

Ask *the* Experts



Pride of Persia Rug Co.

Persian Rugs

What is the best way to learn about rugs?

Learning about rugs is an endless quest. It depends on your desire, time and effort combined with a methodical approach. There is something magical about rugs, and learning about them can become addictive. Getting started can be frustrating because the field is so vast. Specialization is the key to getting the most from your efforts. Many books are available on the subject and plenty of information is on the Internet. Be careful of the source. Some books are simply catalogs for certain dealers. While Web sites can be very useful, not all of them are reliable. Nothing replaces the knowledge gained by seeing and touching rugs and talking to experts in the field.

For more than 15 years, we have taught a course entitled, "The World of Persian Rugs" through Rice University's Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. Our approach is academic and hands-on. Students learn what makes a good rug, how to identify types of Persian rugs, how to care for rugs and how to navigate the marketplace. The next class begins Tuesday, September 16th. It meets for eight evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Participants include amateurs, designers and connoisseurs. Register through Rice at 713-348-4803 or www.gscs.rice.edu.

For more than a decade, Mehdi Abedi and Lisa Slaphey have taught "The World of Persian Rugs" through Rice University's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies. They are the owners of Pride of Persia Rug Co., which specializes in older Persian rugs along with high-quality newer rugs from around the world.

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