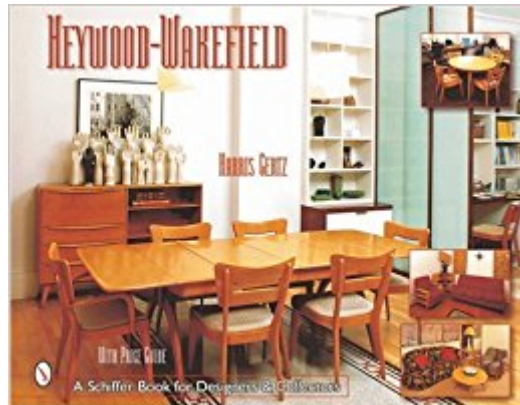




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Heywood Wakefield (Schiffer Book For Collectors)



Synopsis

Finally, a full-color book on the most vibrant and fun furniture ever made in America. Over 350 photos take the appreciation of Heywood-Wakefield furniture to its zenith. Focusing exclusively on their sparkling, blond furniture produced from 1936-1966, this book, presented by America's foremost vintage Heywood-Wakefield dealer, allows the reader to enjoy the subtleties of the company's superb design, utility, and construction. Unique insights, based on years of buying, selling, and hands-on restoration, are also provided, adding an informative backdrop to the visually stunning array of photos. Also included is an up-to-date value guide that makes this book an essential guide for everyone interested in this popular furniture. It also gives designers and home decorators a heightened appreciation for the company's creative contribution to American furniture design.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Harris Gertz lives in New York, where his Citybarn Antiques is a premier source of vintage Heywood-Wakefield furniture.

After purchasing some Heywood pieces, I was looking for suggestions on colors to go with them so hoped this would provide more photos of Heywood in homes than the Rouland book. There are a couple of photos of Heywood in homes, but honestly the best picture is the one on the cover. Most

of the color pictures in the book are shots of the furniture on it's own. Still feel like it's better to start with the Rouland text and it provides a more detailed history of Heywood furniture and it's manufacture. For example, this book tells you that it's difficult to duplicate the factory finish. The Rouland text explains the factory finish process at Heywood (about ten steps!) so you understand why it's difficult to pick up pieces with the hope of refinishing them with minwax from your local Home Depot as so many people seem to think they can do. Thought this book had a great diagram for explaining the construction of Heywood pieces as well as explaining some things like the reason for the horizontal grain on the side. Also explained the rarity of some pieces-the blanket chest with mirror, pier cabinets and record cabinet for example. Rarity wasn't much talked about in the Rouland text. Thinking that was written in an earlier stage of the public's Heywood collecting phase and rarity issues hadn't started to show up yet. This text also has some nice close ups of details like the sculpted front of drawer pulls. I have an almost scholarly, curator approach to collecting vintage furniture so really found I needed both the Rouland text and this one. Don't know if I will buy the third book and fourth books available. If you're just looking for eye candy, this is a better book than Rouland which provided only black and white photographs. I have to say...wasn't a big fan of Heywood. I collect Danish mid mod and found Heywood too atomic for my liking. But after difficulty in completing a mid mod bedroom, I happened upon a Heywood bedroom set and my appreciation for the furniture has grown. Both books have really helped me to understand why this furniture was so spectacular. It is exceptionally well made. Now feel it's a privilege to own a set with some of the rarest pieces in it. Heywood was an amazing company-steam bending furniture long before the Eames! It's sad that they went bankrupt in the early 80's when they refused to lower standards to compete with the influx of goods from China. I don't know what the kids of today will collect. The 70's were really the last decent decade for American furniture and Heywood was definitely a part of that great tradition.

I'm not knocking the text, because it's informative, but the photos are the reason I bought the book. Rouland's book may be more complete, but you just don't get the same feel when the photos are black & white (not his fault; he was working from company literature in order to be complete). Gertz concentrated on the more popular pieces -- which are likely more easy to find in order to photograph, if they weren't in his inventory already -- and then did them up proud in this extremely high-quality book. To me, it qualifies as a coffee-table art book that should be on display in the living room... preferably on a Heywood Wakefield coffee table. The book is also useful as a reference for the pieces displayed, but the price guide reflects the market of 2000-2001. (Perhaps a 2nd edition

will be forthcoming?)WARNING: Looking at this book may cause severe furniture envy, resulting in the expenditure of large amounts of money with the various Hey-Wake dealers, such as Gertz himself, the folks at Springdale Furnishings, or Strictly HeyWake.

Living room, dining room, and den pieces were purchased by my parents in the early 1950s. My sister and I learned early to respect beautiful property and, therefore, all of these pieces that I inherited are still in new condition--no marks, scratches, chips, scuffs, discoloration. Over 60 years old, these pieces are still in museum condition. Perhaps updating only accompanying pieces of furniture (such as lamps, perhaps sofa, cushions, drapery, rugs and carpets) is all that's needed but not really necessary. I grew up with Heywood-Wakefield furniture in our homes; I still have Heywood-Wakefield furniture in my own home. During the past few years I've been able to purchase bedroom pieces from sellers online. All of these latest vintage pieces were given the same care and attention as were mine; all are still in absolutely beautiful condition. If you're not a Heywood-Wakefield furniture buff, you cannot understand the love that long-time owners have for this line of Post-Modern furniture. In about 15 years I, too, will have to begin downsizing and will have to find new owners for these lovely pieces that never seem to lose their appeal. This latest updated book helps Heywood-Wakefield owners know the current value of their furniture.

All of my Haywood Wakefield is bamboo. This book had absolutely no reference or pictures of this particular style. I was very disappointed.

I haven't presented this yet to the recipient but I'm sure he is going to love it. It is a wonderful book to lie across a Heywood Wakefield coffee table - which is where I envision it in his house. It also will give him ideas on what to pursue to make his home that retro 60s look that he is striving for.

This book is beautifully illustrated, showing every item produced by the company in the mid-century era. It gives production and design details, designer credits, comments on relative scarcity, and estimates of market values as of the date of printing. I was lucky to have bought the dining table shown on the cover even before learning about the existence of this book. Now I look forward to using the book as a guide during my further acquisitions of companion pieces for my Mid-Century Modern condo in Palm Springs.

Very good condition, good quality paper, largw clear pictures.

Excellent library source with terrific color photos of most models. Required reference for the Heywood Wakefield collector.

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