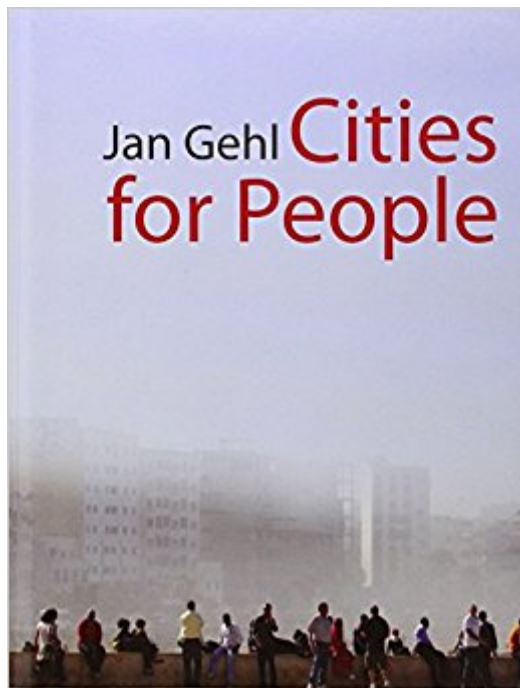The book was found

Cities For People

Synopsis

For more than forty years Jan Gehl has helped to transform urban environments around the world based on his research into the ways people actually useÃ¢â¬â•or could useÃ¢â¬â•the spaces where they live and work. In this revolutionary book, Gehl presents his latest work creating (or recreating) cityscapes on a human scale. He clearly explains the methods and tools he uses to reconfigure unworkable cityscapes into the landscapes he believes they should be: cities for people. Taking into account changing demographics and changing lifestyles, Gehl emphasizes four human issues that he sees as essential to successful city planning. He explains how to develop cities that are Lively, Safe, Sustainable, and Healthy. Focusing on these issues leads Gehl to think of even the largest city on a very small scale. For Gehl, the urban landscape must be considered through the five human senses and experienced at the speed of walking rather than at the speed of riding in a car or bus or train. This small-scale view, he argues, is too frequently neglected in contemporary projects. In a final chapter, Gehl makes a plea for city planning on a human scale in the fast-growing cities of developing countries. A Ã¢â¬Å"Toolbox,Ã¢â¬Â• presenting key principles, overviews of methods, and keyword lists, concludes the book. The book is extensively illustrated with over 700 photos and drawings of examples from GehlÃ¢â¬â„¢s work around the globe.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review. In this fascinating look inside the key architectural factors that determine a city's livability, award-winning Danish architect and author Gehl (Public Spaces, Public Life) examines the

factors he deems essential to a successful city. Not surprisingly, places designed without good room for safe walking and biking lead to a sedentary life "behind steering wheel and computer screen." A "lively" city, on the other hand, "counters the trend for people to withdraw into gated communitiesÃ¢â¬Â| serving a democratic function where people encounter social diversity." It's in examining architecture's psychological effects that Gehl truly shines; public spaces without comfortable seating and properly-scaled "talkscapes" evoking Italian piazzas enact a high human toll and greatly impact how the city functions at eye-level. Soaring, dehumanizing architecture has a diminishing effect on the individual, creating a shocking "high-rise" in crime rates. Even those without a professional interest in architecture will be fascinated by the assertions, like "slow traffic means lively cities," that Gehl makes. Coming to the conclusion that "a good city is like a good party: guests stay because they are enjoying themselves," Gehl keeps his latest effort engaging from start to finish. Illus. (Sept.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved.

"This book elaborates on many of Gehl's seminal ideas, examines some of the world's cities that have successfully improved over the last few decades, and states the challenges for the future. Many generations will lead happier lives and cities will be more competitive if their leaders heed his advice." (Enrique PeÃƒÂ alosa, former Mayor of BogotÃƒÂ¡, Colombia)"Jan Gehl continues to astonish us with his insight into what really makes cities work. He has a global reach in this book based on work he has done in Europe, Australia, and America with comparative data on how pedestrians use public spaces. The deep appeal is how quickly he has been able to assist some cities in turning their traffic-riddled streets into havens for people." (Peter Newman, Professor of Sustainability, Curtin University, Australia)"Jan Gehl's new manifestoÃ¢â¬Â|Pages will be dog-eared, margins annotatedÃ¢â¬Â| accessibly deployed framework of research and a logical, lucid framework for all the telling details and surprising data. The book organizes a set of observations that will strike some readers as obvious, others as radical, but practically all as convincing, revealing how deeply grounded Gehl's system is in common sense. This kind of synthesis is no small task, and Gehl performs it with aplomb." (ArchNewsNow)"If Cities for People is widely read and widely applied, the world's urban life will be immeasurably better." (New Urban News)"Fascinating guide on how to create cities that local residents fall in love with, rather than simply put up with." (Shareable: Cities)"Jan Gehl's most recent bookÃ¢â¬â•Cities for PeopleÃ¢â¬â•brought with it a lot of excitement and expectations. With a track record like his, however, it comes as no surprise that Gehl's strong perspective, clear prose and rigorous research is not a disappointment. Continuing his quest to secure the importance of the human

experience as a top priority when planning and designing cities, Cities for People is a succinct collection of his experience and lessons to-date. Ultimately, Cities for People is one of those books that everybodyâ¢â ¬â •no matter what level you are in the industryâ¢â ¬â •is bound to learn from. Clear and accessible, it's a must-read for students and early practitioners of planning, architecture, and landscape design, as well as anybody interested creating humane pedestrian cities. If one hasn't read any of Gehl's previous books, this is also a great place to start." (Re:place Magazine)"In his well-illustrated and accessible new book, Cities for People, Jan Gehl fills in the missing link in modern planning: how human beings actually function and respond to the built environment." (Planning)"Jan Gehl's book constitutes part of a worldview; it embodies a fundamental re-orientation in the way that we regard and adopt knowledge about the behaviour of individuals and communities in the development of our cities." (Urban Design)"...fascinating...Gehl keeps his latest effort engaging from start to finish." (Publishers Weekly, starred review)"Jan Gehl is our greatest observer of urban quality and an indispensable philosopher of cities as solutions to the environmental and health crises that we face. With over half the world's population now in urban areas, the entire planet needs to learn the lessons he offers in Cities for People." (Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Transportation)

Overall this is a great book, a great addition to anyone's architecture/planning library and also is also great for people who just getting into the field of planning.The problem, however is the fact is that it is basically a repetition of everything what has already been said in another timeless book by Jan Gehl "Life Between Buildings". I am very fond of all the work produced by Jan Gehl, and in the end I do not regret buying this book, but it is disappointing to see how little afford was actually put into it. Even some of the pictures are directly taken from his other books. In the end, I want to give it a 5 star review, because it is nevertheless a great book, especially for anybody who is not familiar with other books by Jan Gehl, but I have to give a 3 star review, because it is really a sort new edition of Life Between Buildings. At the same time Life Between Buildings provides a far more detailed analysis about public spaces and its social dimension and is just way more engaging, and I would recommend buying it before Cities for People.

If you are interested in how to shape cities that take into account the human scale, this book is for you. The Foreword, the Preface, the Six Chapters, the Toolbox and even the Appendix, give the reader a comprehensive approach in relation to how to understand, to study and to shape the built environment from the standpoint of the people who inhabit it. A must read for architects, urban

designers, urban planners and landscape architects (both students and professionals).

I received the book fresh off the press, and the book was filled with fresh ideas about how we design our cities.Gehl has been in the field of architecture and urban design for a long time now. Through "Cities for People" Gehl shares his knowledge and wisdom that he has acquired through out the years. As a student intending to be an architecture, reading this book completely changed what I thought being an architecture was about.Who should read this book?City Politicians - Read this book and better understand your citizens.Architectures and Urban Planners - Obviously people in the design field should read it. I believe every student would greatly benefit, I know I did.Citizens! - Yes, I believe citizens should read this book. For those that live in cities improve your voice in city policy by having an understand of how cities work at the human level, your level. For those that don't live in the city, it will make a well design city a place you desire to live.Key Concepts-The most prominent concept in the book is viewing the city through the human perspective. In the past several decades, since the automobile has dominated city life, architecture and urban spaces have been created for the fast pace of the automobile. Buildings are bigger, with less details. Urban spaces are far too large to be enjoyable. Gehl argues that urban planners and architects must begin to view design from a bottom up perspective, from instead of a top down perspective.-Pictures-- Reading Gehl's book was an experience. I did not read the book from front to back. I continually flipped ahead to look at the wonderful pictures, to return back and re read a paragraph I just read. Without the pictures in the book, "Cities for People" would be a dull experience. However, there are many pictures used to emphasize certain points. Gehl could have thrown tons of numbers at you(which he does have plenty of statistical data), instead he shows you the difference between a car friendly street and a pedestrian friendly street. He shows how a long street with no windows or lights scares people away, compared to a street with open shops and outdoor cafes have an exuberant human interaction.-Walking, Bicycling ,Staying and Meeting -- Most of the book focuses on getting more people walking and bicycling as means of transportation. Walking and Cycling can also lead to staying in urban spaces and meeting people.Table of Contents (Chapter Titles)1. The Human Dimension2. Senses and Scale3. The lively, safe, sustainable, and healthy city4. The city at eye level5. Life, space, buildings -- in that order6. Developing citiesThe only criticism I have with the book is that Gehl focuses entirely on out door space. Most of what he tells us should apply to indoors, but it would be nice if Gehl took his ideas into the buildings not just outside.A Great Architect and another great book. Worth every page turn.

used this for a class I took and it was very useful.

A handbook every architect and planner should read.

Absolute must-have for anyone interested in urban planning, or life... Actually, everyone should read this book. Beautiful illustrations and photos. Gehl is fantastic at breaking down the importance of how we design the places where we live and how to make better places for living!

This is th definitive work on urban design. Beautifully illustrated, extremely well written. Anyone involed in urban planning should be familiar with this book.

I am still reading it. What strikes me most is that it is very pictorial and you know: a good image .... Enjoying every bit. Recommendable for students.

Imaginary Cities: A Tour of Dream Cities, Nightmare Cities, and Everywhere in Between Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously: Economic Development, the Environment, and Quality of Life in American Cities (American and Comparative Environmental Policy) 50 Cities of the U.S.A.: Explore America's cities with 50 fact-filled maps (The 50 States) Ancient Maya Cities of the Eastern Lowlands (Ancient Cities of the New World) *OP Cities of Darkness 2 LA Berlin (The Cities of Darkness Series , Vol 2) Acropolis: Ancient Cities (Ancient Cities (Artmedia)) Visible Cities Budapest (Visible Cities Guidebook series) Visible Cities Vienna (Visible Cities Guidebook series) Rand McNally Streets of Quad Cities Illinois/ Iowa (Rand McNally Folded Map: Cities) "Fitness for Middle Aged People: 40 Powerful Exercises to Make People over 40 Years Old Healthy and Fit!" (Diets and fitness for people over 40 years old) How To Analyze People: How To Read People And Master Human Psychology In Less Than One Day (Body Language, People Skills, Human Mind Book 1) How to Analyze People: Human Psychology Read People Instantly, Read Body Language and Know What People Want, How to Read Minds People's History of Sports in the United States: 250 Years of Politics, Protest, People, and Play (New Press People's History) Cities for People The Travel Detective Flight Crew Confidential: People Who Fly for a Living Reveal Insider Secrets and Hidden Values in Cities and Airports Around the World People of the Deer (Death of a People) Learn to Paint People Quickly: A practical, step-by-step guide to learning to paint people in watercolour and oils (learn quickly) Sports Science for Young People Sports Science for Young People How to Use Graphic Design to Sell Things, Explain Things, Make Things Look Better, Make

People Laugh, Make People Cry, and (Every Once in a While) Change the WorldÃ Â Queer America: A People's GLBT History of the United States (New Press People's History)