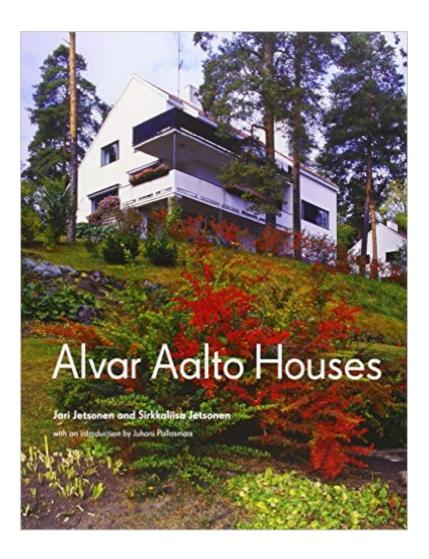


Alvar Aalto Houses





Synopsis

During the course of a career spanning more than fifty years, Finnish architect and designer Alvar Aalto (1898-1976) designed nearly one hundred single-family houses. Aalto, also known for his furniture and glassware, worked in a distinctive style that blended modernism and traditional vernacular architecture. Now available in paperback, Alvar Aalto Houses presents twenty-six of Aalto's innovative residences-from small summer homes and postwar standardized housing to large housing complexes for industrial commissions-built between the 1920s and the 1960s.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages Publisher: Princeton Architectural Press; Reprint edition (October 24, 2012) Language: English ISBN-10: 1616890819 ISBN-13: 978-1616890810 Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.8 x 11 inches Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (2 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #525,971 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #526 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Individual Architects & Firms #688 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential #1339 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Design & Construction

Customer Reviews

I had been a fan of Aalto's work since college but this book which focuses only on the housing, is another piece of the picture. If you spend the time to read, you see how his work also reflected the historic and economic times of the 20th century--times when materials were in short supply after WWII or the absence of work during the Depression, the need to relocated Finns in large numbers after the Iron Curtain came down. It also shows Aalto's evolution from Scandanavian classicism to modernism. I would have gone for 5 stars but I wished at times for a few more floor plans, some more exterior shots describing the projects a bit better, but I also liked the interior shots that were honestly not staged, and in one case included a standard reclining chair amidst Aalto designed seating, or one with frilly lace curtains taming the lines of a modern interior. The spaces looked lived in as well as designed and this reflected the humanity of the man. A very beautiful look inside the work of a great architect. For those who are precisely interested in Alvar Aalto projects for houses, I haven't found a better book yet.

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