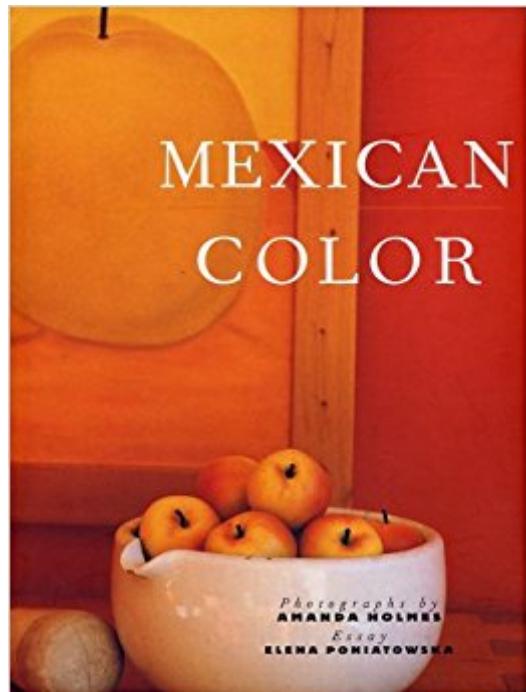


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# Mexican Color



## Synopsis

Mexican Color explores the historical and contemporary use of colour in the country where virtually every environment - in the home, in public places and in natural settings - is rich with vibrant explosions of colour. '

## Book Information

Hardcover: 160 pages

Publisher: Stewart, Tabori and Chang; 1st edition (September 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9687294051

ISBN-13: 978-9687294056

ASIN: 1556708351

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.8 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #530,716 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #125 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Decoration & Ornament #128 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Interior & Home Design > Decoration & Ornament #456 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Architectural

## Customer Reviews

This is a lavish picture book, meant to inspire and delight the reader with the vibrant colors of Mexican architecture, design, home furnishing, art, and artifact. Mexico is color incarnate, and Amanda Holmes's gorgeous full-color photographs bear this out graphically and spectacularly, showcasing everything from grand architectural facades to tiny decorating touches that enliven a corner; bring life to a small, dark room; or pull the brilliance of the sun indoors. Mexican culture uses color to dramatic effect in textiles, clothing, homes, markets, contemporary and folk art, interior design, and modern and ancient architecture. The author calls Mexico "the resting place of the rainbow," and the vibrant pictures and lively text of this beautiful book prove her right! --Mark A. Hetts

"Mexico, a resting place for the rainbow" writes essayist Elena Poniatowska in this book centered on the subject of color. What makes the wonderful photographs by Amanda Holmes special and interesting is her way of seeing through the camera lens...in close-ups and unique angles.

Categorized into themes, chapter # 1 is "The New World", with the fabulous wall paintings at Cacaxtla and Teotihuacan. # 2: "People of the Sun" focuses on some beautiful churches, as well as a few walls and doors. # 3: "A Sky Blue Balcony", has close-ups of brilliantly hued walls, balconies and building details. # 4: "The Brown Madonna", has everything from church niches to marketplace candies and more multi-colored walls. # 5: "The Space of Light", on modern Mexican architecture, and the colors that bring so much warmth to its clean, stark lines...with some of my favorite combinations, like apple green and bright pink...and that deep yellow that contrasts so well with the blues and aquas. The essays that are with these photographs are interesting and strangely poetic. At first I found the writing somewhat peculiar, then realized it's translated from the Spanish (by Aurora Camacho de Schmidt) in an almost literal manner...but once you get into the rhythm of it, is excellent. This hardback edition seems bigger than 160 pages because of its weight, with good quality thick pages, it's a sturdy volume. This book is much more about color than it is about Mexico, and for those of us who love color, it's a satisfying volume.

Gorgeous photos; reminded me of Guanajuato, surprises turning every corner; colors provided inspiration for re-painting the interior of our Texas house.

Magnificent text and beautiful color.

This is a great picture book illustrating the use of color in Mexican architecture and decorating.

If you enjoy beautiful photography for its own sake, this book is gorgeous; but if you want to see photographs of Mexican houses, interiors and folkcrafts, save your money. A big disappointment.

This book presents an eloquent and compelling argument that the traditional popularity of color in Mexican architecture derives directly from Mexico's pre-Conquest, mural-loving civilization. One gets the sense that Moctezuma's empire is finally striking back. The book contrasts Mexico with the relative colorlessness of a European civilization that lost its own tradition of painted architecture sometime between Pompeii and Rome. Not only is Poniatowska able to find an intriguing strain of politics in something as apparently inert as paint on Mexican churches, but Amanda Holmes displays an inspired mastery of the ordinarily separate disciplines of "architectural" and "color" photography. With this book, Holmes has clearly positioned herself as one of the most gifted and most relevant architectural photographers in Latin America, and this book's remarkably visual thesis

demonstrates her talent in a formidable context.

I like colors, I like Mexico and, as a result, I was left breathless looking at Holmes' photos. Not only is it a first rate printing job, but Holmes shows that she is an exciting and capable photographer. She is extraordinarily sensitive to color, texture and design, selecting architectural details that left me shaking my head and breathing deeply. Some of her photographs made me feel as if my batteries were recharging. And Poniatowska's commentary is pure poetry. Thanks.

Oh, this book was fun to look at. Looking at the ever so daring colored homes brings a sence of jealousy..Why can't I do that :-)but this book is for entertaining, not for educating. It has lovely photos, great colors of bulidings and walls. Text does accompany the photos mind you, if gives you a brief background to the style, but When you are going to paint your porch orange, and your stairs blue, and your walls exterior fushia, do you need an explaination?? Have some fun!

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