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Treasury Of Art Nouveau Design & Ornament (Dover Pictorial Archive)
Ornament is the essence of Art Nouveau. Throughout their two decades of dominance, Art Nouveau artists concentrated on the ornamental and decorative potential of the flowing line in painting, printing, wallpaper, and all other fine and applied arts. Hundreds of thousands of carefully wrought designs embellished books, bookplates, furniture, and appliances. A fashionable home was a garden of graphic florals, petals, leaves, and stems. Today, Art Nouveau is again attracting artists, designers, and craftsmen of all kinds, while these countless ornamental flourishes have perished with their ephemeral surroundings. Art Nouveau motif seekers have been left with little choice but to resort to expensive archives of rare books. Here, taken directly from those rare books and periodicals, are 577 royalty-free authentic period designs specially chosen for artists and designers. The ornaments range in size from full-page illustrations to borders, head and tailpieces and decorative initials. All are in black-and-white line, clearly reproduced. Many of the creations come from the influential English periodical The Studio (1894–1920) and the French Art el Décoration (1897–1910); others from a variety of original European sources, all identified. Artists represented include Gustav Klimt, George Auriol, Ethel Larcombe, and Will Bradley, along with hundreds of English, French, Italian, German, Scandinavian, and American studio draftsmen, all identified when possible. The designs are grouped by subject matter: florals, landscapes, figures, etc. There are spot illustrations, bookplates, menus, title pages, and many, many swirling line forms.

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Customer Reviews

The pictures in this book are a huge source of inspiration. The clear, black and white illustrations lend themselves well to be photocopied. I love the fact that the pictures are free to reproduce. One of the designs was so pretty that I now have a tattoo of it. Now if that's not appreciation of the design, I don't know what is.

the other Dover Pictorial Archive came with discs, which made it easy to import into my computer for design projects. Due to the outstanding price I can understand why a disc was not included, so I was ready to scan the images I liked, but the paper they used for the book is low quality, the printing inks bleed and the true lines were lost, the images are somewhat blotchy. The book are great if you're ready to rebuild the images in vector, but the images as is will not match up with the crisp edges of the fonts you use while designing. Over all I'm happy because they were priced so low and I always re-build Dover work in illustrator, but if your looking to cut and past scanned images into photoshop, the Dover are will look soft.

I'm sorry to say that the books didn't quite meet my expectation ;) Ok-- they were cheap, so it's my own fault. I should have looked closer into them, but I was in a hurry--and that you shall not be, when buying books. Solt was not your fault :) What disappointed me was that the print in the books is of such a bad quality, that the pictures look wooly--the lines turbid. Next time I will be more careful :D--For sure !!!

Absolutely wonderful collection of black & white Art Nouveau artwork. Great for inspiration. Though not in color, the pictures are sharp and clear. You might want to lock yours up though, my fellow artists keep wanting to "borrow" mine.

A very useful book for crafters and artists who are looking for guidelines for borders and designs to add to their own art. Black and white and well defined, these design plates are great for enlarging on your computer to use in all sorts of things. Personally, I have used part of a design to burn a pattern into a box.

Do not buy the Kindle version as it does not contain all the plates. The cover says 577 illustrations. What you get in the Kindle version is 57 plates only. This needs to be fixed before offering it on the Kindle. I returned mine. It's a shame as I was looking forward to getting this book.
This is a great source book for Nouveau inspired designs. I use it for art applications, and take styling or character poses to model my artwork after. These are high quality reproductions or original artwork from the Art Nouveau period.

This is a brilliant resource for designs, in my case sewing/embroidery. The Dover books came recommended by a better artisan than I am and I found that this book did not disappoint. I love art nouveau and this book is really superb.

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