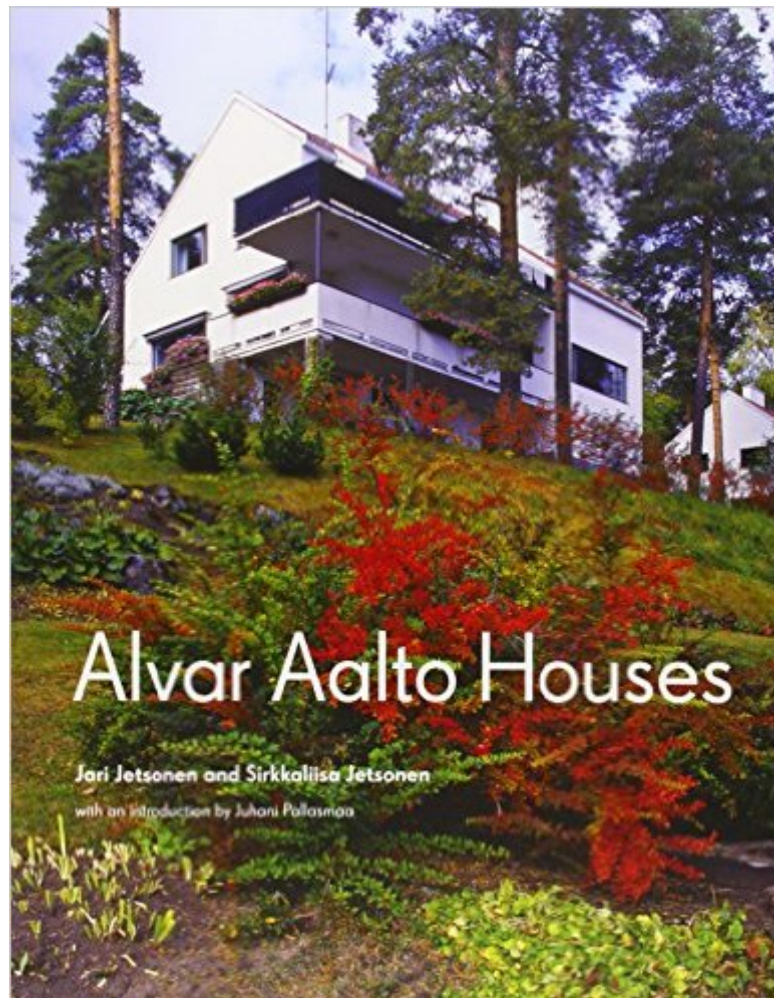


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# Alvar Aalto Houses



## Synopsis

During the course of a career spanning more than fifty years, Finnish architect and designer Alvar Aalto (1898-1976) designed nearly one hundred single-family houses. Aalto, also known for his furniture and glassware, worked in a distinctive style that blended modernism and traditional vernacular architecture. Now available in paperback, *Alvar Aalto Houses* presents twenty-six of Aalto's innovative residences—from small summer homes and postwar standardized housing to large housing complexes for industrial commissions—built between the 1920s and the 1960s.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I had been a fan of Aalto's work since college but this book which focuses only on the housing, is another piece of the picture. If you spend the time to read, you see how his work also reflected the historic and economic times of the 20th century--times when materials were in short supply after WWII or the absence of work during the Depression, the need to relocate Finns in large numbers after the Iron Curtain came down. It also shows Aalto's evolution from Scandinavian classicism to modernism. I would have gone for 5 stars but I wished at times for a few more floor plans, some more exterior shots describing the projects a bit better, but I also liked the interior shots that were honestly not staged, and in one case included a standard reclining chair amidst Aalto designed seating, or one with frilly lace curtains taming the lines of a modern interior. The spaces looked lived in as well as designed and this reflected the humanity of the man.

A very beautiful look inside the work of a great architect. For those who are precisely interested in Alvar Aalto projects for houses, I haven't found a better book yet.

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