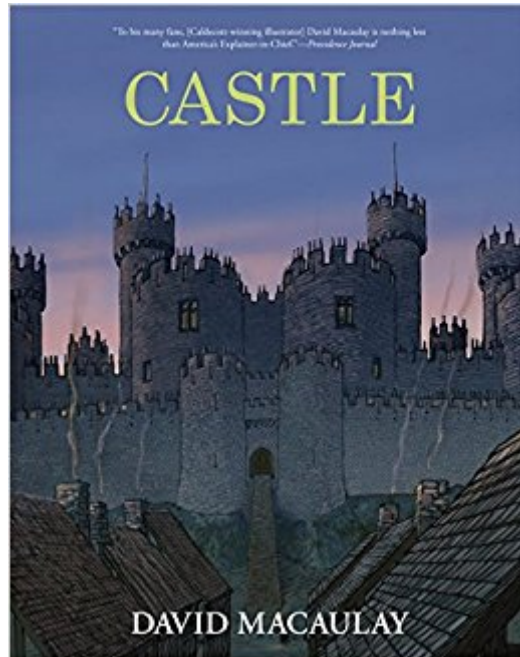




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Castle: Revised And In Full Color



Synopsis

• To his many fans, David Macaulay is nothing less than America's Explainer-in-Chief. •

"Providence Journal In this first-ever standalone full-color edition, Castle is lavishly reborn in digitally finished drawings rendered with felt-tip markers and colored pencils. Factual and artistic details shine in light of newly researched information. With characteristic zest and wit, David Macaulay retraces the planning and construction of Lord Kevin's fictional castle. Architecture enthusiasts of all ages will marvel at the staggering possibilities of human imagination and ingenuity."

Book Information

Hardcover: 80 pages

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Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #121,097 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #36 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Architecture #39 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Medieval #61 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > How Things Work

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

After a conversation about favorite books from childhood, my girlfriend got online and pre-ordered both this and Cathedral for me. I have to admit I was a little concerned that a colored version would be missing some critical aspect of the gritty black and white original - that it wouldn't be the same. It's not the same, of course, but it is a brilliant, loving reincarnation. It's not exactly the same, plate for plate, with color added - the dark image of the abandoned ruins at the end of the book is missing, for instance, but it's a beautiful re-telling of the story. I love it. :) All the educational information remains, of course. As I sat and re-read it, I felt such a great sense of nostalgia at how very much I learned about castles and medieval life from a book with such a young target age. It

was easily graspable when I was in elementary school, and I kept on loving and learning from it, even through high school, when I was re-absorbing it as a means of improving my own illustration - and Macaulay's influence on my illustration style is still quite visible today, in my 40's, I'd think. If you're looking for wonderful memories, or you're looking for a book that will do wonders to spark the curiosity and imagination in a child, this is the one.

Macaulay's original "Castle" was named a 1978 Caldecott Honor medal winner and detailed the building of a castle in Wales in the late 1200s; this colorized edition is a worthy revision. Looking at the books side by side, the changes are not just in the application of color but also in the details of the illustrations. The first page previously showed a sailing ship under full sail, travelling on a fairly calm sea; the new edition includes dark clouds, whitecaps on larger waves, and a crew member getting sick over the side of the boat. The color illustrations seem to show more detail, as in the page about the gatehouses and the numerous ways their openings could be blocked from intruders and the fine illustration of how a drawbridge works. The text has been changed a bit as well; it is less "wordy" and more to the point. The book concludes with a glossary. Well done!

Past fans of David Macaulay's *Castle* will not be disappointed in this new, updated and revised full-color version of that classic. Readers who have never been introduced will also love this great new rendition. *Castle* tells the story of a fictional English castle being built in hostile Welsh territory around the 1277 AD, based on the construction of several real castles of the same period. Step-by-step, the castle's construction is followed in clear, explanatory text, perfectly matched to the detailed drawings, with sometimes cutaway and sometimes bird's-eye views which bring the stages of construction to life. As the castle grows, the accompanying town grows too, to support the castle workers and add an extra layer of protection to the castle. Readers get a sense not only of how the castle is constructed, but also of what life would have been like for the workers, townspeople, and castle denizens, both during construction and during a siege in a castle employing all the latest innovations for defense and comfort. Upper-middle-grade readers will find this accessible, factual and fun; younger children will enjoy the pictures while parents who read it to them will find a great deal to interest them as well. I received a copy from the San Francisco Book Review in return for an honest review. The opinions are entirely my own.

I was desiring a book about castles for my cousin-nephew (son of one of my first cousins) who is about 11 years old as of this writing. My biggest disappointment was this book relied almost

completely upon rather badly-made illustrations without any photographs to speak of. This book appeared to be designed so specifically "for kids" that it didn't succeed in bringing me into the era itself. I found another book about castles and the Middle Ages which had lots of amazing photos, some illustrations, even pictures of castles and court life from medieval codices. Granted a much more sophisticated book but 100 times more compelling than this silly offering. The book in question seemed more like a mediocre grade-school storybook than a book about the Middle Ages. I think this idea that kids can only handle badly drawn pictures to reveal the past is absolutely ludicrous, and no wonder kids are often turned off when presented history. A real disappointment.

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