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The Japanese House: Material Culture In The Modern Home (Materializing Culture)



Synopsis

In the West, the Japanese house has reached iconic status in its architecture, decoration and style. Is this neat, carefully constructed version of Japanese life in fact a myth? Å Å Inge Daniels goes behind the doors of real Japanese homes to find out how highly private domestic lives are lived in Japan. The book examines every aspect of the home and daily life-from decoration, display, furniture and the tatami mat, to eating, sleeping, gift-giving, recycling and worship. Å Å For students and researchers in anthropology and architecture, *The Japanese House* re-evaluates contemporary Japanese life through an ethnographic lens, examining key topics of consumption, domesticity and the family. Highly illustrated throughout, the book will appeal to all who those are interested Japanese culture, and in how and why people live the way they do in modern Japan.Å Å

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'This impressive study of the modern Japanese home takes the reader into the domestic worlds of middle-class men and women, showing how aesthetic practices are shaped by national ideologies regarding gender and the family, as well as by a sense of the past encountering the transformative energies of modernization.' David Morgan, Duke University

Inge Maria Daniels is Lecturer in Social Anthropology, Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Oxford.

I have really enjoyed reading this book. It was a fascinating look into Japanese material culture. It made me re-think how I manage my own house in relationship to my stuff. I also feel like I can understand anime much more when I watch it. Stuff that didn't make sense before (like luck and tatami mats) now make perfect sense.

I was super excited to get this book and learn more about Japanese homes and material culture. The book is thorough and well written and offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of modern, everyday homes in Japan. It's a little academic as opposed to more pleasure reading and I found myself skimming certain parts in the middle where the writing was a bit repetitive around some themes. However, overall it is a solid offering with beautiful full color pictures and is a must have for any more anthropological lover of Japan.

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