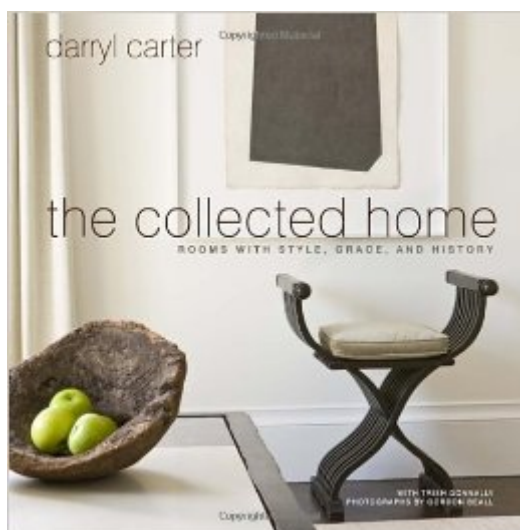


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# The Collected Home: Rooms With Style, Grace, And History



## Synopsis

Readers who love new traditional design that's clean and refined yet comfortable will find inspiration and liberation in how acclaimed designer and author Darryl Carter perceives the home as a collection of beloved hand-selected items. In *The New Traditional*, Darryl Carter laid out the principles of his widely recognized and beloved design aesthetic, which balances individual comfort with a subtle color palette to achieve serene and timeless style. Now, Darryl explores the essence of what brings a home to life, from textures to multipurpose furniture to unexpected objects. *The Collected Home* dazzles with gorgeous photographs of rooms and details, and enlightening text about what makes a space extraordinary. Additionally, Darryl provides--for the first time ever--hands-on advice for approaching home design, such as defining short- and long-term goals, from selecting an antique door knocker to planning the architectural elements of an addition. Lavishly illustrated, this book is a must-have for anyone who desires a home that feels richly layered, full of character, and unquestionably calm.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Potter Style (October 30, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307953947

ISBN-13: 978-0307953940

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.8 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #59,805 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential](#) #77 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Decorating & Design > Decorating](#) #107 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Decorating & Design > Interior Decorating](#)

## Customer Reviews

As a designer, every time I see Darryl's work, I marvel at his talent to "white out" what would otherwise be same old traditional or colonial spaces. In other words, he can take your typical (and sometimes cluttered) design and edit it, clarify it to such a poetic yet livable state, that you wonder how modern it is despite the very colonial roots. Not that anything is wrong with color or traditional design (I'm a fan of both), but his work feels like the antithesis to hundreds of well-designed but

boring spaces that seem to have a complete lack of innovative design given the modern world we live in. His second book, *The Collected Home*, is a heart-felt rendition of some of his latest work, his aesthetics and guiding principles. I particularly enjoyed the photographs that beautifully illustrate his strong emphasis on architectural integrity and how little ornamentation you really need if the bones are exceptionally designed. A personal favorite quote from the book, as he describes his first show house experience "...young and intimidated by the veteran designers also presenting their work, I thought, 'This is not at all the way a home should be experienced.'" Knowing the context, I can completely relate to that feeling - Raji Radhakrishnan / Murali Narasimhan

Modernism was in part a reaction to the excessive ornamentation that characterized the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Century. Modernists craved clean lines and simplicity. Function rather than beauty dictated form. Some early modernists thinkers decried ornamentation as a crime. In pursuit of their aesthetic project, the modernists rejected 2,500 years of classical wisdom. It is into this hotly waged conflict that Darryl Carter enters. With great tact, Carter strips away excessive ornamentation and works his way back to the nature inspired origins of classical thought. He is able to find common ground between these two not so dissimilar aesthetics. Carter has the artist's gift of mixing what initially appear to be dissimilar objects and finding a coherent overall vision. His "cool" approach reminds of Swedish neo-classicism. This is Carter's second book. Like his first book, *"The Collected Home"* is a great success. Highly recommended.

Darryl Carter is truly the master of creating warm and inviting rooms with a minimalist feel. (Who knew those elements could co-exist so beautifully?) After first seeing his home (at that time) on the cover of *Metropolitan Home* in 1997, I have followed his meteoric rise in the design world ever since. While his designs are undeniably gorgeous, I love the fact they are also incredibly comfortable and not too "precious". This is perfect for someone like myself who has a great appreciation for a beautiful, well appointed home but wants nothing to be off-limits to my pets or those who visit. *The Collected Home* is a perfect follow up to his phenomenal book *The New Traditional* and I regularly go back and re-read sections in both. My hope is that he's already got the wheels turning for book #3!

This book inspired me. I sat through only about 10-15 pages before jumping up, moving furniture, shelves, display items, putting items away and taking others out for prominent positioning. I discovered my colors (which were there all along but I didn't see them!). Highly recommend and

have shared my copy with friends for their own inspiration.

What I love about Carter's style is it's focus on high-quality almost minimalistic furnishings that are artfully placed within an elegant canvas. The rooms all have a sense of place and history, something sorely needed in the cookie-cutter home decorating business. It is evident that Carter espouses the wait til you find what you love, over instant gratification. And the sumptuous, elegant, finely-tailored spaces all vie for equal attention. You cannot peruse this volume without wanting to live in any of the rooms. I am a modernist at heart, yet I feel he has translated a style that could be easily adapted to any decor that has substance: good scale, interesting footnotes and a finely tailored look. He proves that traditional style can meet in a new and updated fashion that will look as good today as twenty years hence. In short, Carter knows when to stop and not go over the decorating cliff of "too much, too much, too much". The rooms are at once elegant, inviting, visually soothing, extremely well balanced and yet flexible. I think it's easy to miss how much craft went into these effortlessly beautiful homes.

as a designer i love having inspirational books around my office. i didn't find much inspiration here. that's the one downside i see to ordering this type of book on - you get a peak, but not a whole idea.

Darryl Carter gives some GREAT advice on decorating any home although the pictures in the book leave something to be desired. I prefer pictures over text....so this book left me no choice but to read. And I am glad I did. Carter's advice is practical and can be applied to any style. I recommend this book especially to anyone starting their home decor from scratch.

Darryl Carter is a designer extraordinaire. His rooms seem very thought out while using neutrals that are crisp and not boring. He has managed to create his own style that I could pick out just by looking at his work, and not actually knowing it was his. Superb!

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