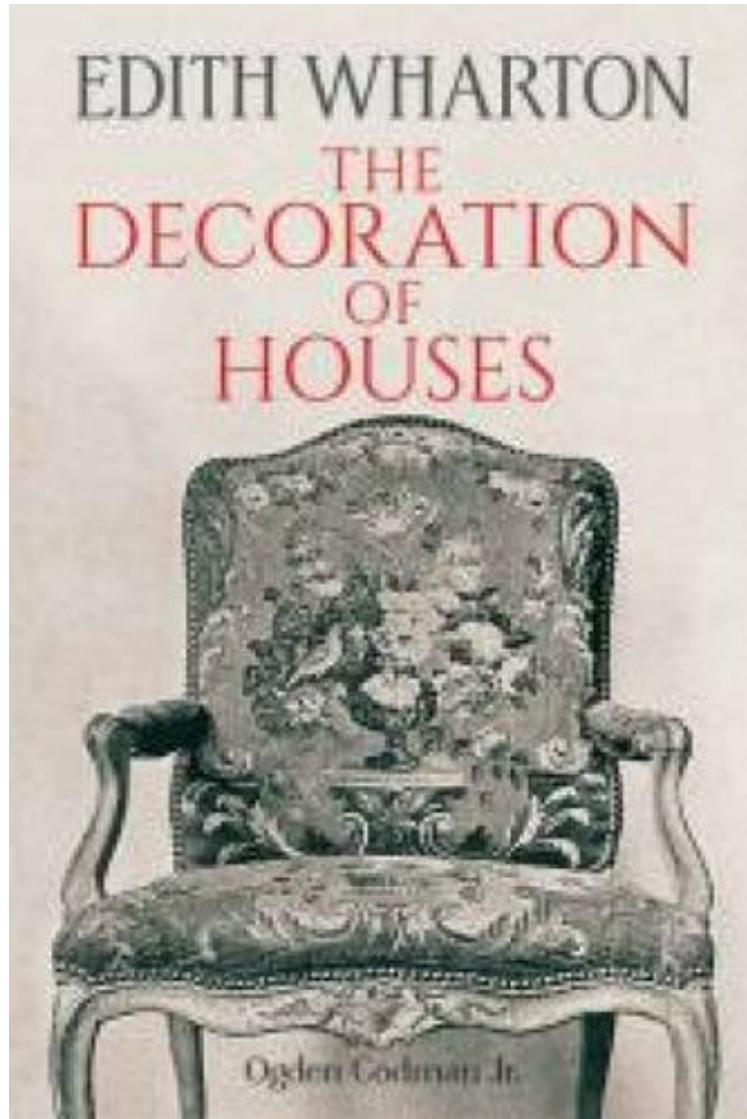


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The Decoration of Houses (Dover Architecture)

Edith Wharton, Ogden Codman Jr.
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Edith Wharton, Ogden Codman Jr. : The Decoration of Houses (Dover Architecture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Decoration of Houses (Dover Architecture):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Classical ArchitectureBy Kenny BThis book is a reprint of the classic work by Edith Wharton, published in 1897. In it, the author details the relationship between architecture and good interior design. For Edith Wharton, classical architecture is the ultimate, and from her perspective, the only

architecture worthy of discussion. As a result, much discussion centers around the various orders of Greek columns and the need for symmetry in the placement of doors and windows. I bought this book for historical interest after visiting her home (The Mount) in New England this fall. This would not be a book for someone interested in decorating a contemporary home. Indeed, Edith Wharton would probably be horrified at the thought of an "open floor plan" and would probably liken it to a one room log cabin! So if you are interested in the history of architecture this is a good book for your library. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Margaret Classic book and very helpful for thinking about or brainstorming interior decoration.

Thousands of books on interior design have come and gone since the 1897 publication of this pioneering manual, but *The Decoration of Houses* remains, thanks to the insightful and inspiring advice of its co-authors. Before she became the Pulitzer Prizewinning author of *The Age of Innocence*, Edith Wharton was a society matron, remodeling a summer home in Newport, Rhode Island. With the able assistance of architect Ogden Codman, Jr., Wharton assembled this corrective to the rampant vulgarity of her nouveau riche neighbors. Wharton and Codman defied the excesses of the Gilded Age, counseling readers to reject the popular penchant for clutter in favor of simplicity and balance. More than an engaging item of period charm, this historic guide offers examples of design rooted in architectural principles. Black-and-white photographs illustrate the authors' ideals of classic beauty, depicting grand ballrooms and spacious boudoirs as well as the elements common to homes of every size and era: doors and windows, walls and ceilings, floors, halls, and stairs. One of the genre's most important and influential titles, this volume sparked a Renaissance in American interior design, and its sound advice and practical approach remain forever in style.

From the Back Cover