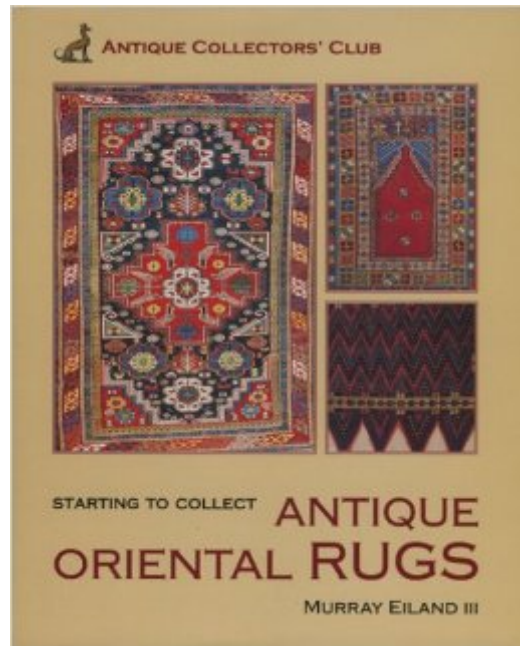


The book was found

Starting To Collect Antique Oriental Rugs (Starting To Collect Series)



Synopsis

Continuing the readable, informative and helpful series 'Starting to Collect', this volume investigates one of the most thorny of collecting fields - antique oriental rugs. Novice collectors are in good hands here, for the author takes them through the initial problematical areas - where to buy, what to look for, care and restoration, before turning his attention to the materials and techniques, dyes and designs, involved in the manufacture of rugs. In subsequent chapters on the output of different rug-producing locations, Dr. Eiland considers these area by area, so that, for instance, Persian rugs are discussed under eighteen area subheadings, including the Aegean region, Grdes, and the Anatolian coast. Within each chapter he considers the typical structure, size, designs and colours found in the area, together with any other significant features which will aid the new collector in identification. The body of the book presents and illustrates rugs from Persia, Turkey, the Caucasus, Afghanistan,

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Customer Reviews

I became enamoured with Persian carpets when I was first stationed in the Near East; my interest in (and passion for) these beautiful, practical works of art has not waned. Over the years, I have learned bits and pieces about the carpets in general (for example the difference between an "urban" or "city" rug and a "tribal" rug), but the details around their creation and value and the subtle differences between these broad categories has been elusive. Eiland is not only an expert on textiles, but on rugs from throughout Asia. The information he provides here is therefore detailed, specific and nigh encyclopedic. The first two chapters explain how the rugs are made (there are

important differences not only in the materials of weft and weave, but also in whether the loom is horizontal or vertical) and the differences in the styles of knots used. From here, he goes into greater detail about the various categories of carpets: Persian, Caucasian, Turkish, Afghan, and Far Eastern with concluding chapters on modern rugs. Each chapter has several full-color photos of the carpets discussed, as even within these broad categories there are sub-categories and styles, each unique and subtly different. The book is at its weakest in discussing the small differences in style and color within categories - the writing is flat and brief. It is also frustrating given the challenges in determining age and value of carpets; of course, this is through no fault of the author (a very old carpet may look new if not used and well cared for; similarly, a relatively young carpet may look old and beat-up through wear and neglect). Similarly, Eiland does little to explain the value of one carpet over another.

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