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The Stained Glass Handbook



Synopsis

The Stained Glass Handbook covers everything you need to know to become proficient in stained glass. It sold out two editions when first printed and has become a favorite for teachers as well as learners for its "no fluff" approach.. The author is a glass artist who has worked on large commissions, autonomous panels and on the conservation of windows. A whole chapter on design considerations for commissions makes it more than just a how-to book. This 3rd edition includes sections on digital photography of architectural stained glass and a section on software for stained glass design. Unsolicited Testimonials:"It is the best I have seen by far. Anyone beginning stained glass work should have it as part of their essential equipment to start." Bob Smith - New Jersey."It is written by a person who knows technique from working on serious projects, who knows shortcuts and where some things wouldn't work, and also he is an artist and a designer. It gives a sense of real work and real world situations." -- Sasha Zhitneva - Pennsylvania "An excellent example of how a "how to" book should be done. Complete with video instructional downloads, he can "show AND tell" how to perform each step. One of the best things I liked about the book was its concise nature in explanations. He puts things into words which I have trouble explaining to my students and prefer to demonstrate or show it to them. -- Angel Hall - Colorado "I tell my students everything I teach they will find in the book, and the bits I've overlooked will be in there too!" -- Stefanie Mann - New Zealand"From a teaching perspective, the book is wonderful. In class you don't always remember or have time to go over everything and I like to have something for my students to reference when they are out of class." -- Jacqui Bush"I have been thumbing through the book and it is just what I needed. I had also been wanting to build a storage rack for my glass. Your tips on doing that are very welcomed. " -- Linda Chase

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Customer Reviews

If you are at all interested in creating stained glass art or just want to brush up on your craft, this book is for you. This book covers a lot of ground from the tools required, to individual technique, to finished projects. Very nicely done with lots of pictures and illustrations.

This book has every conceivable issue with stained glass ironed out in a very accessible manner. It lists all the tools and concepts you'll need. But it is more than that, it helps teach you how to use your eye, helps with issues that might arise and I would recommend this book for the practical as well as the inspirational slant. Some of the pieces cited are awesome.

VERY THOROUGH AND INTIMIDATING. COVERS EVERYTHING FROM A TO Z. MIGHT SCARE YOU FROM BEGINNING TO TAKE UP THE CRAFT.

This handbook is well written, and very easy to follow. Great examples and illustrations. All around great resource for anyone interested in stained glass.

great book highly recommended if you want the true inside of a unique artist's knowledge.

Since it had been over 20 years since I did stained glass work, this book was very helpful as a reminder/how-to. Provides terminology along with helpful hints. Great handbook!

Had I bought this book in 1978 I would have thought it was cool for a beginner, but could not quench my thirst for knowing how to do real stained glass. If you want to do work of the quality seen in this

book (such as basic panel lamps and the windows pictured), you'll be happy. If you aspire to doing work that gets you beyond basic leadlighting and sets you apart from the amateurs, then find someone who produces work of the quality you're aiming for, study their creations, observe and master their surface treatments in particular, and, if at all possible, learn how people in the know think about stained glass. I like to read widely on what all kinds of people think about glasswork, so bought this book. There are many superb stained glass artists painting glass in the US. New Zealand has had more than its fair share too for a small country (eg Robert Henry Fraser and Roy Miller). The book mentions both countries but does not represent their glass painting practitioners. Trained professionals at the top of their trade are aware that proper stained glass is a medium with deep thinking and power in its conception and symbolism. There's 1000 years of distilled knowledge that goes into making potent and articulate windows. Stained glass encompasses knowledge of art history, architecture, accurate drawing and the development of ornamentation. Skill-sets for graphic painting and controlling light through glass are essential to the artform. You wouldn't know much of that from reading this book though. If you are seriously interested in extending yourself, look for up-to-date information by an acknowledged expert producing work at the standard to which you aspire.

Don't let the modest title of the book to mislead you - this is the most impressive HOW TO book on the subject. I got an earlier edition eight years ago from the author's website, and have been recommending it ever since to my students when I teach courses on stained glass. Aside from wealth of technical information, author's insights about designing for the medium really sets this volume apart from the majority of books on the subject. Sam Halstead has been carrying on the linear traditions of Ludwig Schaffrath and, even more so, Johannes Schreiter but he has developed his own signature style of strong organic foreground shapes and lines against calm backgrounds. It's a rare case when an artist of his caliber invites readers to his creative lab and takes them through all steps of the process. I am thrilled that now this book is available for a wide audience of readers.

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