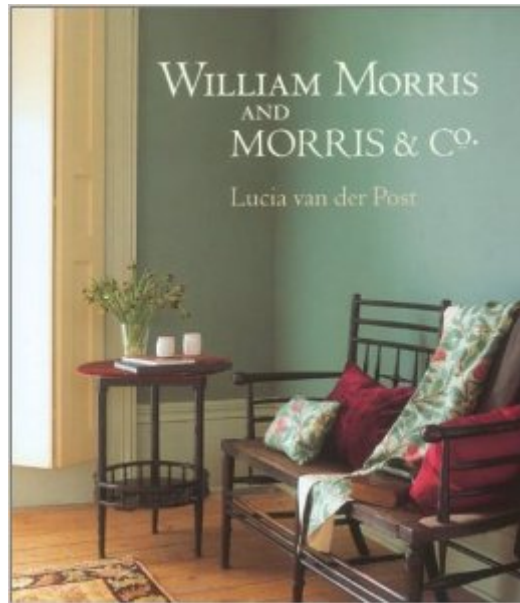


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# William Morris And Morris & Co.



## Synopsis

William Morris's wallpaper, carpets, and other textile designs are as popular today as they were when he created them in the late 1880s. One of the most influential figures in the history of the decorative arts, Morris (1834-1896) challenged the mass-production methods of the industrial revolution and launched the revival of handcrafted work that became known as the Arts and Crafts movement. His firm, Morris & Co, created wood furniture, hand-woven tapestries, embroideries, printed textiles, woven fabrics, stained glass, tiles, and block-printed wallpapers, many of which are still being produced--by the same methods--more than a century later. This new book shows how to incorporate Morris's designs and theories into contemporary interiors. Carefully chosen photographs show a wide variety of rooms using Morris designs, and include details of individual textile and wallpaper patterns. Inspired by nature and featuring soft, pure colors, Morris's designs are classics, still relevant and stylish in today's interiors.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

William Morris was many things, and he had many roles. This short book (85 pages) focuses on just one of them: Morris as a designer in the Arts & Crafts movement. You won't find anything much about his personal life, and the references to his socialism are just-in-passing. It is, however, a beautiful visual appreciation of William Morris' skill in (to enumerate the chapters): craft, color, honesty, pattern, nature, and "legend." There's a bit of corporate background (how the company ownership changed, who owns the designs today, etc.). And a charming bit of life philosophy, every

so often: "That thing which I understand by real art is the expression by man of his pleasure in labor. I do not believe he can be happy in his labor without expressing that happiness; and especially this is so when he is at work at anything in which he specially excels."The primary reason to grab this small volume is the color plate photographs, most of which are via the Victoria and Albert Museum. Some of the photos are quite detailed, and all have at least some context. For example: "It was a basic tenet held by Ruskin, Pugin, Morris and others that honesty in design demanded that you did not try to create a three-dimensional illusion in a two-dimensional design. Wallpaper should not disguise the flatness of the surface but enhance it. This GARDEN TULIP design shows very little shallow relief effects, with little shading and a limited palette, but this enhances rather than detract's from the pattern's strength."The photos have a mix of close-up design, design in context (such as a photo of Red House with design details pointed out), and contemporary homes using Morris designs (to demonstrate how relevant the designs are). There's a few people-images (e.g.

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