

What to look for when buying an oriental rug

- 1) Buy from someone you trust
- 2) Do you like the rug? Will it be attractive in your home? Will it fit in the space for which you intend it?
- 3) Materials
 - a. Wool/ Cotton/ Silk
 - b. Pile
 - c. Dyes
- 4) Is it in good condition?
 - a. Age
 - b. Design & Color
 - c. Completeness (borders/ fringe)
 - d. Cuts (has the rug been reduced in size?)
 - e. Holes/ Repairs (mending can be detected by looking at the back)
 - f. Foundation (should not be brittle)
- 5) Types of rugs
 - a. Court/ Tribal (nomadic/ seminomadic/ workshops)
 - b. Pile/ Kilim
- 6) Pricing
 - a. Is it \$500 or \$5,000? Why?

References:

Liebetrau, Preben, 1962. Oriental Rugs in Colour. MacMillan Publishing Co., New York.

Housego, Jenny, 1978 and 1991. Tribal Rugs. Scorpion Publishing, Ltd., Essex, England.