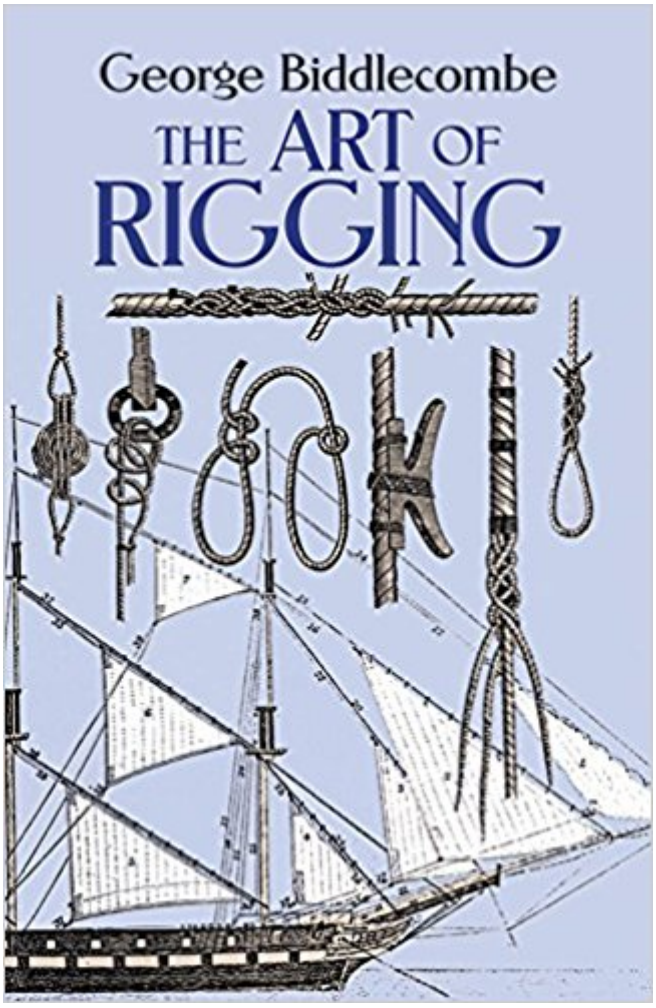
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The Art Of Rigging (Dover Maritime)



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Synopsis

"Few, today, can realize how important was the art of rigging a ship and reeving her gear in the days just old when all aloft was wood and hemp; or how great the part it has played in the building of Empire." Ã¢â ¬â • Introduction.Although mastery of the art of rigging is no longer required on board today's ships, legions of serious model ship builders who wish to rig their ships correctly need to learn the art in miniature. This book is widely considered the best manual ever produced on rigging the sailing ship. It is based on the extensively revised and updated 1848 edition prepared by Captain George Biddlecombe, a Master in the Royal Navy and former merchant seaman. The book is divided into five parts:The First Part contains an alphabetical explanation of terms and phrases used in rigging. The Second Part consists of directions for the performance of operations incidental to rigging and preparing it on shore, with a table of the comparative strength of chain and rope. The Third Part contains the progressive method of rigging ships. The Fourth Part contains a description of reeving the running rigging and bending the sails in addition to the rigging of brigs, yachts, and small vessels. The Fifth Part comprises tables of the quantities and dimensions of the standing and running rigging of ships, brigs, fore-and-aft schooners, and cutters, with the species, size, and number of blocks, hearts, dead-eyes, etc.Serious modelists, naval historians, armchair skippers Ã¢â ¬â • any sailing buff Ã¢â ¬â • will want to own a copy of The Art of Rigging. Complete and wonderfully clear, it is now available in its first inexpensive paperback edition. It belongs in every maritime library.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Now I understand the reviews for how difficult it is to see the small illustrations. In my experience, Dover’s books have normally been double this size and have been a good value. Dover has always been the bargain publisher, but this makes me wonder if they took the still cheaper route to make this smaller to save paper. In this case the value is significantly lessened. Considering the amount of detail that the illustrations are trying to present, it’s a great disservice to reduce them so much.Suggestion: The other extreme is a beautiful book with great illustrations that have the opposite problem of not enough written detail, but it’s a perfect companion for something like this Dover book if you actually want to SEE something, and see it in beautiful, detailed color: Ships and Sailing (DK Visual Dictionaries), here on . If only there was ONE book that combined the best of these two.

George Biddlecombe wrote his manual on ship rigging in 1848, and the current edition is a reprint of the 1925 edition published by The Marine Research Society, in Salem, Massachusetts. By then, the era of sailing ships, whether as a merchant man or men o’ war were fading memories of long-retired sailors and ship captains. Those who wish to understand how those ships operated, whether pursuing their history or engaging in historically accurate model making will want to have a copy of Capt. Biddlecombe’s book is a desk reference because it is a good and accurate dictionary and encyclopedia of how sailing ships were actually rigged and why they were rigged that way. We often hear the expression, "learning the ropes", meaning that the novice sailor was required to learn how each cable, rope, and line was to be used and handled; the same applies to those who wish to learn about these ships and the men who sailed them the world over, and of course, those wanting to re-create those sailing ships in miniature. "Learning the ropes" today means learning the names that sailors used to identify particular types of cordage and the purposes for which each type was used. This book does not replace manual is intended to guide ship modelers in replicating rigging on their ship models; there are quite a few of those around, and they emphasize the technique of making static models, as distinct from understanding what is actually being modeled. Understanding the purpose and functionality of the ropework that Capt. Biddlecombe describes goes a long way toward informing both neophyte and experienced model builders about how a ship’s rigging should appear in scale miniature. All too often, what we know of ship rigging comes from paintings and illustrations done by men who may have known little about the ships they were illustrating on canvas

or paper. The lines they depict become decorative detail meant to suggest shrouds,backstays, preventer stays, and the like. Likewise, plans drawn by draftsmen nowadays may or may not depict the lines of a ship accurately, and even if the hull comes within acceptable dimensions, the masts, yards, and their rigging maybe only suggestive of how they really were. Modelers who aspire to re-creating in miniature sailing ships as they actually were will profit from having this book.Having that knowledge contributes mightily to the manifest and subtle pleasures of making those models as stand-in for the real thing.My only comment by way of criticism would be that I would have preferred that the publisher might have used a larger size format for the engraved illustrations, but that is a minor point.

Generally informative; Biddlecombe gave a useful source book with definitions of things nautical in the age of sail. Alphabetical index near the front and chapter contents lists are helpful in searching out nautical terms. Graphics are disappointing. For example, p.64, Plate IX, one can deduce which is the "Main Stay" using the process of elimination and common sense, but even with a strong magnifier it is impossible to find item number 13 among the ratlines in the ship profile illustration. Profiles of other ships to identify categories are okay since the key details are large, e.g., three masts or two. Knots and deck fittings, splices and pulleys are all covered descriptively.

Tis book is a bit small in the diagrams magnification is needed to read the numbers on the diagrams. However this book is a treasure if you want to know or refer to the names of these lines and what they are used for.it is a treasure. If you are a scale model shipwright you will be able to understand what the to lines are. This book is written in ship lore language and is hard understand without using the dictionary. However it is a great reference especially for model ship building.

I have already wrote my review for this book, and as I explained your service is good ,but the book was certainly no worth . the money. it didn’t’ fulfill my expectations . I was looking for a book that depicted illustrations and termination points for the rigging. the illustrations in this book were too small and blurred. I purposely bought the hard back so I would have goo illustration,, that is why I bought the hardback instead of the kindle.

EXACTLY what I wanted, and at a super-great price to boot! Who could ask for more? Nobody, that’s who!

Illustrations are too small and hard to see detail

This book was a big disappointment. The printing quality is so poor that the index numbers on the drawings are unreadable! I purchased this just out of curiosity, not model building need, but it’s not even suitable for that. The drawings are obviously reprints and it is simply not possible to read the reference numbers on the drawing.Money thrown away.H. Kane

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