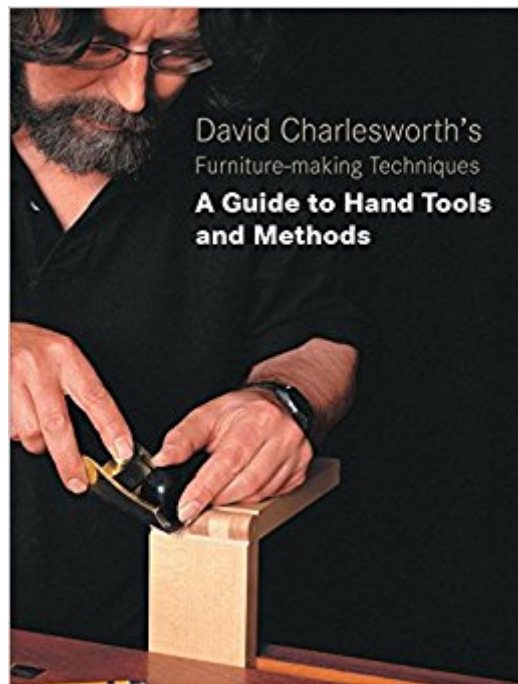




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David Charlesworth's Furniture-Making Techniques: A Guide To Hand Tools And Methods



Synopsis

Woodworkers don't live by power tools alone! With a focus on traditional and modern hand tools, acclaimed craftsman David Charlesworth presents an indispensable guide for all levels and abilities. Lively writing and more than 300 photographs show how to select and use equipment such as chisels, planes and peen hammers to make high-quality furniture. Covering everything from plans for making a spokeshave adjuster to age-old dovetailing techniques and ways to keep tools in top shape, this is the ideal workshop accessory. There's also instruction on finishing techniques, and lots of inspiration and encouragement.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a big fan of David's and I must confess that I was a little disappointed in this book. I also own the first two, and the material there seems much more common and useful. This book includes material such as making a metal plane from a kit. The company that offered the kit is no longer in business, so the material is somewhat less relevant. There is an article on making a spokeshave adjuster for the Boggs shave. In my opinion, this is a solution looking for a problem. A small tap with a hammer like with any wood plane is a simple adjuster for the spokeshave. I just didn't find much of the material useful overall. I guess I would much rather see more material on furniture techniques such as drawer fitting, veneering, dovetailing, and hardware fitting. But I guess this would be a different titled book!

Excellent Book. The chapters on tuning hand planes together with the information on Japanese chisels is superb. The improvements I made to my Record #05 have made the world of difference to it's performance. The chapter on making an ebony spokeshave, using the blade made by Ron Hock certainly made me think. I just wish there was more available from this author.

Bearing in mind that I am a mature adult and bought this book knowing that it is a collection of magazine article reprints, I still found room for disappointment in its lack of woodworking savvy. Generally speaking, glossy page magazines publish two kinds of articles, some imparting genuine how-to information, the second kind is thinly veiled advertisement masquerading as editorial. Unfortunately, Charlesworth's writing in this volume and his Volume II falls into the latter category, highlighting the difficulty of the task and describing the pieces of shiny kit to help bridge your lack of proper apprenticeship and an acceptable workman-like result. On the other hand, it is exactly as it purports: a reprint of successful and popular magazine articles. The photography and print quality are superb, earning one star more than the two stars that I feel it deserves.

This is a great book, although not for the novice or apprentice. David Charlesworth is a master carpenter and his work is excellent. I aspire to become as good as he is some day with lots of practice, but I am limited to small production for my own use only. Regardless, this book has inspired and helped me perfect my technique and I have learned some tricks. Bottom line is, this is a great book from a great master of the trade. I highly recommend it.

His explanations are clear and understandable. I finally was able to successfully edge joint two boards after reading his explanation. I just finished a spokeshave following his instructions, and it works better than any of my store-bought ones! I hope he publishes more books.

This was my first acquaintance with any books from this author. I'll be picking up other books by him. Good stuff!

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