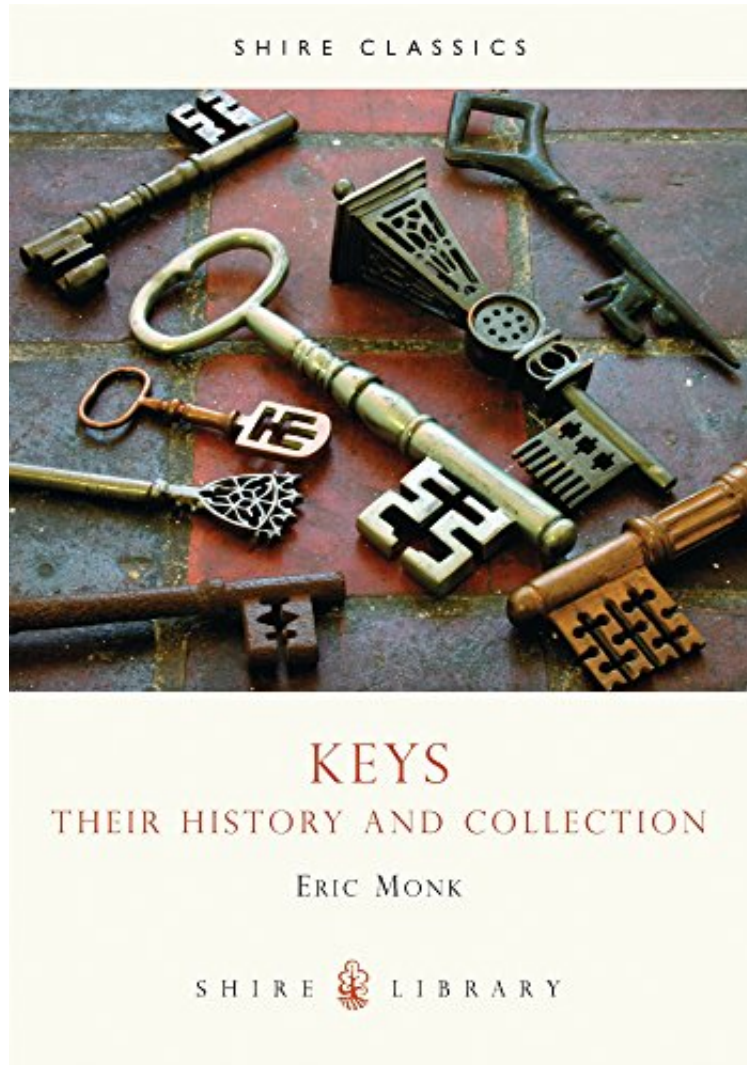


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Keys: Their history and collection (Shire Library)

Eric Monk

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7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. OK, but too shortBy Kelly SagerThis is a nice book, but it is extremely short and lacks any great detail. It does not give very good information about dating keys, and the examples shown are limited. Too much information is given on how various locks work and not enough information on the keys themselves.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One StarBy Friend PittsNot really what I was looking for.0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy paul joyceVery Interesting

The oldest keys known to exist date from around 4,000 BC in Ancient Egypt. These were simple wooden cylinders that were part of a mechanism to secure doors. By the time of the Roman Empire, metal keys were in common usage and had begun to adopt the recognizable pattern of keys today. This book tells the complete story of the key, backed by numerous photos from all time periods. Today, old keys are more than just security mechanisms. They are highly collectable artifacts that can either be artistically beautiful or coldly functional, but either way, they can help us unlock the secrets of the past.

About the Author Following service with the Royal Air Force in the Second World War, Eric Monk joined the building industry, initially as an architectural draughtsman, then as a designer of specialized building products and subsequently in technical sales in the industry. He has now returned to his first interest - the drawing board - and works as a freelance illustrator, mainly of architectural subjects. A founder member of the Society of Architectural Illustration, he operates from his home in the delightful Cotswold village of Minchinhampton, where he enjoys recording with his pen the stone buildings of the area.