

William Morris

Quotes

*Art, Men, Design, Thinking, Beautiful, Mean, Flower, Wall, Life, Garden, Two,
House, Real, Matter, Hands, Eye, Memories, Air, Love, Simple*

Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful.

~William Morris

The true secret of happiness lies in taking a genuine interest in all the details of daily life.

~William Morris

Art made by the people for the people, as a joy to the maker and the user.

~William Morris

I am going your way, so let us go hand in hand. You help me and I'll help you. We shall not be here very long ... so let us help one another while we may.

~William Morris

I do not want art for a few any more than education for a few, or freedom for a few.

~William Morris

There is no excuse for doing anything which is not strikingly beautiful.

~William Morris

The past is not dead, it is living in us, and will be alive in the future which we are now helping to make.

~William Morris

Nothing should be made by man's labour which is not worth making, or which must be made by labour degrading to the makers.

~William Morris

History has remembered the kings and warriors, because they destroyed; art has remembered the people, because they created.

~William Morris

No pattern should be without some sort of meaning.

~William Morris

Simplicity of life, even the barest, is not a misery, but the very foundation of refinement.

~William Morris

Artists cannot help themselves; they are driven to create by their nature, but for that nature to truly thrive, we need to preserve the precious habitat in which that beauty can flourish.

~William Morris

What is an artist but a workman who is determined that, whatever else happens, his work shall be excellent?

~William Morris

The wind is not helpless for any man's need, Nor falleth the rain but for thistle and weed.

~William Morris

Give me love and work - these two only.

~William Morris

My work is the embodiment of dreams in one form or another.

~William Morris

I half wish that I had not been born with a sense of romance and beauty in this accursed age.

~William Morris

No man is good enough to be another's master.

~William Morris

So with this Earthly Paradise it is, If ye will read aright, and pardon me,
Who strive to build a shadowy isle of bliss Midmost the beating of the
steely sea.

~William Morris

That talk of inspiration is sheer nonsense; there is no such thing. It is a
mere matter of craftsmanship.

~William Morris

...If our houses, or clothes, our household furniture and utensils are not
works of art, they are either wretched makeshifts, or, what is worse,
degrading shams of better things.

~William Morris

If i were asked to say what is at once the most important production of
Art and the thing most to be longed for, I should answer, A beautiful
House.

~William Morris

We are only the trustees for those who come after us.

~William Morris

O thrush, your song is passing sweet, But never a song that you have
sung Is half so sweet as thrushes sang When my dear love and I were
young.

~William Morris

Don't think too much of style.

~William Morris

I know a little garden close Set thick with lily and red rose, Where I
would wander if I might From dewy dawn to dewy night. And have one
with me wandering.

~William Morris

Late February days; and now, at last, Might you have thought that Winter's woe was past; So fair the sky was and so soft the air.

~William Morris

If we feel the least degradation in being amorous, or merry or hungry, or sleepy, we are so far bad animals & miserable men.

~William Morris

And the deeds that ye do upon this earth, it is for fellowship's sake that ye do them.

~William Morris

If a chap can't compose an epic poem while he's weaving tapestry, he had better shut up, he'll never do any good at all.

~William Morris

Not on one strand are all life's jewels strung.

~William Morris

It is the childlike part of us that produces works of the imagination. When we were children time passed so slow with us that we seemed to have time for everything.

~William Morris

As to the garden, it seems to me its chief fruit is-blackbirds.

~William Morris

Ornamental pattern work, to be raised above the contempt of reasonable men, must possess three qualities: beauty, imagination and order.

~William Morris

Architecture would lead us to all the arts, as it did with earlier mean: but if we despise it and take no note of how we are housed, the other arts

will have a hard time of it indeed.

~William Morris

Apart from the desire to produce beautiful things, the leading passion of my life has been and is hatred of modern civilization.

~William Morris

Free men must live simple lives and have simple pleasures.

~William Morris

A pattern is either right or wrong...it is no stronger than its weakest point.

~William Morris

Slayer of the winter, art thou here again? O welcome, thou that bring'st the summer nigh! The bitter wind makes not the victory vain. Nor will we mock thee for thy faint blue sky.

~William Morris

All rooms ought to look as if they were lived in, and to have so to say, a friendly welcome ready for the incomer.

~William Morris

The greatest foe to art is luxury, art cannot live in its atmosphere.

~William Morris

The heart desires, the hand refrains. The Godhead fires, the soul attains.

~William Morris

A world made to be lost, - A bitter life 'twixt pain and nothing tost.

~William Morris

When Socialism comes, it may be in such a form that we won't like it.

~William Morris

The reward of labour is life. Is that not enough?

~William Morris

By God! I will not tell you more to-day, Judge any way you will - what matters it?

~William Morris

It is for him that is lonely or in prison to dream of fellowship, but for him that is of a fellowship to do and not to dream.

~William Morris

From out the throng and stress of lies, From out the painful noise of sighs, One voice of comfort seems to rise: "It is the meaner part that dies."

~William Morris

If you cannot learn to love real art, at least learn to hate sham art and reject it.

~William Morris

Death have we hated, knowing not what it meant; Life we have loved, through green leaf and through sere, Though still the less we knew of its intent.

~William Morris

Forgetfulness of grief I yet may gain; In some wise may come ending to my pain; It may be yet the Gods will have me glad! Yet, Love, I would that thee and pain I had!

~William Morris

Earth, left silent by the wind of night, Seems shrunken 'neath the gray unmeasured height.

~William Morris

To happy folk
All heaviest words no more of meaning bear
Than far-off
bells saddening the Summer air.

~William Morris

Love is enough: though the world be a-waning,
And the woods have no
voice but the voice of complaining.

~William Morris

Speak but one word to me.

~William Morris

There was a knight came riding by
In early spring, when the roads were
dry; And he heard that lady sing at the noon,
Two red roses across the
moon.

~William Morris

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