

Foreword Review HOUSE & HOME

Midcentury Modern Style: An Approachable Guide to Inspired Rooms

Karen Nepacena Christopher Dibble, Photographer Gibbs Smith (Nov 14, 2023) Hardcover \$35.00 (224pp) 978-1-4236-6395-9

Karen Nepacena surveys the midcentury modern aesthetic with panache in this vibrant, accessible book—perfect for retro-vibe home makeover inspiration with its photographs, decorating tips, and design history.

A manual for recreating the authentic MCM look, the book encourages incorporating the clean lines, chrome and natural materials, futuristic and organic shapes, and funky color palettes into cool, homey environments. There are design discussions for every room, highlighting function and options for individual expression—including for office spaces, well-designed outdoor areas, and pet-friendly places. Appealing color-coded sidebars cover iconic designers and contemporary vendors too.

The reuse and refurbishment of secondhand furnishings is highlighted, as with playful Sputnik light fixtures and Danish modern seating. There are examples from Nepacena's own house and from her interior design clients alongside suggestions for do-it-yourself alternatives to the pricier featured renovations and statement pieces.

An inspiring and useful resource for home designers from a range of financial backgrounds, *Midcentury Modern Style* is a smart, fun guide to the major design concepts of a popular retro style.

RACHEL JAGARESKI (November / December 2023)

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