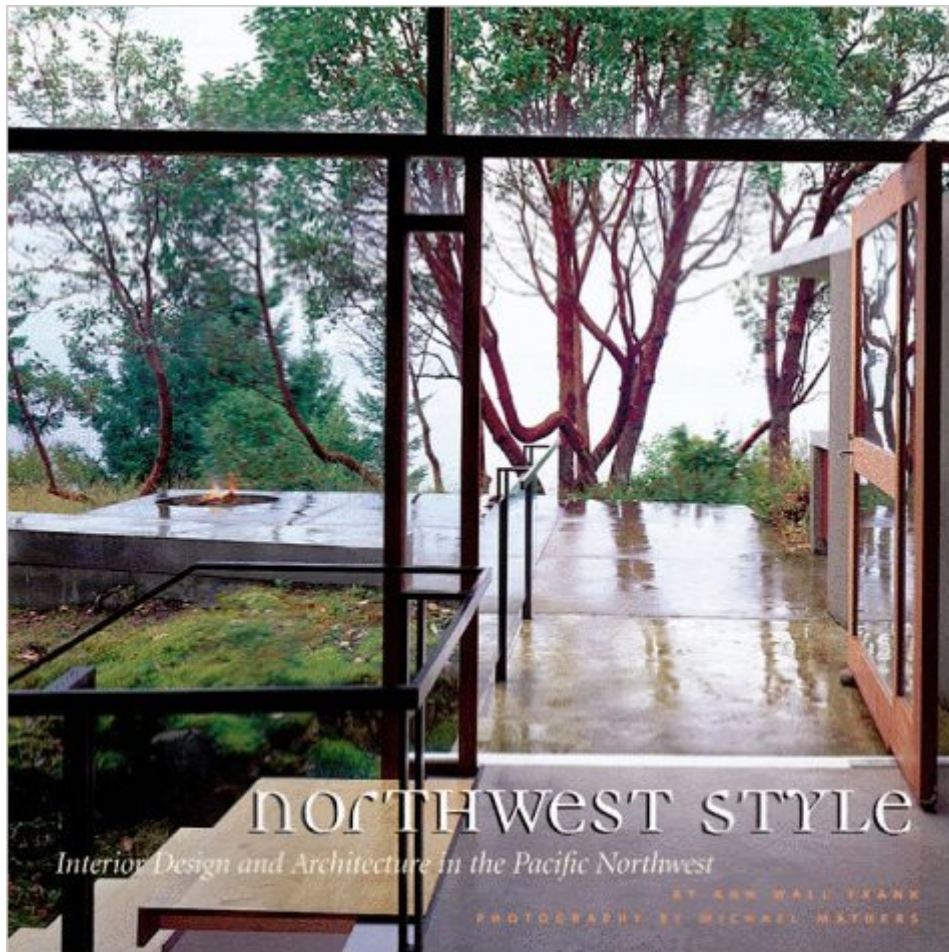


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# Northwest Style: Interior Design And Architecture In The Pacific Northwest



## Synopsis

With its lush forests, rugged coast, and long rainy season, the Pacific Coast has spawned a style that is informal, organic, and above all eclectic. Northwest Style captures the spirit and diversity of this region's architecture, landscape, and lifestyle by presenting a collection of beautiful and distinctive homes in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Here, an overlapping of elements and architectural styles is common: A house designed as a tribute to nature makes use of an open floor plan and native materials; both significant elements of early regional Modernism; the decor of a chic urban loft reveals nuances of Japanese design. While the styles vary, a sensitivity to the environment and a desire to accentuate the natural beauty of the region lie at the heart of almost every design. Gorgeous color photographs show these dwellings in their natural settings and highlight architectural and decorative details. Full of inspiring ideas for architects, designers, and home decorators everywhere, Northwest Style is a defining volume on the seminal style of this spectacular region.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Readers of shelter magazines will be familiar with the format of these 30 stories about modest, custom homes in the Pacific Northwest and the laid-back lifestyle they afford their owners. The book begins with a poetic description of coastal life recognizable to residents from Northern California to Southern Alaska, but the author's obvious focus is on Portland, Oregon. Almost two-thirds of the houses in the book are in or near Portland. Her description of the development of a regional

architectural style in the mid-20th Century is illustrated with "early modern classics by five masters," all of them from Portland, as are all seven of the named second generation architects. Seattle's Thiry, Kirk, and Terry "helped to adapt the International style to the Northwest," but none of their projects are presented. The collaboration of contemporaries in the Bay Area and Vancouver, BC, in creating the famed modernist style of the Northwest is unmentioned. So the focus here is narrow, despite the broad, region-embracing title. Similarly curious is that only half of the homes presented could be construed as even tangentially expressive of the modernism usually associated with the term 'Northwest Regionalism' and suggested by the cover photo and first chapter. Noteworthy among these are houses by George Suyama, James Cutler, and Patkau Architects (the only Canadian entry), and these are spectacular. Instead the emphasis is on eclecticism with Arts & Crafts, Cape Cod, Japanese, Art Moderne, Post Modern, and even lodge styles all present. The common threads are purportedly the use of natural materials and proximity to nature, but even these themes are frequently undercut, especially in the chapter on urban loft living. A 'Northwest style' not centered on modernism fails to cohere.

Who knew the Pacific Northwest had such an eclectic range of home styles, from Japanese influenced designs to rustic log cabins, to stunning urban lofts. This book is written in an accessible (versus snobby) style, warmed by humor and with an irreverent eye to the iconoclastic bent of the nation's current power center. Beautiful photographs and "real" homeowners--not royalty or billionaires.

It is obvious Ann Wall Frank loves homes. Her beautifully written text is like poetry, and the photography is stunning. It is a must have for anyone who cherishes making a house a home. The humor, warmth, and intelligence of Ann Frank's writing style sets this book apart from others of its kind. We in the northwest are proud of our style, and Northwest Style captures who we are perfectly. Encore!

This book presents a variety of Northwest homes that defines the lifestyle and architecture of this unique region. Each home is beautifully photographed highlighting the unique architecture and decor. How each home relates to the natural beauty of the region is explored. Ms. Frank narrative personalizes the homes. This a good read. Don't just look at the pictures.

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