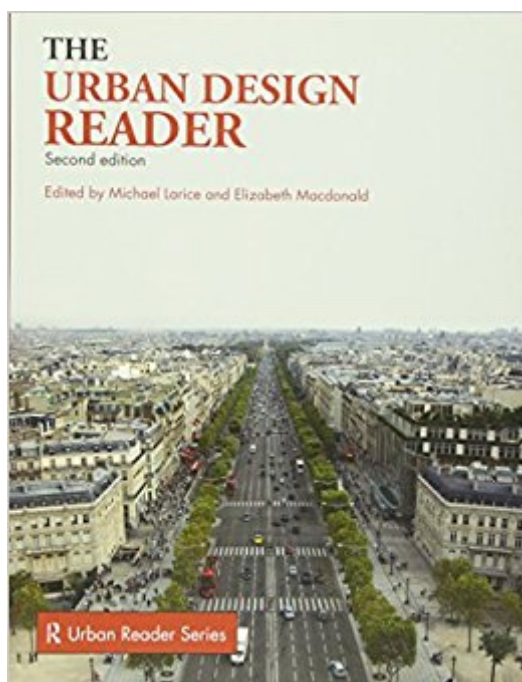


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# The Urban Design Reader (Routledge Urban Reader Series)



## Synopsis

The second edition of *The Urban Design Reader* draws together the very best of classic and contemporary writings to illuminate and expand the theory and practice of urban design. Nearly 50 generous selections include seminal contributions from Howard, Le Corbusier, Lynch, and Jacobs to more recent writings by Waldheim, Koolhaas, and Sorkin. Following the widespread success of the first edition of *The Urban Design Reader*, this updated edition continues to provide the most important historical material of the urban design field, but also introduces new topics and selections that address the myriad challenges facing designers today. The six part structure of the second edition guides the reader through the history, theory and practice of urban design. The reader is initially introduced to those classic writings that provide the historical precedents for city-making into the twentieth century. Part Two introduces the voices and ideas that were instrumental in establishing the foundations of the urban design field from the late 1950s up to the mid-1990s. These authors present a critical reading of the design professions and offer an alternative urban design agenda focused on vital and lively places. The authors in Part Three provide a range of urban design rationales and strategies for reinforcing local physical identity and the creation of memorable places. These selections are largely describing the outcomes of mid-century urban design and voicing concerns over the placeless quality of contemporary urbanism. The fourth part of the Reader explores key issues in urban design and development. Ideas about sprawl, density, community health, public space and everyday life are the primary focus here. Several new selections in this part of the book also highlight important international development trends in the Middle East and China. Part Five presents environmental challenges faced by the built environment professions today, including recent material on landscape urbanism, sustainability, and urban resiliency. The final part examines professional practice and current debates in the field: where urban designers work, what they do, their roles, their fields of knowledge and their educational development. The section concludes with several position pieces and debates on the future of urban design practice. This book provides an essential resource for students and practitioners of urban design, drawing together important but widely dispersed writings. Part and section introductions are provided to assist readers in understanding the context of the material, summary messages, impacts of the writing, and how they fit into the larger picture of the urban design field.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Every practitioner of "everyday urbanism" should keep the Urban Design Reader close at hand. It renews inspiration; it offers fresh insights; it clarifies the essential principles of urban design. I see it as the foundation text for all that we do in shaping our cities. It is simply invaluable." Larry Beasley, Distinguished Practice Professor of Planning, SCARP, University of British Columbia, Canada.

"Selecting a list of key texts in urban design from amongst the host of possibilities available will never be an easy task; but in this carefully chosen selection, Larice and Macdonald balance the foundational classics of the discipline with valuable contemporary contributions that demonstrate the continuing evolution and vitality of urban design." Matthew Carmona, Professor of Planning and Urban Design, The Bartlett School, University College London.

Michael Larice is Associate Professor of Urban Design and City Planning at the University of Utah's College of Architecture and Planning. He is a licensed architect, planner, and urban designer. Elizabeth Macdonald is Associate Professor of Urban Design in the Departments of City and Regional Planning and Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning in the University of California at Berkeley's College of Environmental Design. She is a licensed architect and a principal in the San Francisco-based firm Jacobs Macdonald: Cityworks.

Very compelling content. A good read!

This is a must have book for those who love urban design. It consists of classic, fundamental and

forward thinking essays on urban design.

The kindle version does not have page numbers just locations which makes it difficult for citations and references.

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