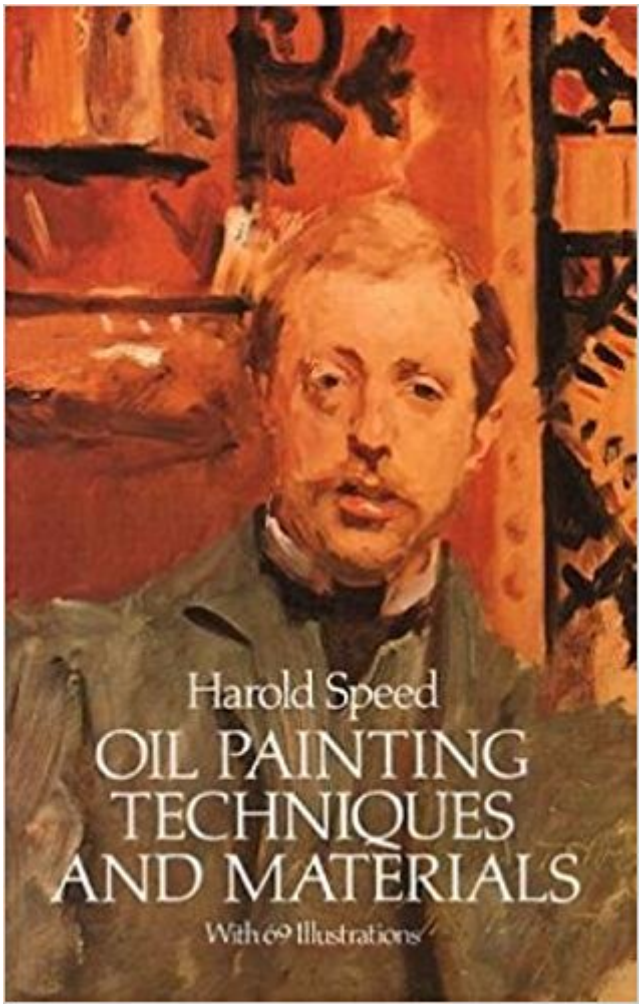
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Oil Painting Techniques And Materials (Dover Art Instruction)



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Synopsis

"In any exhibition of amateur work . . . it is not at all unusual to find many charming water-colour drawings, but . . . it is very rarely that the work in the oil medium is anything but dull, dead, and lacking in all vitality and charm." Ã¢â ¬â • Harold SpeedSuch provocative assertions are characteristic of this stimulating and informative guide, written in a highly personal and unique style by a noted painter and teacher. Brimming with pertinent insights into the technical aspects and painting in oils, it is also designed to help students perfect powers of observation and expression.Harold Speed has distilled years of painting and pedagogical experience into an expert instructional program covering painting technique, painting from life, materials (paints, varnishes, oils and mediums, grounds, etc.), a painter's training, and more. Especially instructive is his extensive and perceptive discussion of form, tone, and color, and a fascinating series of detailed "Notes" analyzing the painting styles of Velasquez, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Franz Hals, and Rembrandt.Nearly 70 photographs and drawings illustrate the text, among them prehistoric cave paintings, diagrams of tonal values, stages of portrait painting, and reproductions of masterpieces by Giotto, Vermeer, Ingres, Rembrandt, Titian, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Hals, Giorgione, Poussin, Corot, Veronese, and other luminaries. In addition to these pictorial pleasures, the author further leavens the lessons with thought-provoking opinion.Clear, cogent, and down-to-earth, this time-honored handbook will especially interest serious amateurs studying the technical aspects of oil painting, but its rich insight into the mind and methods of the artist will enlighten and intrigue any art lover.

Book Information

Series: Dover Art Instruction
Paperback: 368 pages
Publisher: Dover Publications; New Edition edition (December 1, 1987)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0486255069
ISBN-13: 978-0486255064
Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 5.8 x 8.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 72 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #49,379 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Painting > Oil Painting

Customer Reviews

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I've read his work before called, "The Practice & Science of Drawing' many years ago, as I now have it as another reference book in my artist studio's repertoire. I've enjoyed this book so far, as I'm also reading excepts of other books of artists materials & differ techniques as well, so this work is been really great! This is one that I've missed when I purchased a few art books on materials & techniques that I've always wanted to buy, but that was empty on the shelf and missed getting a copy at the bookstore.

not the easiest read, but by far the most enlightening and all encompassing of this genre of books in regard to seeing, composing, growing in your art. Slightly dated in a few passages, completely contemporary in most. Speed makes explicit and validates the self-talk and thinking/questioning processes painters (namely myself!) go through while painting.

Excellent book for both experienced and novice painters. Some of the phrasing of language is a bit odd here and there, but was apparently how they spoke at the time. Nothing confusing really, just a bit awkward. Speed gives good insight to technique and approach, and gives us the subtleties of color theory and paint application that one doesn't find much in contemporary "how-to" books. A good read with good analyses of old master works as well.

Fundamental. One of a handful of the most necessary books on naturalistic painting..cannot underestimate or recommend more highly.

I didn't know what to expect but in previewing several of the pages, I expected to learn something more about another artist's method and I wasn't disappointed. Every artist uses a technique that works for him or her and Speed did a very good job of describing his method very well. I don't necessarily look at when the books are written as I believe all the better artists in any period have something to offer. Speed did very well in this book.

So far one of the best instructional books on painting written in 1913. Too bad there was no colour photography back then.. ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ â¢

Great book that reviews the techniques and materials needed to work in oils.

Too much reading.

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