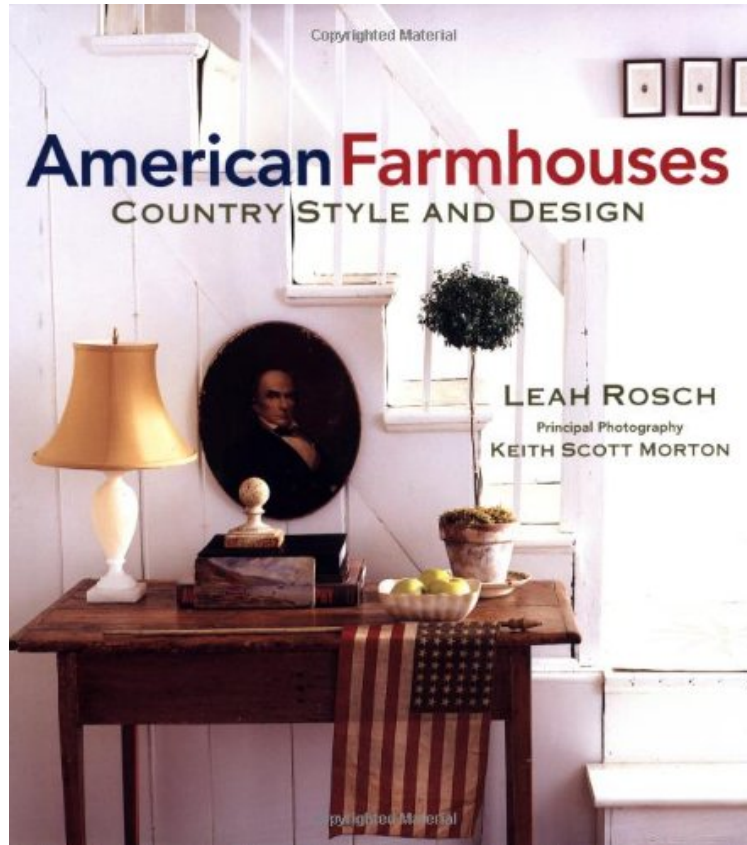


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American Farmhouses: Country Style and Design

Leah Rosch

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Leah Rosch : American Farmhouses: Country Style and Design before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Farmhouses: Country Style and Design:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. HousesBy placesOne of the best books I have purchased this year. A really fantastic book with a lot of very good information and great architectural history. A wonderful reference book, one I will keep and read several times.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Donna Fawcetti love this book. it is full of early farmhouses and country furniture.31 of 37 people found the following review helpful. Great, but narrow spectrumBy James PrestonI grew up in California agriculture and the houses selected for this book bare little resemblance to Western farmhouses. All the houses are from east of the Mississippi, mostly East Coast and very old. There is one Texas farmhouse from the Civil War era.It seems that the design strategy of the owners has been to restore the old farmhouse ambience with older style elements. In California we try to reach the ambience of the farmhouse but with modern elements and techniques. If this is your objective then the book is still interesting but it won't give you much direct inspiration.I rate it three stars because the author forgot that the western US has its own farmhouse style and we happen to be American also. A more appropriate title would have been "Colonial American Farmhouses".- jim

A country farmhouse surrounded by fields and trees is a quintessentially American scene, but it's one that has universal appeal. These simple homes speak to us of history and values, promising both comfort and protection. The "country look" remains the single most popular American style. Despite social and economic changes and the whims of fashion, it continues to shape our design and decorating tastes. Now in these lavishly illustrated pages, *American Farmhouses* offers a rich and inspiring survey of country architecture and design, from painted furniture to porches, stenciling to saltbox houses. Part of the appeal of country homes lies in their hand-hewn individualism and heritage of Old World charm. Many familiar design elements derived from distinct traditions brought by the early settlers, then adapted to local conditions and materials. Even in the early twentieth century, most country houses were still designed and constructed by local craftsmen, resulting in an immensely rich variety still visible in farms large and small across the country. Today, the interior of a country home can be a meticulous restoration in a traditional style or a flea-market mix of furnishings and collectibles. The nearly twenty profiles of country homes in *American Farmhouses*, ranging from a rustic German-style house in Texas to a classic Greek Revival in upstate New York to a contemporary reinterpretation in Connecticut, are full of stimulating and original ideas. To help readers bring the "country look" home, whether in a city apartment or a rural getaway, *American Farmhouses* also includes a detailed sourcebook of manufacturers, craftsmen, and architectural antiques dealers nationwide. Here is everything from cast-iron firebacks to milk paint to farmhouse tables, from suppliers who continue to keep the spirit of the farmhouse vital and alive today.