



## How They Decorated: Inspiration from Great Women of the Twentieth Century

*P Gaye Tapp, Charlotte Moss (Foreword)*

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***How They Decorated* illustrates some of the great rooms of the twentieth century, whose stylish residents influence our tastes today.**

Gloria Vanderbilt cleverly noted, "Decorating is autobiography." Reflecting that truism, the interiors in this book capture the individual approaches of these icons of style: Bunny Mellon's spare all-American elegance; Helene Rochas's refined sophistication; Vanessa Bell's colorful bohemianism; Mona von Bismarck's breezy opulence; and Georgia O'Keeffe's earthy chic. Author P. Gaye Tapp analyzes each of her subjects' refined way of living, how she embellished her residences (or left them elegantly stark), and the long-lasting effects on today's generation of designers and connoisseurs of beauty.

The book is presented in four sections that describe the aesthetic approaches that the ladies took in decorating their abodes: "The Fashionably Chic," "The Unconventional Eye," "In the Grand Manner," and "Legacy Style." Each interior illustrates the crucial aspect of the lady's definitive taste. Some worked closely with decorating legends such as John Fowler, Albert Hadley, Billy Baldwin, Syrie Maugham, and Jean-Michel Frank. Others took to the task of decorating single-handedly--like Pauline Trigere, Sybil Connolly, Vita Sackville-West, and Fleur Cowles. The interiors of these trendsetting ladies defied their time and inspire and delight to this day. In *How They Decorated*, one can learn from the most notable style muses of the last century.

## How They Decorated: Inspiration from Great Women of the Twentieth Century Details

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## **From Reader Review How They Decorated: Inspiration from Great Women of the Twentieth Century for online ebook**

### **Krista says**

Beautifully illustrated with period photographs.

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### **Rhode says**

Despite the (lovely!) cover, this is a book of biographical profiles illustrated with photos, photos and more photos. Most of the photos are republished from other sources - old magazine stories I think mostly. They are gorgeously done and well chosen.

You'll see chinoiserie, mid-century boho chic, some crazy glamour, lots of tufted sofas, and colors, colors, colors. These were not women who were afraid of color.

The profiles are interesting as well, I knew of most of the women as any midcentury fan would. Most were society ladies, but not all. Definitely sophisticated people. Worldly. Educated. Interesting.

Sadly all white Americans or Europeans. Which says as much about the media of the past as it does today. Also, I don't know what Georgia o'keefe is doing mixed in here. But ok, whatever, this book is a hell of a lot of fun for what it is.

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### **Laura Paulisich says**

L❤?VE☀?learned so much!!! #thankyou @pgayetapp

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