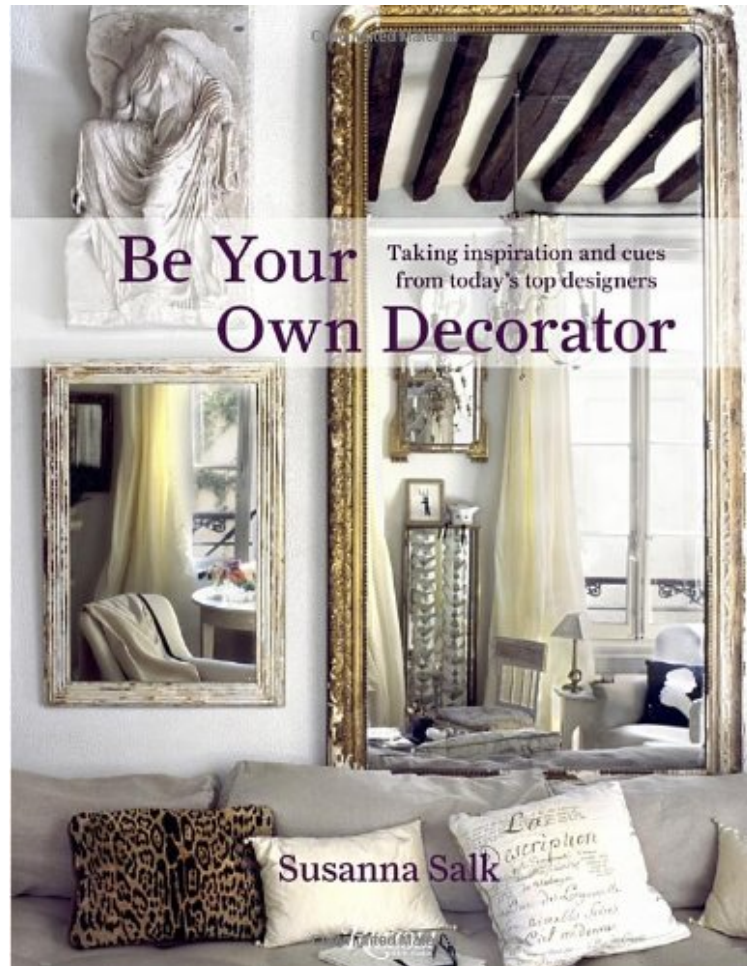


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Be Your Own Decorator: Taking Inspiration and Cues from Today's Top Designers

Susanna Salk

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Susanna Salk : Be Your Own Decorator: Taking Inspiration and Cues from Today's Top Designers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Be Your Own Decorator: Taking Inspiration and Cues from Today's Top Designers:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Do You Want to Learn from 100 Top Designers?By L. M. KeeferIf you are looking for ideas and inspiration from almost 100 top interior designers, this book offers a diverse, uniquely-curated collection of rooms.Color, mix, arrangement, balance, whimsy, accessorizing and rule breaking are exemplified in rooms with some written tips. What is great about interior design is that you can learn by just looking--you don't have to read and memorize. Your eye is being trained by looking at great design.In this book you can look at a room--there's 261 large pages of them--and see what your eye is attracted to. What are you being drawn to? What

tantalizes you is clues to your taste and it might be an object or feature you want to incorporate in your home. You can learn a lot about your taste--and expand it--by approaching a room in this way. Interior designer David Hicks said one of the most instructive exercises in art school was looking at everything and forming an opinion about what you see. Taste is about exposure. This book exposes you to the work of 100 designers working today. It's also instructive to identify what you don't like. Although this is not a design "how-to" manual, tips are spread throughout. And then you can see how the tips look in actual rooms. Some favorites: "I always try to mix the humble with the grand. For example, the curtains are inexpensive Italian bedspreads." Bunny Williams p.18 "Linen is always a great foil to accentuate the architecture of an antique furniture piece while instantly updating it. Period damask would have made the room feel too stilted." Darryl Carter p.83 "Miles and I designed the big table to double as both a dining and a library table. When I'm not serving dinner there, it's stacked with books". Gil Schafer with Miles Redd p.163 "A great deal of mid-twentieth-century furniture is inspired by eighteenth century models so mixing the two periods keeps the room from becoming static." David Kleinberg p.161 "Most people just put a chest and mirror in a foyer. I love a banquette--it says 'kick off your shoes and stay awhile'." Melissa Ruffy p. 169 "This book is about emboldening you so you can embolden your rooms. I want you to be inspired rather than intimidated by my most favorite rooms from some of the best designers and tastemakers around," writes author Susan Salk. This book has a fresh, vibrant mix of rooms for you to study and be emboldened by. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book, bad typography By Style Gal I really love the images in the book - gorgeous photographs and full pages. However, I returned the book because (like other reviewers) the typography was SO small and in a color on many pages, making it almost impossible to read. Making this a nice picture book. I wish the art direction were a little better on the book, I so wanted to love this. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. EVEN BETTER THAN I EXPECTED By DenailgirI waited a few months for this book to become available, and let me say I was not disappointed... This book has something for everyone, and this book will evoke your passion to surround yourself with all the things you love, and even give you some new ideas... I can't say enough good things about this book, and the cover is so "HAPPY" that everyone who passes the side table in my entry way stops to look thru it... (I know what everyone is getting for Christmas lol)

Selecting favorite rooms from more than fifty renowned designers such as Kelly Wearstler, Bunny Williams, Albert Hadley, Nate Berkus, and Mary McDonaldd and shot by the worlds top shelter photographers Susanna Salk offers insightful advice on how to apply basic design principles to interiors. Organized into chapters on balance, color, mixing, accessorizing, arrangements, rule breaking, and whimsy, Salk walks through the process of great design, illustrating how the featured designers made the decisions they did to make these rooms look so great. The books encouraging, conversational tone, practical tips and ideas, and quotes by the designers themselves explaining their philosophies empower the reader to create stylish, functional, and unique rooms of their very own. Covering a range of styles from traditional to modern, formal to whimsical, and showcasing some of the best work by the best designers of our age, Be Your Own Decorator is a rich resource for the aspiring decorator.

Be Your Own Decorator, by Susanna Salk, presents rooms by well-known designers like Jamie Drake, Ruthie Sommers and Kelly Wearstler that are intended to inspire readers to take things into their own hands." ~The New York Times "Easy strategies to make the place where the day starts (and ends) more beautiful and comfortable." ~O - The Oprah Magazine "For ages I have ripped pages from magazines, safely tucking them away for when I need inspiration. Now, it is as if my friend Susanna Salk did all of the work for me." ~AlltheBest.com "...another example of the authors ability to analyze trends and translate them so that they are easy to incorporate into our lives. It will be difficult not to dog-ear the big, gorgeous picture book." ~CamilleMaurice.com About the Author Susanna Salk is the author of Room for Children and Weekend Retreats and a contributing editor for 1stdibs.com and ivillage.com, as well as regularly producing decorating segments for NBCs Today Show.