

## Knoll Textiles, 1945-2010

*From Yale University Press*  
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**From Yale University Press : Knoll Textiles, 1945-2010** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Knoll Textiles, 1945-2010:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful Informative By hairbland I'm an artist, married to an award-winning graphic designer. This book is both beautiful and amazing, as the NY Times Sunday Book Review attested to in their Feb 26 review. In fact, I read their review first...then the 1 star here, so I went to the famous Strand in NYC to check it before buying as the 1 star put me off. The 1 star reviewer pretty much missed the boat as to the overall concept of the book...it is cutting edge, matte finish pages, with imagery that looks like it is the real thing instead of a picture of the real thing. One can find the NY Times review on line. As to "smell", I imagine it was shrunk-wrap quickly after printing...most hardcover books are not, art monographs can be - being sealed in plastic would cause any smell, which I did not notice myself. To continue the inanity...not sure how it tastes, but I didn't buy it to smell or eat it, but as reference. 8 of 25 people found the following review helpful. A big disappointment! By Virginia R. Wade I looked forward to getting this book as I have Knoll furniture covered in their fabrics. When the book arrived

I was dismayed that Knoll would put its name on such a poor quality product. No doubt the content is thoroughly researched but it is overshadowed by the flaws in the printing. First of all the book smelled so terrible I couldn't even take it out of the box. Even today two months later it has an unpleasant odor. The quality of the paper itself is poor which doesn't lend itself to reproducing even reasonable photos of their fabulous fabrics. Then to top it off the edge printing has been cut off in the trimming. Needless to say I am extremely disappointed. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous Insight into a Design Icon By Lou This well researched book travels through the timeline of one of America's leading 20th century creative firms. Thank you for recounting this historical evolution for posterity.

In 1940, Hans Knoll founded a company in New York that soon earned a reputation for its progressive line of furniture. Florence Schust joined the firm and helped establish its interior design division, the Knoll Planning Unit. In 1947, the year after their marriage, Hans and Florence Knoll added a third division, Knoll Textiles, which brought textile production in line with a modern sensibility that used color and texture as primary design elements. In the early years, the company hired leading proponents of modern design as well as young, untried designers to create textile patterns. The division thrived in the late 1940s through 1960s and, in the following decade, adopted a more international outlook as design direction shifted to Europe. In the late 1970s and 1980s, Knoll tapped fashion designers and architects to bolster its brand. The pioneering use of new materials and a commitment to innovative design have remained Knoll's hallmarks to the present day. With essays by experts, biographies of about eighty designers, and images of textiles, drawings, furniture, and ephemera, *Knoll Textiles, 1945-2010* is the first comprehensive study devoted to a leading contributor to modern textile design. Highlighting the individuals and ideas that helped shape Knoll Textiles over the years, this book brings the Knoll brand and the role of textiles in the history of design to the forefront of public attention.

A stunning, brick-size compilation of little-known and rarely seen materials, . . . The book's design is mesmerizing . . . Graphically, *Knoll Textiles* bridges the divide between scholarship and enjoyment. Steven Heller, *New York Times Book*