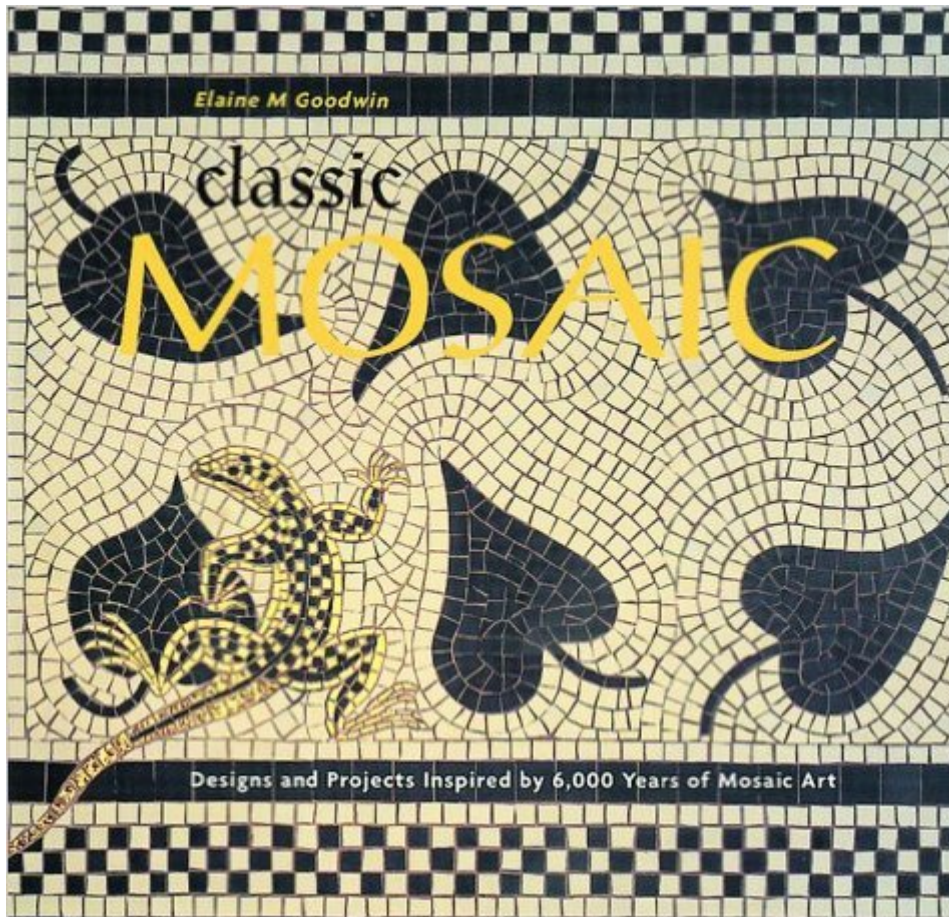


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# Classic Mosaic: Designs And Projects Inspired By 6,000 Years Of Mosaic Art



## Synopsis

This glorious book reveals the exquisite simplicity of decorating and designing with mosaics. As it delves into the history of the art, it draws on sources from Ancient Greece and Rome, the Renaissance, Pre-Columbian Mexico, the Victorian age, the Art Nouveau movement, through to the latest contemporary work. Enhanced with hundreds of color photos, *Classic Mosaic* explores the application of mosaics using classical influences. The versatility and decorative potential of mosaics is then interpreted in a dazzling array of historically-inspired projects. In chapters on materials, equipment, and techniques, *Classic Mosaic* explains how the process of application is an integral part of the design, whether using ceramic, Venetian glass smalti, gold, marble, stones, shells, or mirror. Elaine Goodwin, a respected mosaic artist, clearly demonstrates how a design is developed, from the initial idea to the finished piece. From intricate Grecian floor patterns to a shimmering Klimt chair mosaic, *Classic Mosaic* shows how to create splendid designs inspired by 6,000 years of mosaic art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I own a few different mosaic books and I like this one the best. I found the designs presented to be more sophisticated than in other books. I was also glad that this book gives you a list of the exact materials used, instead of just expecting you to use found materials. Truly inspirational artwork and examples in full-color are featured throughout the book. The book starts out with a great history lesson on mosaics that spans about 25 pages. Next, materials, tools, and design are covered. I was impressed that this included photos of each tool. The basic techniques you will use to make the

projects including cutting and laying mosaics both directly and indirectly. Finishing methods such as grouting, sealing and framing are also discussed. Sixteen projects follow. Each includes basic step-by-step instructions with photos. A large photo of the finished piece is also included. My favorite project was the straight back art nouveau chair. I also loved the brightly colored three-dimensional lizard wall hanging, a tabletop with grape and wine design, a Byzantine style tree of knowledge panel and a beautiful Aztec pot. I really appreciated the lists of suppliers and places such as museums and theaters, arranged by style, to go for ideas. I have had a hard time finding materials in the past. My only wish is that it provided templates for some of the designs. This is the best how-to book I have found for someone that actually wants to make quality mosaics.

This book is truly beautiful, both layout and photography were stylish making it a wonderful book to browse. It begins with a history of mosaic art from ancient Babylon to modern day peppered with inspirational pictures. Then follows a guide to mosaic tools and techniques prior to the projects. The projects are certainly not for first time crafters but I think the instructions are easy enough to follow with a little experience. The projects vary in complexity and style, but all are accompanied by step-by-step photography and advice for variations. The best thing about this book is the inspiration it gives to create your own individual artwork.

This book is beautiful. Though, I definitely do not recommend this for beginners or for someone who wants step by step instructions. This book shows her taking some inspiration from ancient mosaics and then altering them for her own use. I have also done the same. E.g. the front cover shows the leaves and lizards. I do a lot of paving stones. I simply just did two of the black leaves onto a white background onto a paving stone. Very simple, but gosh it looks great. This book is more for inspiration only rather than a teaching book for beginners. I still highly recommend it though.

The photos are breathtaking, full of inspiration for anyone interested in any kind of craft in which pieces are assembled, whether mosaics or quilting or large-scale projects like creating brick patterns in a patio. Aside from books I have about classical art, no other source seems close to providing the rich visuals. This is certainly not a book to instruct beginners, in my opinion. The "how-to" information is cursory. For instance, a scant half page (and I do mean "scant") describes grouting. Projects, too, are probably beyond a beginner's ability. But the projects are, admittedly, really worth doing, not the kindergarten-looking bits featured in some books. There is a bit of information on cutting: only a bit. Comments along the lines of "with experience, you'll be able to

master this technique" suggest to me that this author is more comfortable showing than describing technical aspects. But what a grand showing this book provides. Many of the color photos are large enough to lend themselves to study in detail and there are a few sequences that show projects in process. Although the book will not provide in depth, specific information and instructions to beginners, anyone interested in mosaic will profit by studying the exquisite photos. The author shows some of this art's beauty that has allowed it to speak from antiquity far into the future. Drink in the colors, patterns, and forms -- and be seduced by the possibilities.

This book is beautifully presented, well organized and wonderfully inspiring. Mosaic is introduced to the reader as a serious art form, complete with history, materials and projects ranging from simple to complex. A single, small photograph of her studio showing assorted clear glass jars, each filled with glistening bits of Italian glass -tapped right into my love of color and texture. Since buying this book, my shelves are gradually filling up with clear glass jars filled with bits of colored glass. I see the art of mosaic possibilities everywhere. And, I can't sleep at night.

I have to disagree with those reviewers who have already weighed in on this book. Perhaps they are already experienced in making mosaics. As someone who has not done mosaics before, I was hoping for a little more discussion of the basics. For example, there is a list (and even photographs of) tools to use to cut tile, but not really any discussion on how to do it. Also, the history lesson on mosaics is somewhat brief, with not very many photographs of ancient mosaics.

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