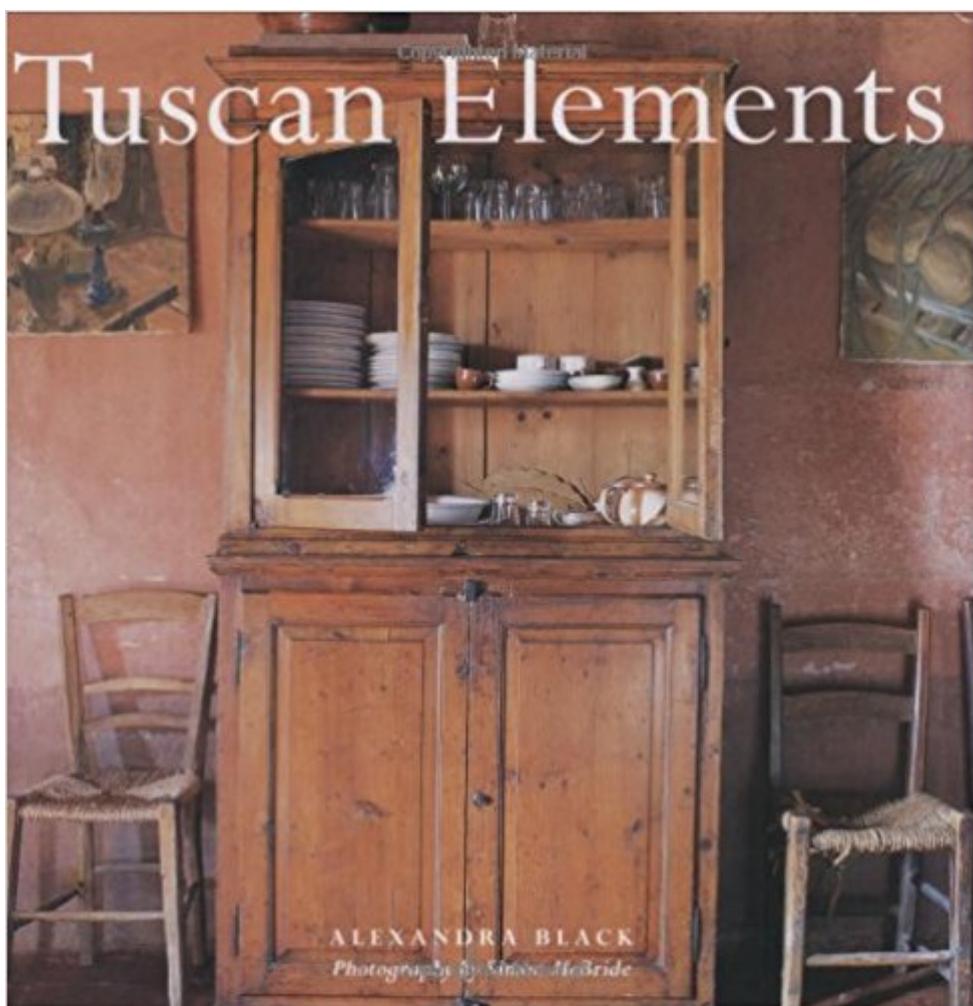


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# Tuscan Elements (Decor Best-Sellers)



## Synopsis

The Tuscan house, whether a simple homestead or expansive villa, has become one of the most sought-after living environments. Its design is virtually unchanged since the Middle Ages, when landowners in the golden hills of Tuscany built country retreats with gardens, porticoes, and loggias. The landowners often drew upon the natural resources of the region— and it is these materials that give the Tuscan house its unique character. *Tuscan Elements* brings to life the colors, textures, and aesthetics of the Tuscan house—the magnificent stone and marble work; the hardwoods like chestnut, oak, and elm; earthy terra-cotta and brick; and the all-important water feature, used in ponds, fountains, and pools. This unique, visual sourcebook deconstructs the typical Tuscan home and examines its basic components in dazzling detail, from the tiled roof and floor, thick stone exterior walls, and vine-covered loggia to the exposed wooden beams, luminous frescoes, and the sunny courtyard garden with an ancient well or exquisite swimming pool. Filled with extraordinary photos by world-famous interiors photographer Simon McBride, *Tuscan Elements* emphasizes living life well with a home that nurtures and comforts, accentuates the importance of family and friends, and entertains with good food and drink. For anyone interested in infusing their present home and garden with a little bit of Tuscany, here is a delightful source of never-ending inspiration.

## Book Information

Series: Decor Best-Sellers

Hardcover: 216 pages

Publisher: Watson-Guptill (November 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823054802

ISBN-13: 978-0823054800

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 10.1 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #904,418 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #110 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Interior & Home Design > Style #1266 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Interior Design #1385 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Decorating & Design > Decorating

## Customer Reviews

There is something enchanting about Tuscany that has seduced the famous and just-ordinary folks for centuries, from Pliny the Younger to D. H. Lawrence and other personalities of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Black, with great assistance from photographer Simon McBride, captures the essence of northern Italy's magic by her exposition on four elements: stone, wood, earth, and water. What that involves is a historical and natural overview of the material, an examination of its uses in recent centuries, and then page after page of glorious color photographs. Yet it's not just pretty pictures. We learn about the differences between white Carrara marble and other quarried stones. The wood chapter details the trees throughout the region, with close-ups of applications, like the ubiquitous cassone, or storage chest. And water contrasts the still ponds and fountains of villas with the hot spas of Montecatini and other natural resorts. Dream on, architects, designers, and travelers. Glossary appended. Barbara Jacobs Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Alexandra Black has written about interior design, architecture, and fashion for such publications as House & Garden, Elle, and Vogue Living. The author of Ski Style, The Japanese House, and Living in Cuba, she lives in London, England. Simon McBride has been photographing gardens and interiors for over two decades. His work is often featured in Architectural Digest, Country Living, and House & Garden, and he has completed commissions for more than 30 books. He lives in London, England.

Item arrived safely with no damage sustained. Beautiful copy, too!

I sent it as a gift to a great friend redecorating bedroom with Tuscan feel.

excellent book with great indoor and outdoor design ideas. buy cheap used from 3rd party sellers.

This is more a book for Tuscan color choices than home decorating. I wanted to go with the Tuscan look, but none of the things they show pictured in the book are available to buy anywhere.

This is a great book to give the reader a "flavor of Tuscany" but I wouldn't recommend it as a general decorating book. It has some absolutely beautiful pictures of the region that can be used to get some ideas about what authentic Tuscan looks like. It will be a bit of a leap from this book to purchasing Tuscan decorating items in the retail market in the U.S.

I have not been able to put this book down since I received it. I have always dreamed of visiting Italy, but until that time comes, I have been redecorating my home to reflect that dream. I now have a "Tuscan kitchen" that makes me very happy to be in. I bought this book for new ideas, and also to confirm that the elements in my home already are the correct ones. I was thrilled to find these "Tuscan elements" such as pottery, stones, tiles discussed throughout. And the photographs inspire me to pay attention to details. It's all about the textures of the walls, the colors, how you display your ceramics....the pictures are beautiful. I may not get to Italy any time soon, but this book helped bring my dream a little closer to home.

This book will absolutely make you want to book a flight to Italy asap ! Gorgeous photography. Makes a great coffee table book.

Nice photos -- nothing more.

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