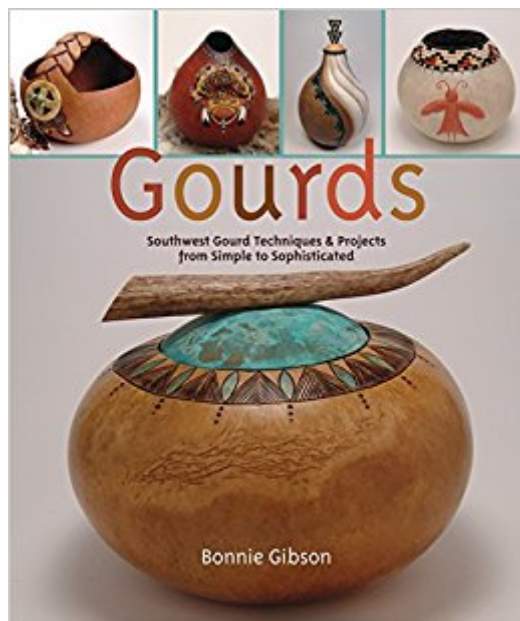




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Gourds: Southwest Gourd Techniques & Projects From Simple To Sophisticated



Synopsis

Gourds make the perfect three-dimensional canvas. With their varied sizes and shapes, they're nature's gift to the crafter, who can use a multitude of techniques to transform them into breathtaking pieces. Cut them, carve them, paint them, inlay them with stone, or embellish them with leather, fur, feathers, and botanicals: the magnificent possibilities are all featured in this splendid guide, which covers all the gourd crafting basics. Find out how to choose the right gourd (or grow your own); what safety procedures to follow; how to clean, cut, and smooth the gourd; and which tools and decorative materials to use. The projects range from a native rattle and butterfly birdhouse to ornamental treasure boxes and nested vases and bowls. A Selection of the Crafters Choice Book Club.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Here's a gorgeous book to attract crafters looking for something unusual: turning hard-shell, ornamental gourds into pots, vessels, and jewelry inspired by the work of the Native peoples of the Southwest. With excellent photos, the preliminary chapters set out general techniques for selecting, cleaning, preparing, coloring, and sealing gourds. The rather daunting section about power tools may scare off a few crafters, but a look at the 20 projects that Gibson assembles is reassuring; many can be accomplished with a small handsaw and a few specialized scraping tools. Ample photos will help clarify the procedures. Even so, there's a lot of detail work involved, so crafters will need both skill and patience to re-create Gibson's sometimes intricate designs--or the creative imagination to adapt the techniques they learn from her to make designs of their own. Stephanie

Bonnie Gibson is a self-taught artist who has won numerous awards for her work in scale miniatures, woodcarving, scrimshaw, and other three-dimensional art forms. Her articles have appeared in numerous magazines and her work has been featured in books, including *The Complete Book of Gourd Carving* and *Beyond the Basics: Gourd Art*. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I have really enjoyed this book. We had an unusually rainy, cool season and I found myself with an abundance (70+) gourds of every shape and size in my garden. I have enjoyed the full color photos, descriptions and 'how-to' information in this book and my whole family has enjoyed using the different types of techniques to decorate our gourds. This book combined with the book called *Gourd Pyrography*, has taught us how to combine pyrography with Dremel tools and staining to come up with some really neat decorative gourds that we have enjoyed giving away as gifts to friends and family.

Always love Bonnie's work so having a guide helps

Great

Item as described.

The perfect all-in-one gourd art how-to book: Not only does it provide excellent, high-quality idea photos of various southwestern themed gourd projects, it gives informative, step-by-step how-to 'lessons' on how to create these masterpieces, with a bonus of numerous pattern examples. You can't ask for a better example of gourd art and high-quality projects!

I believe that this book is one of the most helpful books on gourds. The beginning chapters on the tools and materials one should use were very informative. The photographs throughout the book show wonderful projects. The instructions for completing over 20 designs are included. Many of the patterns used by the artist are also provided. Clear photos show the development of each design. If you were to buy only one book on gourds...this is the book you should buy!

This book was full of excellent ideas on how to craft gourds. There are many helpful tips on growing, woodburning, painting, weaving styles, carving, and designing gourds. The illustrations and photos were very helpful. As a beginner, I learned quite a bit from this book. I would recommend this book highly.

I have purchased several books on gourd art, many of them with repeated information. This book is excellent. Bonnie's explanation on tools, materials and techniques is precise and complete. This book is purely Southwest... you won't find any snowmen or Santa Clauses! I have only been a gourd artist for a short time and I find myself picking this book up time and again for inspiration. I rarely write reviews but I want to thank Bonnie Gibson for writing this book... it's great.

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