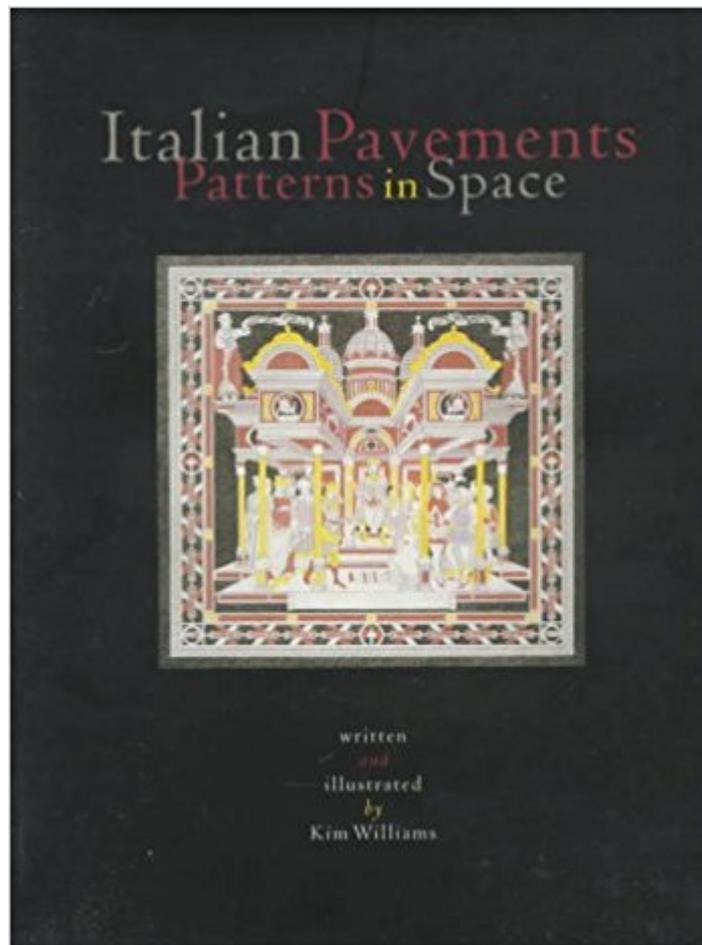


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# Italian Pavements: Patterns In Space



## Synopsis

Precious, brilliantly colored stones arranged by skilled artisans in intricate patterns that follow the designs of master architects have been an important aspect of Italian architecture for centuries. In this book, Kim Williams provides a detailed overview of these beautifully designed pavements. From the second-century Pantheon in Rome to the twentieth-century Santa Maria Novella train station in Florence, Williams traces the evolution of pavement design, points to characteristic design elements of each age, and explains the various techniques and materials used. Analyzing the pavements in relationship to their particular architectural context, she shows how these designs heighten the architectural experience and provide a key to understanding architects' intentions. Williams also offers an in-depth analysis of individual pavements in order to shed light on the proportional systems, geometric constructions, symbolism and historical sources for the design. Through her accurately measured, exquisitely rendered drawings of the pavements, many of which have never before been documented, these pavements are given their full due as architecture and craft.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This stunning look into pavement design of the past 2000 years is brilliantly executed--from the detailed drawings to the in-depth analysis of mathematical principles and design principles/patterns, this book is a treat for my eyes and my mind. In working on my PhD in the stone and paving methods of Rome (and beyond), I've found Ms. Williams book fills a hole in academia left vacant for far too long. You love architecture/history/church building/math/ or design? You must have this gorgeous gift.

Wonderfully conceived, researched and illustrated, this is a book which beautifully answers some of the fundamental questions as to the why and how of paving. When I walk through the majestic spaces mentioned in Ms. Williams book I will do so with my curious eyes glued to the ground for a change. Truly a fantastic book; a good read be it for the layman or as a much needed point of reference for the learnãd. The illustrations are almost as good as being there.

I remember this book while in graduate school, and it still is an amazing volume to look at. For anyone studying floor patterns and decorative interior design work, this is a must have. Beautifully illustrated, and very inspiring to look through.

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