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101 Things I Learned In Architecture School (MIT Press)



Synopsis

101 THINGS I LEARNED IN ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL is a book that students of architecture will want to keep in the design studio and in their backpacks. It is also a book they may want to keep out of view of their professors, for it expresses in clear and simple language the things they tend to make murky and abstruse. These 101 concise lessons in design, drawing, the creative process, and presentation--from the basics of how to draw a line to the complexities of color theory--provide a much-needed primer in architectural literacy and make concrete what too often is left nebulous and open-ended in the architecture curriculum. Like all books in the popular and celebrated 101 THINGS I LEARNEDÂ book series, the lessons in 101 THINGS I LEARNED IN ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL utilize a unique two-page format, with a brief explanation and accompanying illustration. A lesson on how to draw a line is accompanied by examples of good and bad lines; a lesson on awkward floor level changes shows the television actor Dick Van Dyke in the midst of a pratfall; and a discussion of the proportional differences between traditional and modern buildings features a building split neatly in half between the two. Written by an architect and instructor who well remembers the fog of his own student days, 101 THINGS I LEARNED IN ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL provides valuable guideposts for students navigating the architectural design studio and the rest of the architecture curriculum. Architecture graduates, from young designers to experienced practitioners, will turn to the book as well for inspiration and a guide back to basics when solving complex design problems.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The winner of a host of prizes, this delicately laid-out book advises students how to approach a number of design principles. Including advice on everything from 'how to draw a line' to 'how to sketch a one-point perspective of a rectangular interior space' this is a must-have for anyone starting out in the field." -- Will Coldwell, *The Independent*

"How to draw a line, the meaning of figure-ground theory, hand-lettering and the fact that windows look dark in the daytime each item has resonance beyond architecture. Books like this are brief tutorials in the art of seeing, a skill useful in every aspect of life on the planet." -- Susan Salter Reynolds *latimes.com*

Concise lessons in design, drawing, the creative process, and presentation, from the basics of "How to Draw a Line" to the complexities of color theory. 101 Things I Learned in Architecture School

I'm a writer doing research for a novel of mine and knew nothing about architecture prior to reading this book. I still don't know much, but Frederick's work has opened my mind to the kind of things architects need to consider when designing something. The primary merit of this book is its clarity: it explains key architectural concepts in terms anyone can easily understand. See the book as 101 bite-sized architectural ideas to get you thinking - ideas that can direct you to deeper research and study. It is good for beginners, but probably too simple for anyone who has studied much architecture. Since I'm an architectural newbie, it was great!

Love this book. Simple sketches that explain complex ideas. i use this book when I need some sketching ideas or back to basic lessons.

This is a delightful little book (speaking of the hardbound version), pocket-sized and bound as much as a work of art, itself, as it is a practical guide. It's full of sage advice, presented in a no-nonsense straightforward manner, e.g.: How to draw lines that don't look wimpy; How to create dynamic compositions that encourage the eye to wander; How to use geometric shapes; etc. It juxtaposes contradictory advice from Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe and Robert Venturi (respectively, "Less is more" and "Less is a bore") to illustrate that both are true and wisdom lies in the middle. The book is a delight to read, hard to put down, and organized as a more-than-handly reference. In this case, it is definitely worth paying the postage charge to receive the hardbound edition, as it is lovingly bound with a library spine, stiff cover boards chosen for their materials, and laid out with generous whitespace that doesn't make the printed content disappear into the gutter. It's a pleasure to read

and to hold in your hands.

My Grandson is now at Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor in their Architecture graduate program. He very much likes the book and keeps it on his drawing board.

it was a gift to my sister and she liked it

Fantastic book. I learned more from this book in 30 minutes than days spent reading unnecessarily verbose architecture texts.

I bought this as a birthday gift for a friend who is interested in Architecture. He has read it a couple of times and seems to like it! He does say that a lot of the information is common sense but I guess you have to make sure you know the common sense things before you try to understand more complex information! I think it was a good buy and I'm very satisfied with the quick delivery :)

Loved it!

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