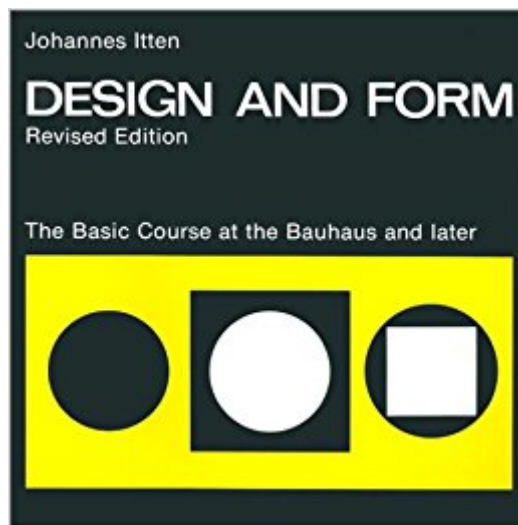




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Design And Form: The Basic Course At The Bauhaus And Later, Revised Edition



Synopsis

Book by Itten, Johannes

Book Information

Paperback: 136 pages

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, German (translation) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is not a step by step syllabus to follow blindly. Itten wrote this book to share the fundamental principles that he taught all his students (no matter how advanced) before allowing them to pursue higher classes and goals at his school. The book is broken down into sections that (to anyone who's had art training) seem simple enough: chiaroscuro, form, color, rhythm, etc. but Itten teaches not so much the technical aspect of art as a new way of seeing the world, a way of creating from the whole body and mind, not just with a paintbrush (or computer graphics program). The sections are all punctuated with many examples of student work that relate to the topic covered. Often, it is these examples that really drive his points home. Just as Itten believed that everyone was capable of being creative and thought the basic course was valuable to all levels of art students and even teachers, this book is applicable for both those who are looking for an introduction into creating, and those who consider themselves expert artists already. I guarantee there will be at least one idea in the book to make you stop and ponder and suddenly challenge your way of thinking on the matter.

This is a seminal book - I've bought and lost and bought again several copies over time - it's an essential and rewarding book.

Having worked with Itten's "The Art of Color", I expected a book of similar expanse and quality and find this edition of "Design and Form" lacking.

very constable

I think Kandinsky's books are a little better than Itten. But this is one of Itten's best for sure. There are lots of images but not much text. The typography, ironically, is not laid out well and not very big. But the images go well with what the content states and gives the reader a view into the Bauhaus class structure.

Interesting

I know I'm going to anger some of the folks who really believe in this book, but I was really disappointed with how slim and scant the educational content was. There are very many black and white illustrations of the students' work related to Itten's teachings. And his outlook is very pure and creative. I really enjoyed that aspect of this book, but expected more meat! I wanted to know more specifically about conflict. I wanted him to go deeper. As it is, he brings up a well ordered set of concepts, explains them clearly and then moves on. In my opinion this book is wildly overpriced. I probably would give it four stars had it only cost me between seven and fifteen dollars. At thirty and change it's not worth it.

Very good classical book.

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