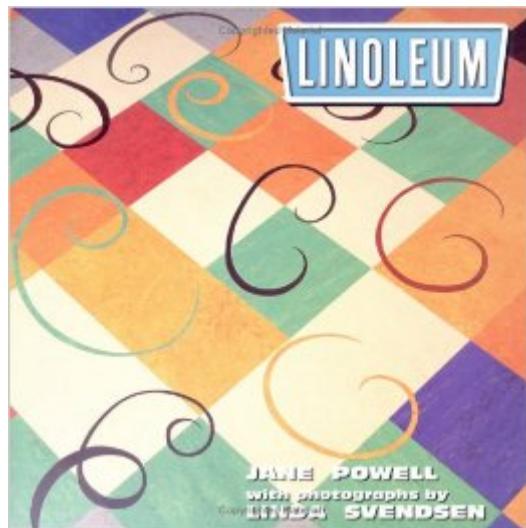


The book was found

Linoleum



Synopsis

Linoleum is not vinyl!
 The word "linoleum" has become a generic term for resilient flooring of all kinds, but it is NOT vinyl. Linoleum is a flooring product made of natural materials, including linseed oil, resins, wood flour, cork, limestone, and jute fabric. This fascinating new book focuses on vintage linoleum; more specifically the marvelous patterns produced from its invention in 1863 until its almost complete eradication in 1960s due to widespread vinyl production. Linoleum is also about the rebirth of authentic linoleum flooring in the past couple of decades, and the hope for a future in which linoleum receives the long overdue respect it has always deserved.
 Drawing upon their expertise in restoring and photographing old homes, the authors share the history and evolution of floor coverings generally, and linoleum in particular. With humor and insight, they single out the differing types and patterns of this durable product, discuss its care and maintenance, and list major resilient flooring companies where linoleum can easily be found. This is a must-have collectible book for anyone who ever played with toy cars on grandma's kitchen floor, or arranged their marbles to fit the curious patterns that stretched from corner to corner.
 Jane Powell is the proprietor of House Dressing, a business dedicated to renovating and preserving old homes. She is the former president of the historic preservation organization in her hometown of Oakland, California. Her books include Bungalow Kitchens and Bungalow Bathrooms.
 Linda Svendsen specializes in architectural interior and exterior photography, and her work has been showcased in Camps and Cottages, Bungalow Kitchens, Bungalow Bathrooms, Old House Journal, Old House Interiors, and Lifestyles Magazine.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was disappointed in this book, not because I was expecting a comprehensive reference work, but because it was so extremely narrow and artificial in scope. I had hoped to see vintage linoleum patterns in vintage rooms. Instead, the focus seemed to be on the rarest and wildest linoleum rugs - most of which were displayed rolled up - and all of which seemed to come from the same store in lower Manhattan. I could have achieved the same effect by visiting the store's website, which shows all the same pictures.

I just renovated my 1949-50 ranch house's kitchen into a retro look from the date the house was built. I ordered "LINOLEUM" with great anticipation. It was totally worthless to me. My expectations may have been too high since I had not seen the book before I ordered it online. So before you order it, make sure you check it out in a bookstore. It made maybe a total of about a page worth of comments on current products. No mention of all on their durability or success in today's real world.

My wife was doing something with linoleum so I bought her a very inexpensive used copy of this book as a joke. She loves it! She says it has beautiful reproductions, is cleverly written and has useful citations. It is a pleasure to read, she tells me, and useful as a reference book.

Jane and Linda were very quirky, funny women who both left the planet too soon. Jane's dry and acerbic humor and artistic incisiveness have never been more brilliantly set than in this highly informative and useful book. Linda's great photography, the layout of the work; it is a must-have resource for people who appreciate (and those who do not yet appreciate) the beautiful world of true linoleum. A book to look at, a book to use. A book to treasure.

I'm considering replacing a 50 year old kitchen linoleum tile floor in our 1886 home with a new linoleum tile floor so was interested in seeing all the vintage patterns. An added bonus was seeing the bathroom sink on page 114 that's exactly like one in our home that has a date stamp of 1841. I thoroughly enjoyed the "walk down memory lane" and found the book to be a great value for the price.

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