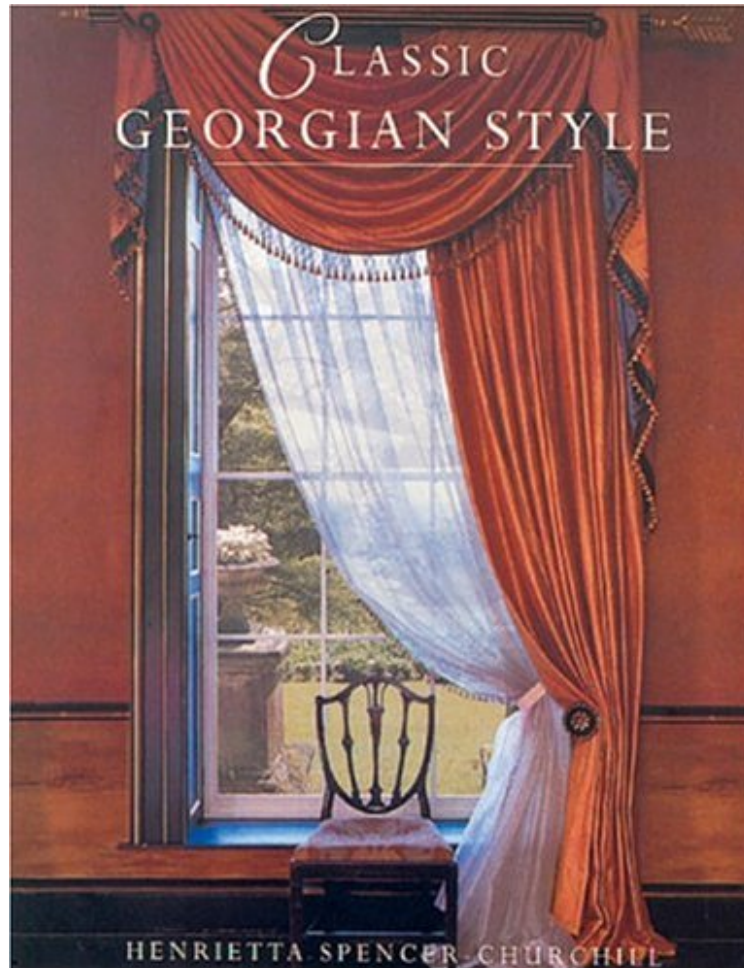


## Classic Georgian Style

*Henrietta Spencer Churchill*

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**Henrietta Spencer Churchill : Classic Georgian Style** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Classic Georgian Style:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Helpful Introduction to the Georgian Age By L. M. Keefer If you are looking for an introduction to Georgian Style, this book examines that 'Age of Elegance' and deconstructs it for you. As author Henrietta Spencer Churchill ably explains, there is no one Georgian look as the style encompasses four movements, four King Georges and about 130 years from around 1700 to 1830. This book is about 3/4 pictures and 1/4 text. Churchill is articulate in describing the style and its features. The book is divided into four sections: Georgian Style, The Exterior, The Interior and Design Directory. She describes the early, middle and late Georgian periods followed by the Regency period which she also includes. In the section on the exterior, settings, village houses, lodges, gatehouses, walled gardens, water features, informal gardens, garden buildings, garden furniture, roofs, doors and windows are among the topics covered. My favorite section, the interior, describes the different rooms in a

Georgian house and some of their elements such as mouldings panelling, drapes, floors, stairs and fireplaces. In the last section there is a design directory of the major influencers of the Georgian Age such as the Adam brothers, Chippendale, Palladio, Sheraton and Hepplewhite among lesser known figures. Paints and wallpapers are briefly reviewed. Finally, there is a helpful glossary. The topics are covered in a survey manner, dipping into the topics briefly. So many topics are covered there is not a lot of depth on any one topic. If you want a helpful overview, this book offers it along with some entertaining details. You will read, for example, that the wallpaper artists thought it bad luck to cut through an image of an animal on the paper. They had to arrange the paper, and overlap the animals, so the creatures were unscathed. The images in the book aren't identified as belonging to particular properties - perhaps the owners wanted privacy. The images were large and the colors seemed true. I would have preferred that the author cover fewer topics and go a little more into detail on the interiors, furnishings, and window treatments, but that is subjective to interest of the reader. A little longer book on the topic, with more images, and a little more depth, would be of interest. As an introduction to the Georgian Age, this is a helpful and pleasant read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good buy

By PSBarger  
A brilliantly illustrated pictorial of the period as well as informative.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Architecture A Plus, Decorating B Minus

By Classicdude  
In this 1997 first edition published in the U.S. by Rizzoli, examples of British houses from 1700 to 1830 are shown with the architecture of the exterior, the interior and the furnishings. The fourth section gives an overview of the period's most famous designers, a color chart from Fired Earth, examples of wallpaper from Cole Son, and a glossary of terms. While the architecture is all first rate, the decorating, presumably projects by Lady Churchill, is pleasant but not high style. The text follows accordingly, stronger and more informative for architectural aspects than for decorating suggestions. Americans might be confused by the inclusion of Regency and Adamesque architecture and furnishings into the category of Georgian, as we in the U.S. usually make distinctions among the stylistic trends. British house enthusiasts will enjoy this book, but those seeking examples of sophisticated decorating will want to look elsewhere.

In *Classic Georgian Style* Henrietta Spencer-Churchill explores the Age of Elegance, a heritage which is strongly evident in her own classic style. She tours a variety of Georgian houses and estates throughout the British isles to give a fascinating overview of the period (1700-1830). Looking first at the styles and fashions of the time, we are given a real sense of Jane Austen's England-- the refined elegance of the furniture, the classic lines of the architecture and the rolling slopes of Capability Brown's landscapes. Next comes a detailed look at Georgian exterior elements-- the architecture in its setting, including town and country buildings, cottages and grand estates, courtyards and lodges, follies and outbuildings. Moving indoors, we examine the rooms and decor in fine detail, from hallway to living room, staircase to bedroom, with all the furniture, moldings, finishes and textiles that made the era unique. A final, invaluable section in this complete source of Georgian style provides a palette of paint colors and short biographies and style guides of the influential architects, cabinetmakers and craftsmen of the period, such as Robert Adam and George Hepplewhite. Illustrated throughout with specially commissioned color photographs and original architectural drawings and plans, *Classic Georgian Style* is an essential resource for details of the period. Lade Henrietta Spencer-Churchill's own decorating sense informs her authoritative discussion of the style to allow an understanding of the spirit of period decoration and its place in today's interiors. This is a beautiful guide for decorators, collectors and those who cherish the refined tastes of Georgian England.

From *Library Journal* As with her other books, *Classic English Interiors* (LJ 10/15/92) and *Classic Fabrics* (LJ 1/97), Spencer-Churchill presents a lavishly illustrated primer on the subject even when claiming that it is "not meant to be an historical reference book." Beginning with a review of the Georgian and Regency period in England from 1714 to 1830, the author mostly focuses on the landscaping and interior design that define Georgian style. She concludes with a glossary and design directory that discusses those people who shaped the style, including 16th-century architect Palladio, cabinet-maker Thomas Chippendale, and landscape architect Humphrey Repton. Purchase where there is an interest in Georgian design or 18th-century England. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From *Booklist* In interior design, there is absolutely no substitute for visuals--photographs, illustrations, etc.--as major teaching aids. Designer, author, and British TV host Spencer-Churchill wisely lets her four-color pictures do most of the instruction as she tackles the subject of Georgian style. Encompassing the reigns of four King Georges, and including four different artistic movements, Georgian interiors and exteriors have become synonymous with the age of elegance prominent from 1700 to 1830. Photographs peek into every room and corner, featuring the stateliest terraced city houses to humble gatehouses. Accompanying text discusses general design trends, whether the 1616 introduction of marble floors to England or the application of coffering, ornamented recessed panels that form a pattern. Ten well-known and influential architects cum designers are profiled, including such household names as Chippendale, Hope, and Sheraton. Barbara Jacobs

About the Author Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill is the eldest daughter of the 11th Duke of Marlborough, whose family home is Blenheim Palace. Her interest in interior design began in the baroque grandeur of Blenheim and the other great houses in which she and her family live. She pursued this interest by

studying fine art in Florence and Paris, and her formal studies were completed in England at the world-famous Inchbald School of Design. Lady Henrietta now runs the highly successful interior design company Woodstock Designs, and undertakes commissions worldwide. Her fabric and wallpaper collections, marketed as Spencer-Churchill Designs Ltd, are sold through leading interior design stores, as well as in her own outlets in London and Woodstock, England, and through Grey Watkins in the United States. She has also designed two collections of fabrics and wallpapers for Marvic Textiles Ltd. She is a Fellow member of the Interior Decorators and Designers Association (IDDA) and a past president, currently Regional Director, of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) UK Chapter. Her latest venture is in British television for Granada Sky, presenting the program "Classic Interiors."