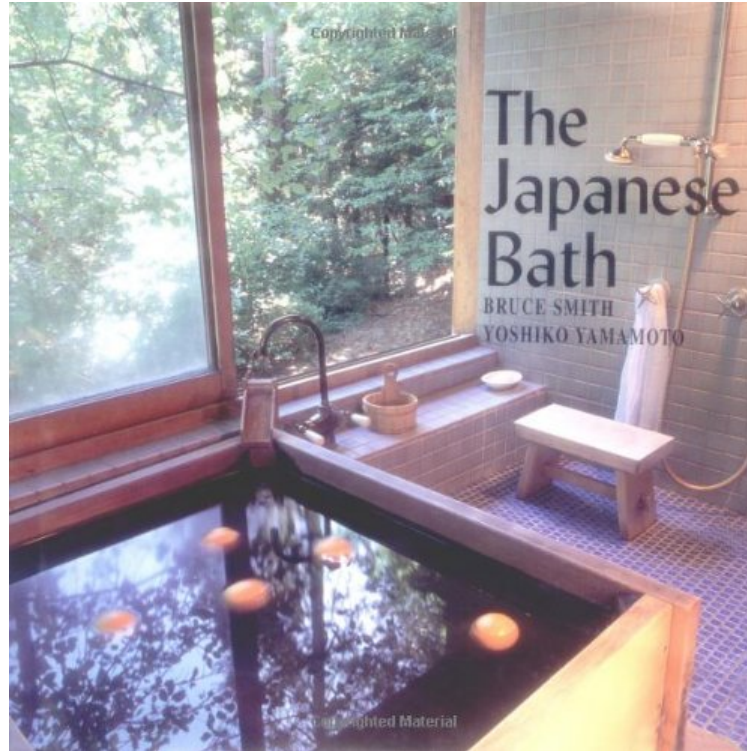


(Download) The Japanese Bath

The Japanese Bath

Bruce Smith

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Bruce Smith : The Japanese Bath before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Japanese Bath:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. "The Japanese Bath"- a review by Rich Saylor, ArchitectBy RichA very nice book, lots of very well-composed photos. It's important to read the text, as modern plumbing and the adoption of some Western habits- to a point- have had an impact, even in Japanese homes. Many photos were taken in California, so those photos are of interpretations of Japanese baths, rather than actual bathrooms in Japan, though there are lots of photos of those, too. Naturally very, very few people can afford some of the more "high-end" bathrooms, but it does give a sampling of what can be done, providing price (and space) are not limitations. Overall the net value is to see how a relaxed environment can be achieved, using muted colors and lighting, simple designs, and more natural, even semi-rustic materials where appropriate. Regrettably the modern use of large areas of glass tends to undo the original subdued effect but this too is made clear (no pun intended) when one sees the result, and compares such open (and bright) lighting to the older approach. I also highly recommend a couple of other books, "A Japanese Touch For Your Home" -lots of very excellent photos of modern homes- and "Japanese Homes and Their Surroundings", the latter being a Dover reprint of a book written in the 1880's, and so giving a truly authentic representation of the styles of old Japan, uninfluenced by Western concepts.35 of 36 people found the following review helpful. A gorgeous photographic journey into the art of the bathBy m.a.r.A relatively short book (less than 100 pages), what "The Japanese Bath" lacks in length it makes up for in content. Just about every page is filled with beautiful, full color

photos ranging from small, home baths, to exquisite, private baths found in spas, to the large, community baths found in Japan. The authors keep the writing brief and simple, but it's nonetheless enlightening and captures well the Japanese mindset towards bathing. Paragraphs on how to build a Japanese bath from scratch are absent, but a great emphasis is placed on the points that make the Japanese bath so unique: lighting, depth, materials. The book provides abundant inspiration for creating your own design, without providing actual builders plans. If your wish is to incorporate a Japanese bath into your home, or simply to visit one, the resources guide in the back of the book will prove very useful. Most suppliers and spas are on the West Coast, but many have web addresses where they can be reached. One of the finest, Ki Arts, boasts "the flexibility to work anywhere in the world" since they utilize the traditional Japanese joinery system for their projects. All in all, "The Japanese Bath" gives truth to the adage that great things can come in small packages. It is a diminutive, but excellent volume for those interested in the topic. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good translation. Just as advertised. By Drj346 Good translation. Just as advertised. This is a subtle and interesting work on the subject, take time to sit down and read it, there is much more to it than the usual home interior design book. Its about creating tranquility and sanctuary from a busy world.

In the West, a bath is a place one goes to cleanse the body. In Japan, one goes there to cleanse the soul. Bathing in Japan is about much more than cleanliness: it is about family and community. It is about being alone and contemplative, time to watch the moon rise above the garden. Along with sixty full-color illustrations of the light and airy baths themselves, *The Japanese Bath*, delves into the aesthetic of bathing Japanese style and the innate beauty of the steps surrounding the process. The authors explain how to create a Japanese bath in your own home. A Zen meditation, the Japanese bath, indeed, cleanses the soul, and one emerges refreshed, renewed, and serene.

From the Inside Flap
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From the Back Cover
Time to watch the moon rise over the garden--the aesthetic of the Japanese bath exquisitely captured in photography and text.
About the Author
Bruce Smith lover of history and historical writing, write on the Arts and Crafts movement, bungalows, craft, and food. Smith was the editor of *American Bungalow News* and associate editor of *American Bungalow* magazine. Smith co-owns The Arts and Crafts Press in Berkeley, California, publishers of *The Tabby: A Chronicle of the Arts and Crafts Movement*.
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