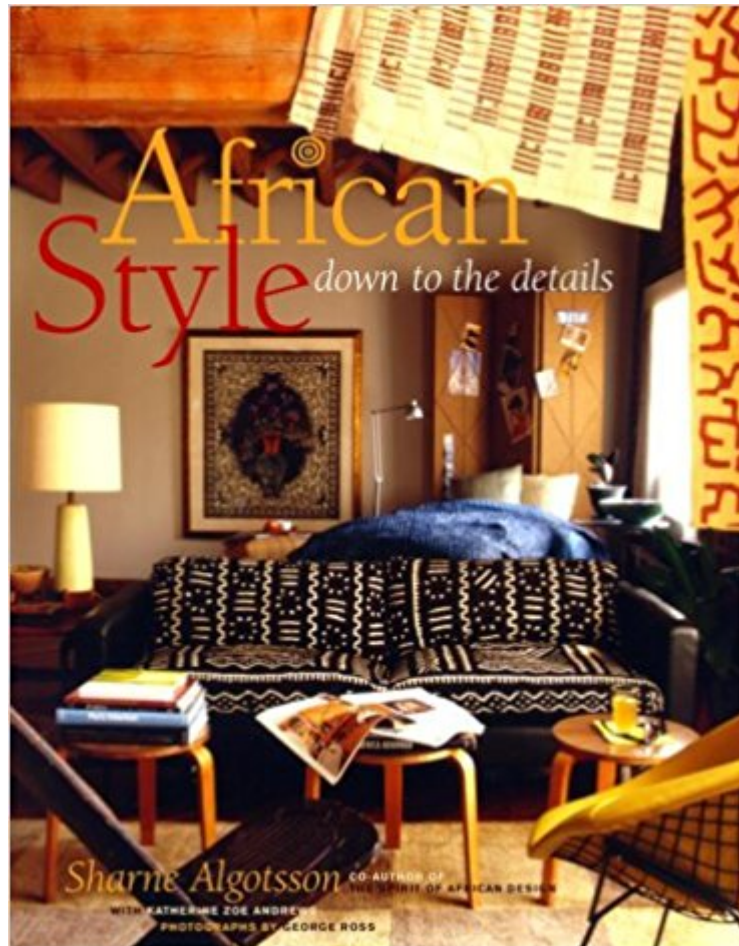


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# African Style: Down To The Details



## Synopsis

"Today more and more of us are striving to bring personal meaning and beauty into our lives and homes. African style is the perfect way to express that joy in living, whether your look is formal, traditional, minimal, casual country, or eclectic," writes Sharne Algotsson in her stunning new book, *African Style: Down to the Details*. Following on the success of her first book, *The Spirit of African Design*, written with Denys Davis, Sharne now offers a gorgeous, hands-on guide to decorating any home with the richness of Africa. Bursting with hundreds of full-color photographs, *African Style: Down to the Details* looks at a full range of home decorating options, with chapters on Color, Paint, and Pattern; Textiles; Furniture; Accessories and Display; and The Mix, which reveals how to coordinate all the elements to create a harmonious whole. Sharne offers a number of simple, inexpensive but exciting how-to projects that can revitalize a room, such as an African-Style Padded Window Cornice, as well as dramatic before-and-after photographs of quick makeovers for chairs, tables, mantels, and more. Written by the leading expert in the field, this book is a treasure trove of practical advice, decorating tips, and insider shortcuts for incorporating the vibrant beauty of Africa into any home, on any budget. In addition, an extensive resources section makes it easy for readers to locate hard-to-find specialty stores and suppliers of textiles, furniture, and accessories. Whether you want to redecorate your entire home or simply add a few fresh accents, *African Style: Down to the Details* is a dazzling celebration of the continent's unparalleled aesthetic.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

On a comparison, I found this publication to be somewhat similar to Sharne Algotsson's book titled Spirit of African Design. We have enjoyed both books and considered them while referencing the design of our [tribal] African Room theme many years ago. As an observation from visiting several African countries and viewing popular styles of decoration over the years, I have drawn a conclusion that most "black" Africans do not use masks, figure carvings or objects (even textiles) integrated within their personal interior decor regardless of their tribal affiliations. Tribal relics are vanishing cultural items through-out the continent. "Black" Africans typically prefer modern Euro centric, Greco-Roman, art-deco, Arab-Islamic and modern Asian themes. Sometimes, I inquire why "black" Africans generally do not prefer their own quasi design styles. The answers seem to align in likeness among the various preferences of "black" Americans --- centering around institutional negative and cultural dogma. It is subconscious and I doubt if the consensus is truly aware of it. Depending on the region in Africa, it became clear that it is more complex than initially assumed. I also discovered varying degrees of similarity among Asian groups, South Americans and others through my travels. Most people do not travel, so chances are they may develop incorrect notions about lifestyles in other worlds. So, what exactly is African Style?

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