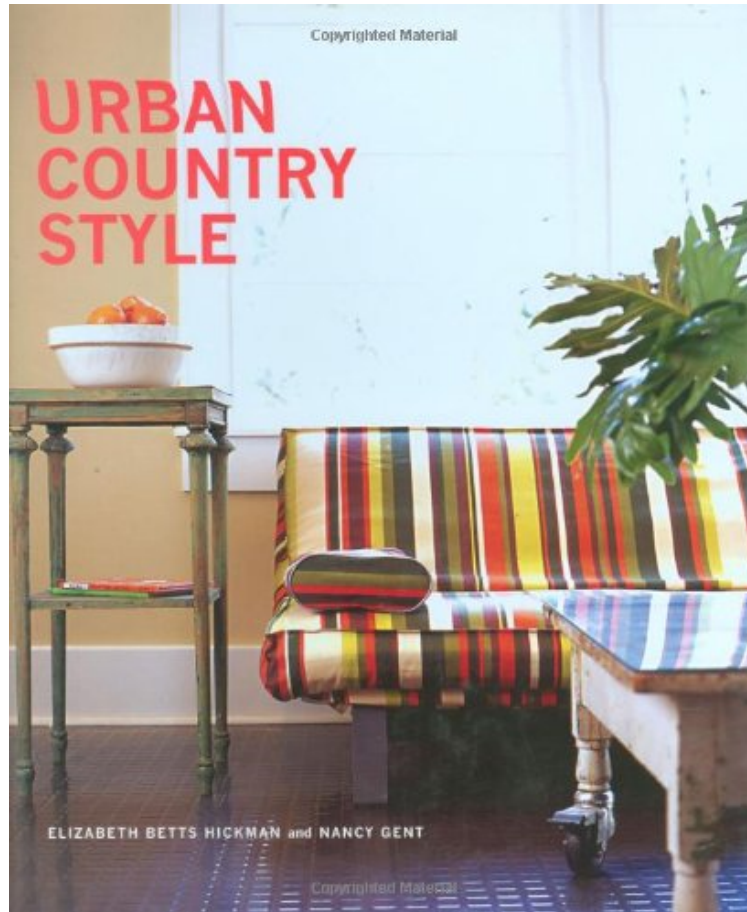


Urban Country Style

Nancy Gent, Elizabeth Betts Hickman
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Nancy Gent, Elizabeth Betts Hickman : Urban Country Style before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Urban Country Style:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great BookBy LeaThe book arrived as promised but there was supposed to be an additional gift included with the order and it wasn't.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun country updatesBy M. ArrickI love decorating books, and this puts a bit of a modern twist on traditional country design. Get it, you'll love it.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This book is for EVERYONE!By K. RobertsonYou dont have to be a design expert to read this book. Gent and Hickman have managed to write a book that appeals to the novice as well as the expert. They use language and terminology that the average person will have no problem understanding. The photographs are very descriptive and help the reader to understand the concepts. There are tons of pictures and they're BEAUTIFUL! I have never read a design book that speaks to all ages and tastes. This concept is for today what Shabby Chic was years ago. The book is amazing and I highly recommend it. You may want to pick up two - one for the coffee table and one to dog-ear and get dirty while

you're taking it with you while you shop. Trust me, you won't be sorry you did!

Urban Country Style mixes modern and vintage furnishings with a crisp, clean approach and a touch of the unexpected. Hickman and Gent go beyond the generic idea of an "eclectic mix" and define this popular emerging style by providing a six-element guideline to the style. F.U.S.I.O.N is an acronym around which the chapters are organized: Function, Unexpected, Simple, Integrated, Old and New.

As decorative styles go, country tends to the sweet, urban leans toward the street. A new book, "Urban Country Style", marries the charm of the former (baskets, quilts, weathered window boxes) with the edginess of the latter (concrete, factory castoffs, galvanized pipe). It proves an excellent match: Country takes on sophistication, urban is softened. Together they are more interesting and more livable. One example: The book suggests using rubber treads typically found in commercial stairways in a home setting. The industrial-strength rubber looks completely different installed on the warm wood of a residential stair, while adding a durability any household could appreciate. And another: When remodeling, consider commercial windows and doors rather than standard residential options. Commercial styles, often very contemporary-looking grids, are built to be more durable and allow wider expanses of glass that can flood a room with light. Every page has ideas like that, and the photos to illustrate the appeal. -- Washington Post, April 12, 2007

Everything old is new again in this coffee table book about how to modernize country home furnishings by following a six-element guideline called F.U.S.I.O.N. (Functional, Unexpected, Simple, Integrated, Old, and New). You won't find needlepoint samplers and calico, but you will learn how to create a surprisingly pulled-together design aesthetic out of items you wouldn't normally think go together: think scratched antique wood tables paired with modern chrome halogens. We love this book for helping us create a look out of mismatched hand-me-downs. -- TrendCentral Newsletter, May 5, 2007

The book goes beyond the vague "just make it eclectic" advice from designers in recent years. When it comes to designing, Hickman and Gent suggest starting with function. Functionality also visually bridges the gap between old and new. A vintage farm sink and restaurant-grade stainless steel shelving go together psychologically because both pieces are pared-down and utilitarian. -- Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, April 14, 2007

The urban country look seems to know no bounds, with apartment dwellers and condo owners also picking up on the trend. Much like shabby chic evokes images of soft florals and worn-in slipcovers, Hickman and Gent hope the mention of urban country will bring to mind old farm tables, galvanized pipe and beloved antiques. And for people who embrace this style, they want to get across that it is always a work in progress, something that will constantly evolve as long as you are in your home. So turn off HGTV, hit the farm supply store and start thinking about ways to make what you already have work for you, and add what you need to make it more functional. -- The Tennessean, May 6, 2007

From the Inside Flap

A VINTAGE TABLE PAIRED WITH CONTEMPORARY METAL CHAIRS, French doors hung on overhead tracks like barn doors, traditional wood cabinets alongside open steel shelves-this is urban-country style. For those drawn to both weathered country furnishings and sleek stainless appliances, this new genre of easy elegance celebrates the contrast between old and new, traditional and modern, chic sophistication and cozy comfort. Urban-Country Style captures the contrast between big-city style and small-town charm and applies it to interiors and exteriors. Finally, here is a book that goes beyond the "eclectic mix" and defines an emerging style by truly demonstrating how to achieve not only a stylish home, but a more functional one as well. Urban-Country Style provides a six-element guideline: F.U.S.I.O.N., or Functional, Unexpected, Simple, Integrated, Old, and New. The six elements apply to nearly any home project and provide a unifying design philosophy for everyone from suburban families to urban twenty something's, young couples to empty nesters. With an emphasis on sensible style and creative combinations, this book shows you how to assess your own living space, make better design choices, and capture the essence of urban-country style on your own. Elizabeth Betts Hickman is a national award-winning journalist who has written about design and residential architecture for over a decade and has worked as a stylist on numerous photo shoots for national magazines. Hickman believes that urban-country style represents a flexible approach to design that can work for almost anyone who wants to celebrate everyday living. California native Nancy Gent planned and completed the full renovation (and urban-countrifying!) of her family's circa 1930 stone cottage in Nashville, and has embraced the opportunity to blend commercial and residential design concepts into workable spaces for various offices and residences. Gent understands the realities of busy families and the design challenges of living with children and animals, and emphasizes these practical considerations in her design work and in Urban-Country Style.

About the Author Elizabeth Betts Hickman is a national-award-winning journalist and editor who has written about design and residential architecture for over a decade and worked as a stylist on numerous photo shoots for national magazines. She resides in Nashville.