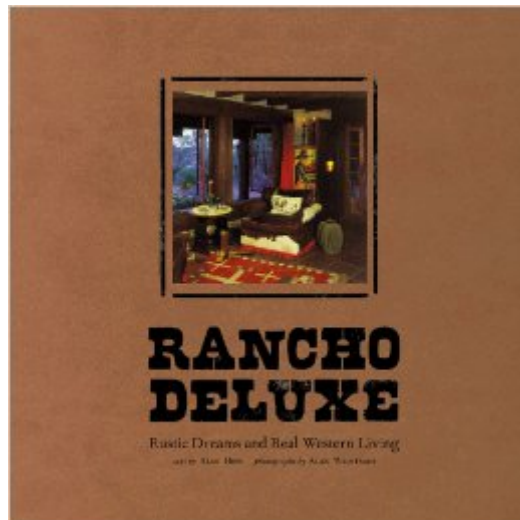


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# Rancho Deluxe: Rustic Dreams And Real Western Living



## Synopsis

Stone fireplaces, rustic wooden beams, Navajo blankets draped over leather sofas; the charming architecture and interiors so beloved from western movies and TV shows distinguish the beautiful homes in Rancho Deluxe. From rugged adobe structures to the rustic glamour of a little known Hearst ranch (designed by Julia Morgan) to a contemporary house that rises out of its red cliff surroundings, Rancho Deluxe takes the "home on the range" to inspired new heights. Alan Weintraub's beautiful photographs and Alan Hess's insightful text combine for a detailed and elegant portrayal of the ranch house, the definitive home of the American West whose ruggedly comfortable style has been imitated all over the world. Featuring extensive architectural and interior details, plus historical sources, Rancho Deluxe is the essential guide to living in style, the Western way.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a wonderful history/architectural reference. I purchased this book as an interior design reference and although it does not cover interior design details the rich history provided by the author led me to want to read this book cover to cover. And what a beautiful cover it is- brown leather- makes this a great coffee table book. This would be a great gift for anyone interested in western architecture and home style. This is not one of those books that chooses a certain western style and displays hundred of the same photograph-this book covers every ranch style possible. I will continue to reference this book for inspiration and ideas.

The last decade of the twentieth century spawned a culture of week-end ranchers buying week-end "places" and decorating the interiors in "drug-store cowboy". "Ranch Deluxe", however, shows you what the real thing looked like, Partner. For those of us who grew up on "Hop Along" and Gene Autry Saturday mornings at the neighborhood theatre, Rancho Deluxe is a voyeur's dream. Motoring down the highways of the great Southwest, one occasionally glimpses an old ranch house in the distance. "Is there a soul so dead who never fantasized about life in that ranch house?" Rancho Deluxe welcomes the voyeur to step inside and have a look around.

I bought this book as a design reference and found it rather to be a history book- a gorgeously illustrated one at that. The photographic journey through preserved ranches of the American West is, to put it simply, awe inspiring. Like, why does Gretchen Sammis not have her own Wikipedia page yet ?! This is indeed a useful book for anyone interested in both architecture and interior design, but in my opinion it has equal value as a reminder of the work ethic, ingenuity, aesthetic, and diplomacy that early working ranchers had to bring to the table in a time and place where a lack of any one of those virtues could mean ruin. The book is well and densely written. This is no home depot register candy Sunset fluff decorating guide; it's about the furthest thing from it. The book itself is well bound except that the spine is a tad weak to support its satisfyingly thick pages. If I had to strip my design library down to the nuts and bolts, I'd keep this book along with Sir Terence Conran's original The House Book (not the 1985 rewrite!) and toss the rest.

This is a beautiful book. It had such a slight bit of damage for a used book that I am very pleased with it.

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