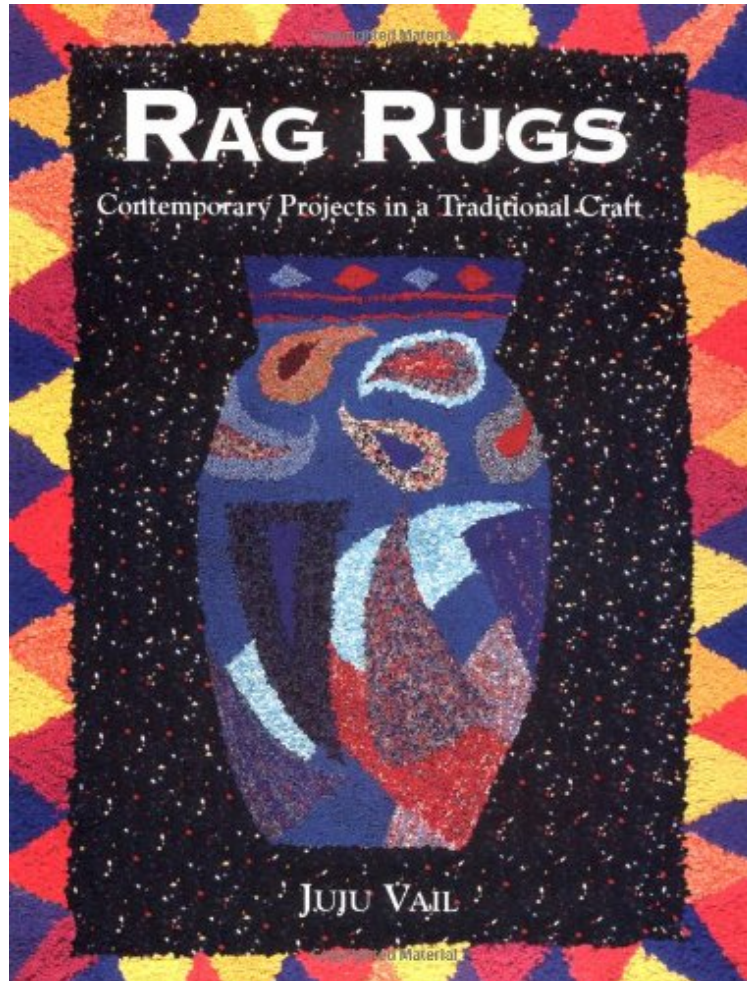


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Rag Rugs: Contemporary Projects in a Traditional Craft

Juju Vail

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Juju Vail : Rag Rugs: Contemporary Projects in a Traditional Craft before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rag Rugs: Contemporary Projects in a Traditional Craft:

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will no longer need a push to start your own. This book features uniquely creative projects, a rare treat in this modern day time of copycat images. Plenty of inspiration here, folks!

In *Rag Rugs*, Juju Vail presents the simple and versatile craft of rag rugmaking with verve and style. With 20 original projects using traditional techniques, beginners and experienced crafters can make beautiful and useful objects for the home. How-to illustrations provide instruction, and dozens of full-color photographs of handmade rugs offer inspiration. Rag rugmaking has a place in the very heart of American history. Practiced by homemakers for generations, this easy craft was a practical answer to the need for warmth, decoration and color in the humblest of home settings. Vail describes the evolution of rag rugs and the four traditional techniques - hooking, prodding, braiding and applique - and then shares her experience and skill in design, techniques, preparation and finishing. Tools, materials, basic stitches and the practical methods of mounting and lining are all described in detail. At the center of *Rag Rugs* are Vail's unique designs. An artist with an energetic style and superb command of color, her projects appeal to a wide variety of crafters. From a primitive-style rug for a traditional setting to a contemporary rug for an avant-garde home, readers will find abundant choice and inspiration. Except for materials, *Rag Rugs* provides everything needed to get started: 20 original templates hand-drawn by the author complete materials lists suggestions on personalizing projects how-to instructions from preparation to completion direction on unusual techniques, such as How to Felt Wool Fabrics special Notes to help avoid mistakes and problems North American sources for rag rugmaking supplies plus, listings of where to view rag rug collections in the U.S., Canada and Great Britain Projects such as Hen in the Garden Rug, Angel Bench Cushion and Flying Gardener Children's Rug are inspired, and Vail's versions of the traditional Braided Rug, Fire Rug and Hearth Rug are vibrant and welcoming.

From *Library Journal* Strips of recycled clothing and other fabrics are the raw materials for the rugs in these two books. Davies (*How To Make Hand-Hooked Rag Rugs*) covers hooked rugs and several related types, with detailed information on materials, tools, and dyeing. Vail (*Quick Kids' Quilts*) has mostly step-by-step projects for hooked rugs and also includes prodded, braided, and applique rugs. Both books are well illustrated with many colorful examples and are suitable though not essential for public library crafts collections. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From *Booklist* These days, playful primitive rugs are probably more expensive than wall-to-wall carpeting--quite the opposite from the origins of hooked, braided, prodded, and appliqued floor coverings in colonial times. London designer Vail outshines competitors and colleagues alike by creating the world's easiest directions and most colorful, striking patterns. Of course, the requisite historical and equipment information is presented first, followed by 20 childlike (but adult-pleasing) patterns. Various artisans contribute, with most in the hooked rug category; the layered piece and mosaic felt rugs, however, are the most sophisticated of all. Truly an original. Barbara Jacobs With over 200 full-color photographs, this how-to-book on rug-making offers a treasure trove of information and ideas. Focusing on four rag rug techniques -- hooking, prodding, braiding, and applique -- the book provides ample project choices for beginners and more experienced rug makers. Each project is fully described with close-up views, a list of materials, and helpful hints. (Rhonda Cooper Kliatt 2000-03-01) Well illustrated with many colorful examples. (*Library Journal* 2000-02-15)