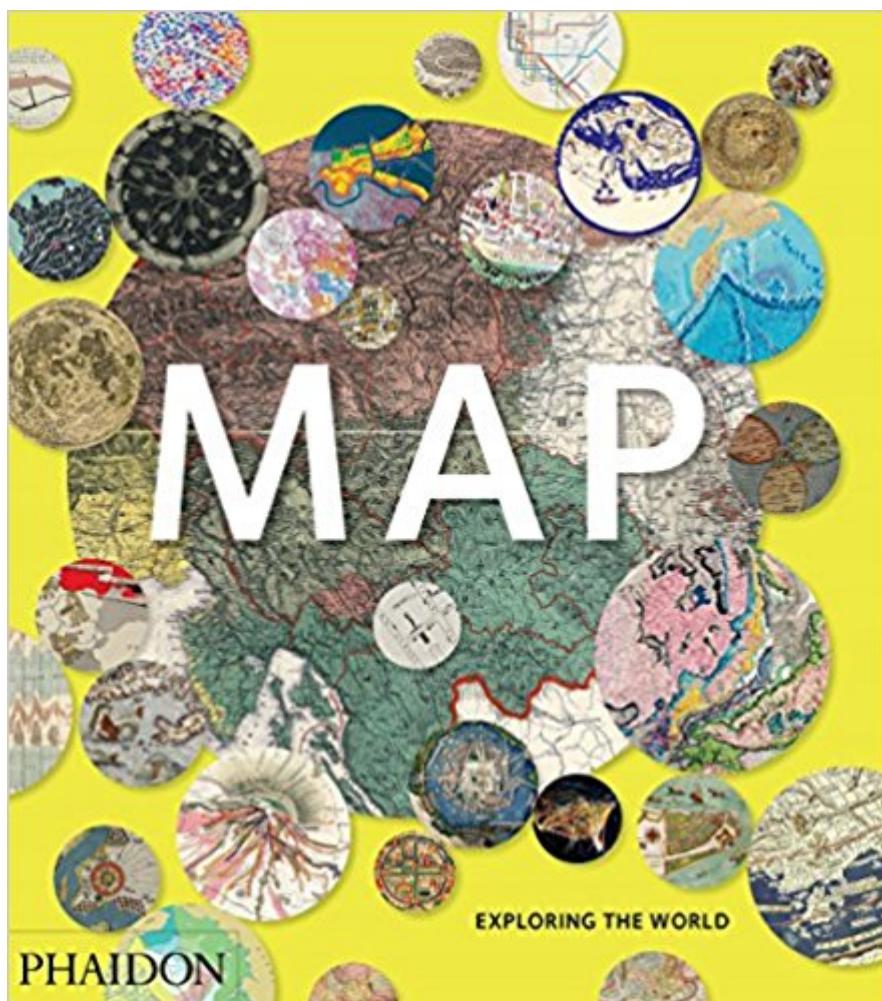


The book was found

Map: Exploring The World



Synopsis

300 stunning maps from all periods and from all around the world, exploring and revealing what maps tell us about history and ourselves. *Map: Exploring the World* brings together more than 300 fascinating maps from the birth of cartography to cutting-edge digital maps of the twenty-first century. The book's unique arrangement, with the maps organized in complimentary or contrasting pairs, reveals how the history of our attempts to make flat representations of the world has been full of beauty, ingenuity and innovation. Selected by an international panel of curators, academics and collectors, the maps reflect the many reasons people make maps, such as to find their way, to assert ownership, to record human activity, to establish control, to encourage settlement, to plan military campaigns or to show political power. The selection includes the greatest names in cartography, such as James Cook, Gerard Mercator, Matthew Fontaine Maury and Phyllis Pearsall, as well as maps from indigenous cultures around the world, rarely seen maps from lesser-known cartographers, and maps of outstanding beauty and surprising individuality from the current generation of map makers.

Book Information

Hardcover: 352 pages

Publisher: Phaidon Press (September 28, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0714869449

ISBN-13: 978-0714869445

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 1.5 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (35 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #46,185 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Cartography #68 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Reference > History #292 in Books > Science & Math > Technology

Customer Reviews

Earlier this year, we took a trip out of state, and it was the first time we had never used a paper map on such a trip. We had paper as back-up, but we were using, of course, a map program on the smartphone. Paper maps have been around almost as long as there has been paper, and the electronic version we used really wasn't much different from looking at a printed map. Maps mean roadmaps for lots of us, but that is far too limited an understanding, especially if you look

through Map: Exploring the World (Phaidon). It is a large-format, colorful, and heavy collection of over three hundred maps of wildly varying subjects and styles. In an introduction, John Hessler, a map specialist at the Library of Congress, quotes a definition of maps given by the historian of cartography Brian Harley: “Graphic representations that facilitate a spatial understanding of things, concepts, conditions, processes or events in the human world.” • Roadmaps fit that definition, and plenty are included here, but what a wealth of other ideas is here on display. What maps leave out is a lesson here. Harry Beck’s classic 1933 map of the London Underground is here, in all its revolutionary orthogonal and diagonal clarity. Maps do not have to be of real territories. A map here will be familiar to everyone who has read the Pooh stories, that of the Hundred Acre Wood. There is Robert Louis Stevenson’s map of Treasure Island, too. What shape a map should take is an issue shown on many of these pages, because flat maps inevitably distort the globe. The Dymaxion Airocean World Map of 1954 by R. Buckminster Fuller solves the problem a different way, with the globe projected upon a regular polygon of twenty triangular sides.

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