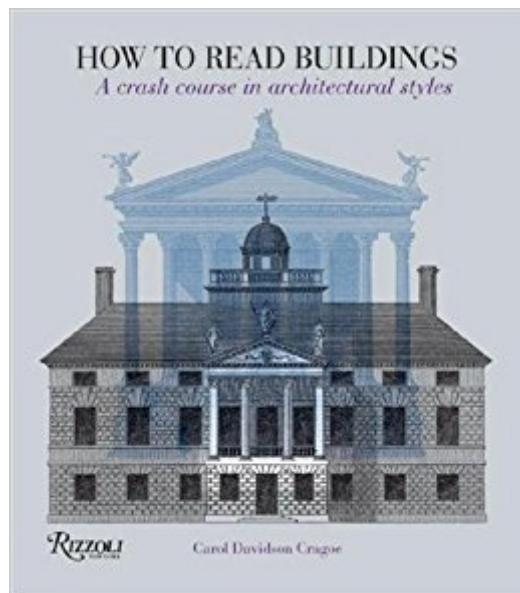


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# How To Read Buildings: A Crash Course In Architectural Styles



## Synopsis

This practical primer is a handbook for decoding a building's style, history, and evolution. Every building contains clues embedded in its design that identify not only its architectural style but also the story of who designed it, who it was built for, and why. Organized by architectural element (roofs, doors, windows, columns, domes, towers, arches, etc.), the book is roughly chronological within each section, examining the elements across history, through different architectural styles, and by geographical distribution. Additional chapters offer overviews of how architecture has been affected by geography, history, and religion, along with an illustrated timeline of architectural elements. Also included is a chapter on applied ornament and a handy introduction to naming each part of a building. All entries are accompanied by examples in the forms of period engravings, line drawings, and pictures. The extended captions make the book invaluable for anyone who has ever pondered the meaning or importance of a hipped roof, rounded doorway, or classical pediment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"...this pocket-size volume packed with handy visuals is a perfect reference tool." ~Elle Decor "This practical primer not only provides the answer, but proves that buildings can be the stuff of page-turners, too." ~ReadyMade Magazine "The draftsmanship of the fine pen and ink drawings, the color-coding of sections, the compactness of trim size, and the quantity of material presented, makes for an illuminated text. A book of architecturally refined elegance on a small scale." ~ForeWord Magazine "This little guide, measuring just over 5 by 6 inches, is a charmer--chiefly

because of the appealing design and the choice of skillfully drawn illustrations in colored ink."

~Interior Design "I'm leaving How to Read Buildings on my nightstand for a few weeks, but you can bet I'll tuck it into my carry-on bag when we head to Europe next month." ~James H. Schwartz in Preservation

Dr. Carol Davidson Cragoe is a graduate of Smith College and holds a Master's in art history from New York University. She was Architectural Editor for the Victoria County History series and more recently for English Heritage.

Really enjoying this little book, very interesting, keeps my mind off other things. It's always interesting to see the different elements of buildings, the many styles, and various periods. Looking at the features of different buildings is like free art!

Very informative, I really enjoy learning about architecture and this is a nice compact crash course to various styles and small histories inside. Very worth the wait.

INCREDIBLE. In this pocket sized little book is everything on Western Architecture from Classical to modern times. It's a fun detailed read that provides a lot of great resources without all the excess in depth and detail. It's also full of amazing pictures.

Very useful little book.

I ADORE this sturdy little manual. I can't get enough of it! It is concisely packed with scholarly information. After hours and hours of study as an Interior Design and Art History major, I love being able to sit down with a concise compendium of easy to reference, erudite information on architectural types and styles, from vaults to pilasters. It is not overly verbose (as are most texts on the subject), which works for my learning style. Information is separated into quick sections with small reproductions of period etchings, which are viewable in such fine detail that you may even occasionally want to whip out your pocket magnifying glass. I mean, it's all here. Do yourself a favor and buy this book, carry it with you, and ENJOY the heck out of it! Do I sound happy? OH YEAH!! Great purchase! More please.

Quick shipping. Perfect travel size. Direct; well-organized; just what I needed.

Definately a plus. Great tool for your pocket.

Clear illustrations and well-written explanations. It's thorough and talks about the different styles of architecture, which is what I was looking for.

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