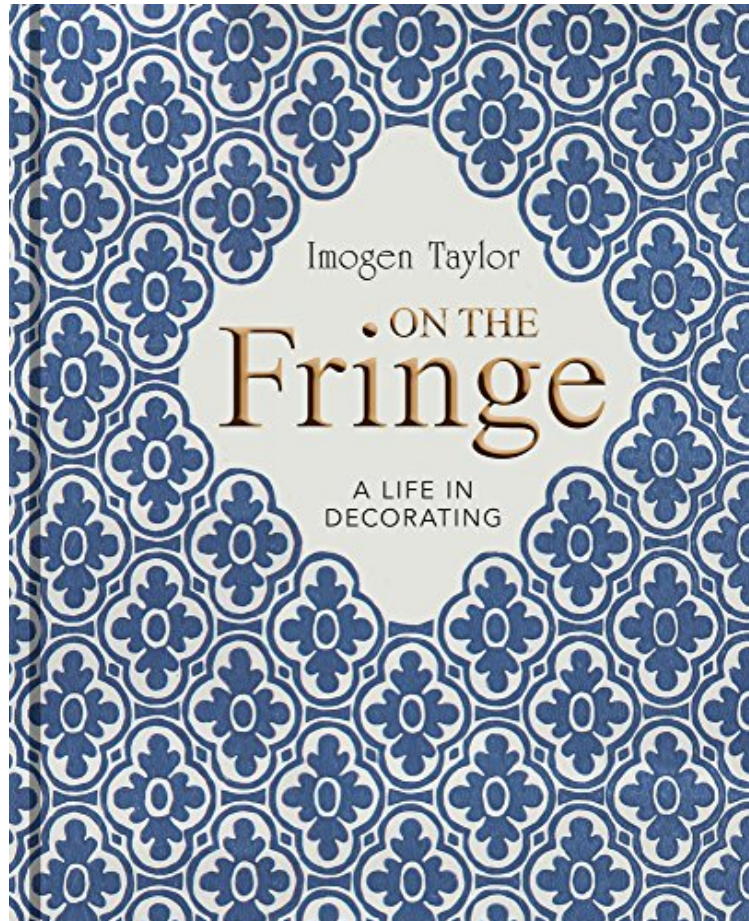


(Pdf free) On the Fringe: A Life in Decorating

## On the Fringe: A Life in Decorating

*Imogen Taylor*

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**Imogen Taylor : On the Fringe: A Life in Decorating** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised On the Fringe: A Life in Decorating:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What a great book; love the history of Imogen TaylorBy GranWhat a great book; love the history of Imogen Taylor, she writes in such a friendly way that you feel you really know her. So interesting to learn all about her famous clients and the work at Colefax and Fowler. A wonderful book.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ... look at a very talented designer taught by the best.By CustomerA rewarding look at a very talented designer taught by the best.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Omogen Taylor is a genius!By Christopher CusumanoAbsolutely superb book on someone who was born to do what she did so very well!

If John Fowler wasin the words of the late Duchess of Devonshirethe Prince of Decorators, and Nancy Lancaster undoubted doyenne of English country house style, Imogen Taylor was their crown princess. She joined interior

design firm Colefax and Fowler in 1949 and when John retired in 1971 he passed on to her all his clients. Until she retired in 1999 she was, along with Tom Parr, the firm's principal decorator. This book combines style bible with social memoir. Imogen Taylor brings a sharp eye and ready wit not only to decorating style but also to the social history of the latter part of the 20th century. Here you will learn about how fabric walling was done, how the famous "12 different whites" were applied, how to oil gild, how the passementerie was made for Buckingham Palace and Windsor, about Bessarabian carpets and trompe l'oeil painting, and Nancy Lancaster's broderie anglaise lamp shades, "like a child's skirt or a ball dress." You will also find the Duchess of Windsor dismissing the Duke ("David, you're not needed go and buy some brushes or something"), Harry Hyams' reluctance to sign checks ("It's like spilling my own blood!"), John Fowler in a tantrum yelling at the Duchess of Cornwall (she was a girl assistant at the time, not a client), and Imogen being summoned to Howletts because "a young Siberian tiger, who had been in bed with Aspinall and his wife, had ripped down the silk hangings on the inside of their canopy bed."

"Forget taupe - her colourful, Mitford-esque romp through the great houses of Britain and North America gives great insight into her eye for detail and passion for craftsmanship, and tells the tale of friendships built over a lifetime of decorating. Her wit, charm and amusing observations flow through the book." *House and Garden* "As sharp as an upholsterer's tack, Miss Taylor worked at Colefax for 50 years and offers a rare account of a lost world...As well as unflagging aperçus, [she] gives a warm account of the craftspeople she worked with, many of whose intricate trades are now lost. Here is a woman with a great appetite for life." -- Philippa Stockley *Country Life* "... the reader gets a crash course in the technicalities of fabric walling, oil gilding and designing passementerie for Buckingham Palace. Tidbits about clients make *On the Fringe* a lively read, an autobiography well up to this newish publisher's high standards." *World of Interiors* "This charming illustrated memoir shows a designer's inventiveness, but is also a social history with delightful aperçus about working with royalty, people of discernment and their beautiful things." *The Lady* About the Author Imogen Taylor joined Colefax and Fowler in 1949. From John Fowler's 1971 retirement until her own in 1999, she was, along with Tom Parr, the firm's principal decorator.