

OCTOBER 2016

House Beautiful

120 COLORFUL YEARS

THE KITCHEN OF THE YEAR!

& easy ways to brighten up your own

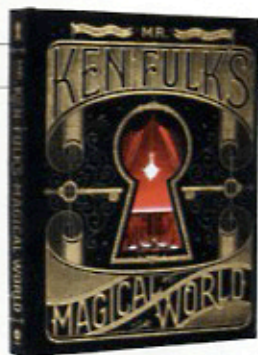


From Our Editor

OCTOBER 2016 | HOUSE BEAUTIFUL



In the Grange showroom at the New York Design Center.



FROM PRIVATE CLUBS TO PRIVATE PLANES, GAWK AT KEN FULK'S FAB FORAYS IN HIS NEW BOOK! (ABRAMS)

*t*he *House Book* has a permanent home on my coffee table. Among the genre's most ambitious tomes, the 1974 book by Sir Terence Conran brims with wildly detailed advice on how to live well: There's an entire passage on the best way to display a collection of pewter versus china!

With pictures of groovy carpeted conversation pits and homey kitchens overwhelmed by copper pots, it's a perfect browse for guests. But what endears me most is its focus on people, not design. From the author's warm voice to the photography (including at least one bathroom nude—it was the '70s, after all), the book fully recognizes the cause-and-effect relationship of design on living. That the author named his groundbreaking U.K. shop Habitat says it: Houses can be showpieces, but most are for living.

When I need a shot of inspiration, I flip open this or one of the other volumes in my office. (It's book season, and I've noted two other reads here!) But just as often, it's a real-life experience that spurs my next project.

I'm not alone. Home stays are more popular than ever—think Airbnb—and kitchen showrooms that let you demo the appliances (see page 90) abound; experiencing good design is the best argument for investing in it. Have you ever helped prep a meal in someone else's kitchen and so enjoyed a soft-close drawer or a new-to-market dishwasher that you vow it's time for your own?

Our contributing editor Jane Scott Hodges tries to stay with friends whenever she leaves New Orleans. (Not bad if you're pals with fellow contributor Charlotte Moss!) She does it to "steal" a few moments together, like a morning coffee that needn't be scheduled. The bonus is witnessing how others live, she says, "the way they set the bathroom vanity, the table, the tone of the house."

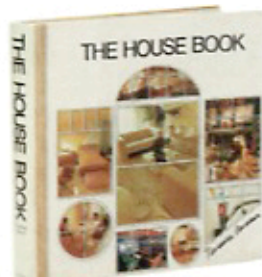
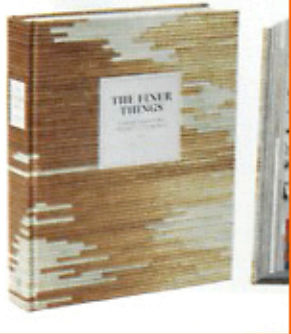
I'm trying it in Los Angeles this month by staying with our own Lulu Powers. I've seen her cute guest room, and I'm already picturing the star caterer's midnight snacks and the culinary tricks I'll bring home.

Living well is an art like any other, honed by reading, traveling, and following the advice of pros—like our Kitchen of the Year designer, Matthew Quinn (page 96). How are you learning to live more beautifully? Drop me a line!

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OUT OF PRINT, BUT NOT OUT OF SIGHT! (EBAY HAS PLENTY.)



Top row: Entrepreneur and DwellStudio founder Christiane Lemieux's new book, *The Finer Things* (Potter), is an elegant crash course on craftsmanship. Amen! Bottom row: *The House Book*.