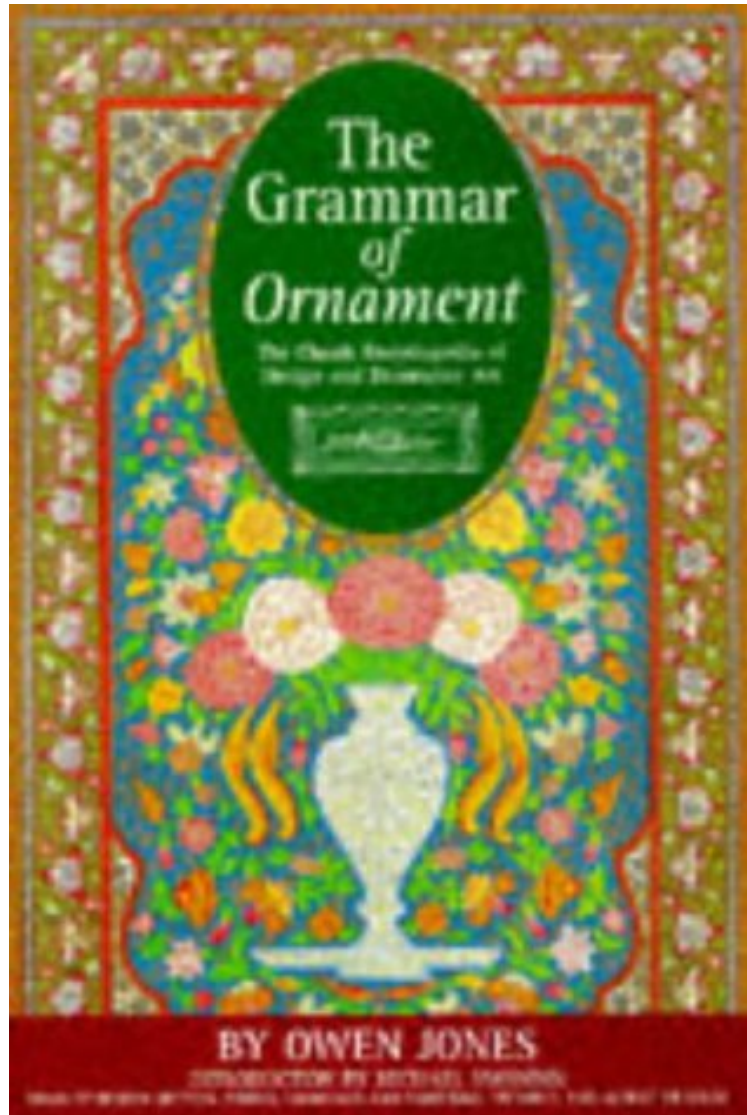


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Grammar of Ornament

Owen Jones

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Before purchasing I would have wanted to know that: This was an OCR scan copy and that the OCR is full of garbage pages. This doesn't contain any of the COLOUR prints for which this book is so well known. This doesn't contain ANY prints at all - and is consequently utterly devoid of purpose. A truly comprehensive gutting of an important design work, a visual reference without any visuals, a waste of paper. Congratulations .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Gem
By Benny Barnes
The Grammar of Ornament by Owen Jones is a highly regarded design classic, first published in 1856 and just as relevant today. The DK edition is a pleasure to examine (although you may need reading glasses to see the six-point type for some captions). The small format fits well in the hand and has a nice heft (504 pages at 1.3 inches thick). The paper is superb and the colored inks for the thousands of engravings brilliant and crisp. If you need a version that lays flat on your drawing table or a scanner bed, however, this one has some drawbacks. The images are very tight to the inner margins, and the glued binding difficult to keep open without breaking the back. That aside, the DK edition is beautiful and a great buy.

Architect, decorator and teacher, Owen Jones supervised work at the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London and his decoration of the Crystal Palace was unanimously acclaimed. His work, "The Grammar of Ornament," was first published in 1856 and is still an indispensable reference tool. Its encyclopedic approach offers a unique vision of the decorative styles throughout time. "The Grammar of Ornament" is a treatise of the most significant forms of ornamental motifs. Organized in twenty chapters, each with an introductory text, these plates were compiled by Owen Jones, assisted by his students, from museum documents and existing historical and scientific publications. Its extremely varied illustrations make "The Grammar of Ornament" essential to the history of decorative arts.

From Library Journal
This disc reproduces the printed The Grammar of Ornament by Owen Jones (London, 1856), with supplementary color plates from the 1868 edition. The original printed work was considered a masterpiece of 19th-century color printing, with thousands of examples of ornamental motifs and designs (many from ancient monuments and buildings) from the ancient world through the Renaissance, including both Eastern and Western design motifs. The complete work is represented here, viewable (as with other Octavo discs) in a variety of resolutions, searchable, printable, and supplemented with a critical introduction. This disc continues Octavo's pattern of creating digital reproductions of rare books that are themselves works of art. However, paper reprints of the original are available at a reasonable cost, so it is hard to understand why this title was selected for Octavo's otherwise rare books on disc series. This is the first Octavo disc with which this reviewer experienced performance problems. Response time was consistently slow even on a robust machine, owing (presumably) to the graphics-heavy nature of this title. The Bottom Line: The Grammar of Ornament is for libraries developing electronic text collections as well as art and design libraries; not an essential purchase.
AEd Tallent, Research Instruction, Harvard Coll. Lib. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. Octavo editions give readers a firsthand experience of a milestone text: each includes page-by-page views, expert commentaries, and appropriate "marginalia." -- University of Chicago Magazine, October 2004
The Octavo Edition, with its incredible fidelity to the original text, is a model marriage of technology and decorative art. -- since1968.com, January 21, 2004
There are no cookie-cutter regimens they follow in their editions. Octavo explores each work and decides how to embellish it. -- Fine Books Collections, September/October 2004 (cover story)
From the Publisher
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