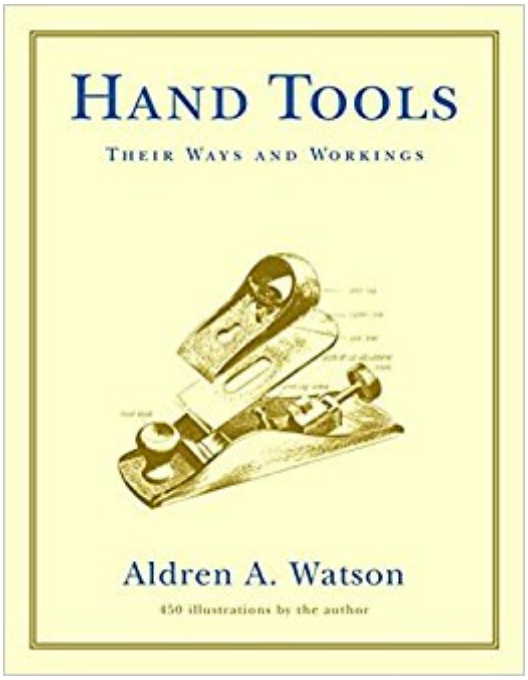
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# Hand Tools: Their Ways And Workings




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## Synopsis

A longtime woodworker’s illustrated guide to the tools of the trade and how to use them. For those who would like to have the benefit of a woodworker’s extensive experience with hand tools, this is the book to own. Crammed with practical information, it is the next best thing to looking over a craftsman’s shoulder as he works with his tools, asking questions and getting straight answers in plain language, seeing how each tool is held and manipulated to get the best work out of it. From bit brace, chisel, and mallet to saws, specialized planes, drawknife, and spokeshave, Aldren Watson describes in detail the actions of the tools basic to good woodworking. All the procedures are explicitly illustrated with handsome line drawings, and an appendix gives plans and dimensions for making a workbench and other necessary pieces of shop equipment. With 450 b/w illustrations by the author.

## Book Information

Series: Their Ways and Workings

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## Customer Reviews

Aldren A. Watson (1917-2013) was an illustrator and designer as well as woodworker. He had written and illustrated many magazine articles and books, including The Blacksmith and Country Furniture, published by Norton. He lived and painted in Vermont and New Hampshire until his death in 2013.

This is the book to fix that. It tells you everything you could possibly need to know about all manner of hand tools. How they actually function, what the 'options' are (as in chisel techniques and bit braces settings for drilling when in a corner) and each with beautiful detailed drawings, no photos. This allows the author to provide partial cut-always etc to show exactly what you need to know. And the author presumes nothing of your current knowledge, which insures he leaves little or nothing out.Can't figure out why that auger bit just doesn't seem to start cutting in that one board? Here you will find out that you likely didn't have quite enough pressure against the bit when started the hole and you stripped the threads created by the lead screw. (I wonder how long it would have taken me to figure that one out)If you feel a little intimidated because the gurus seems to think everybody already knows the basics about these ancient tools, and you don't know all that stuff, then this is the book for you.Buy this book; it will make all the ones you have already bought more valuable.

Taking my first steps into woodworking was both exciting and daunting. Even after completing my first workbench, I realized I didn't know how to use half the tools at the hardware store, or what their intended use even was! Watson's book was like a lighthouse in the fog. Now I know what those tools do, and how to use them safely and effeciently. Of course, it doesn't hurt to take a peek at certain chapters again, before diving into the next project. Aside from its functional aspects, this book is a work of art in and of itself. I enjoy just casually flipping through the pages to admire Watson's fine pencil illustrations of perfect hand tools in play. One of the prized books in my quickly expanding collection.

Excellent book. Illustrations and information were made by the author. Detailed descriptions, including the various types of planes.

Good info book on how to use "non-plugged/battery woodworking tools".

Good book with tons of info. I enjoyed just reading it by the fireplace.

I am just getting started in handcrafted woodworking, and I was looking for a book that described the different tools, what they do, how they are used, and which ones I need (now and down the road). This book was PERFECT in that regard. It is a sort of encyclopedia of tools, with descriptions, very clear and helpful drawings, and loads of information on obtaining and using woodworking hand tools, both individually and as categories (saws, planes, etc.). I strongly recommend this book if you

want detailed information about woodworking hand tools.

Just beginning my adventure in woodworking, this book has done exactly as it claims in the back cover. It feels like I have a readily available experience woodworker in my pocket whenever I have a question about a tool. The explanation is clear like a craftsman would teach his apprentice, and because of this, the obvious question of what tool should I get first and what tool should be my next purchase is easily answered, without actually saying. The drawings make the book almost timeless, not dated by photos, and the diagrams are reminiscent of the technical sketch you may see on a drafting table. I purchased other books along with this, but keep referencing back to this book to answer my questions about what tool do I need for the next part of the job. The writing is easily explanatory and conversational at once, and is quite enjoyable to read. You can either read it in a linear fashion, from front to back, or you can choose the tool you have questions about (from the Table of Contents) and move directly to it to have your question answered.Free bench plans if you've never built a workbench, are included. This is a book that could sell itself if you had a chance to open it up.

As expected

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