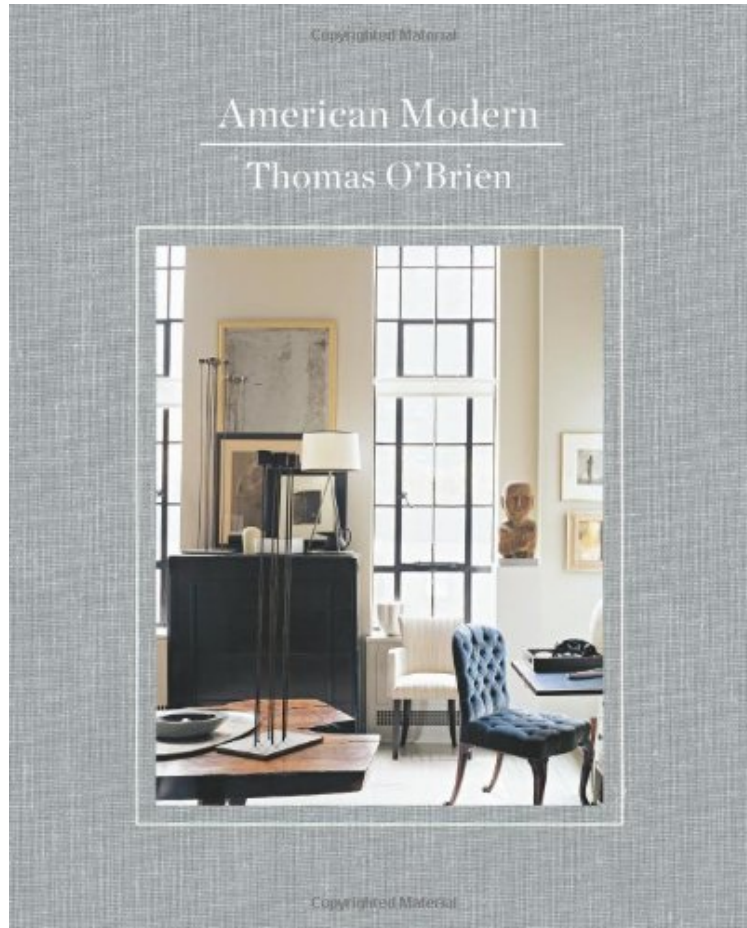


## American Modern

*Thomas O'Brien, Lisa Light*  
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#567519 in Books Harry N. Abrams 2010-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 11.00 x 1.25 x 9.50l, 3.32 #File Name: 0810984784240 pages | File size: 47.Mb

**Thomas O'Brien, Lisa Light : American Modern** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Modern:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. If you like Vicente Wolf's aesthetic, you will like this. By J. Crocker Not exactly 100% what I expected, (I was thinking more of 'modernism') ... but am not disappointed. Thomas O'Brien's work is virtually indistinguishable from Vicente Wolf's. If you like very clean interiors that still have character, and if you like lots of white rooms with dark accents, reserved use of color, selective use of antiques, etc..... then this is for you. O'Brien's 'modern' is really a super-cleaned up, pared down interpretation of a traditional sensibility. Cover photo is typical. I would buy this if it were twice the price... (but it also happens so suit my taste.) If you love lots of color and pattern, then give it a miss. Have not read much of text, so can't comment on that. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thomas O'Brien is my new favorite designer By P. J. Thornton Most design books I breeze through rather quickly, looking for at least one or two great ideas and perhaps a smattering of some 'ok' ideas. Most design books offer a fairly non-practical take of that designer's point of view. Bedside table too low, too

high, too far away, no clock. You know how it is, if you read as many design books as I do, pretty pictures but not very practical. It took me a MONTH to complete this book. It became my nightly-before-bedtime-much-looked-forward-to ritual. I devoured it, soaked up every word, every picture, every detail of every picture. Thomas O'Brien offers whole-house pictures and commentary on his and his client's renovations, not just one room but the WHOLE-HOUSE!! LOVE that! But, while B-E-A-U-T-I-F-U-L, the homes contain personal collections that are DEFINITELY NOT cookie-cutter. The homes reflect the designer AND the owner. I LOVE how he collected items for YEARS in the hopes of one day having a place, the right place, to showcase them all. THAT is determination! His storage costs must have been ginormous! I've not had the luxury or determination to keep all the things I've loved and collected over the years - just no room. I live in a plain (read:boring), modest, post-WWII, two-bedroom apartment that has spilled out into a California-open-to-the-sky courtyard and carport storage boxes. Plus, frankly, and thankfully, my tastes have changed drastically over the years. I grew into good taste in furnishings. I remember the day when I swore, NO MORE IKEA!! Thomas had the foresight to KNOW what would work well years later when he furnished his dream home and dream apartment with his collections. His stuff is timeless. How can stuff you collected 20 years ago still be considered 'modern'? Simply put, the man has impeccable taste, albeit practical. It's real living, not just pretty pictures. This is the kind of design book I will READ again and again. Thomas is gifted and thankfully has shared his gift with the world. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. my favorite designer's inspirational book By evelyni have watched thomas o'brien in decorator magazines for many, many years. i love his sense of design and style. i especially love his use of old things, from fine antiques to junk, mixed in with more modern elements. we own mostly old things, and am trying to figure out how to mix in some contemporary stuff so my house doesn't look like grandma's place. this book has a full continuum of traditional to modern rooms that are inspiring me to make my house more interesting. wonderful book--thank you to everyone involved!

Designer and merchant, collector and tastemaker, Thomas OBrien has made a career of translating cool notions of modernism into an easy and generous array of modern styles that anyone can attain. Now he introduces readers to a range of those styles from casual to formal, vintage to urban alongside stunning photography and charming design stories. OBrien carefully describes the design process of his chosen projects, including a downtown New York City loft, a traditional Connecticut estate, and a converted schoolhouse in eastern Long Island. Each home explores a view on the modern design spectrum he has created, as well as the individual choices that make the design unique and its mix essentially American. He explains not only what was at work to create a given style, but how readers can import those practices to their own homes and personal design sensibilities. Important design principles such as architectural authenticity, color relationships, correctness of scale, and informed collecting are threaded through a practical narrative that reads like a master class in interior design. American Modern is an inspiring design volume that will redefine the way readers think about modern interiors.