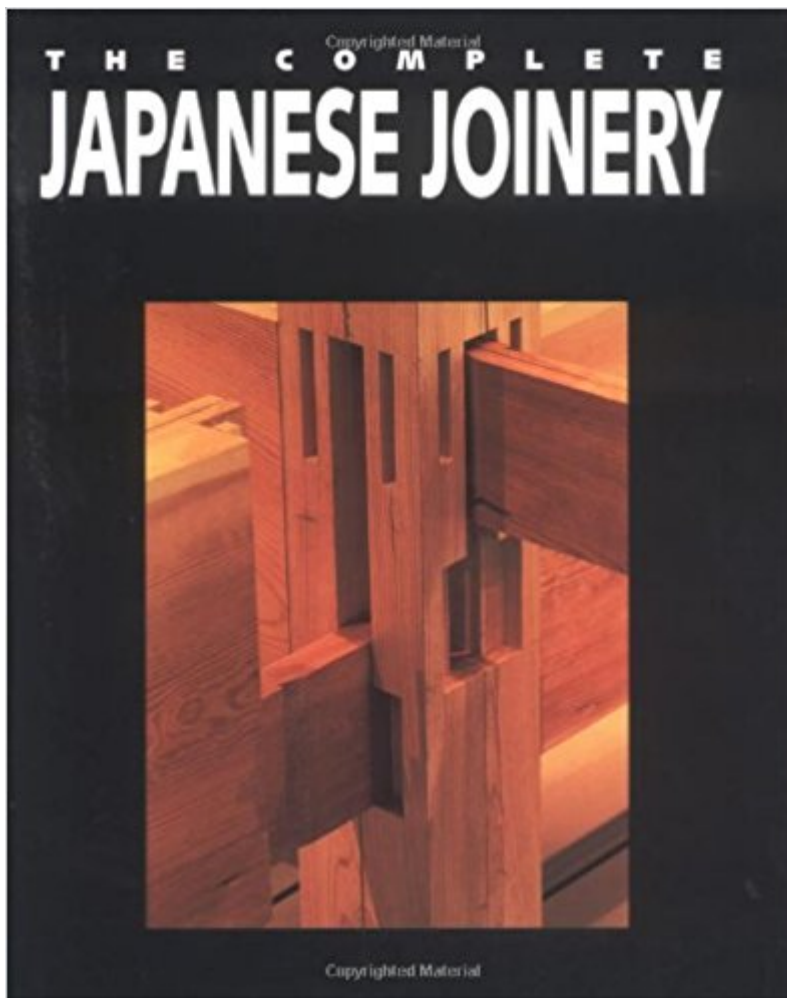


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The Complete Japanese Joinery



Synopsis

Book by Sato, Hideo, Nakahara, Yasua

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Book by Sato, Hideo, Nakahara, Yasua

This is a terrific book. I bought this after reading other good reviews and can confirm that the book is very well thought out. Lots of diagrams and descriptions. I would like to make a note that this book mostly pertains to larger scale constructions and less so towards furniture though this will show you some creative ways you could make joints and seams on furniture.

The drawings of each joint introduced are given in a set of various clear and concise drawings. Anyone with some drafting or mechanical drawing experience can read and understand each one. The book starts by educating you in the use and techniques of cutting wood with classic Japanese tools, but you can do the same with good, sharp, and strong Western tools. Some of the joints are somewhat complex, study the drawings well. If you like to get intimate with your wood and woodworking, this book is one of the good ones to have in your library.

This book is beyond detailed. Not just a compilation of Japanese joinery techniques, but it speaks

of: the philosophy of Japanese woodworking; types of wood; tool selection, maintenance, and use. For me, as a beginner in woodworking, it has taught me a lot without being too dense or written at a low level (unlike some "woodworking basics" type books). I imagine that anyone could learn a lot from this book. One word of caution: the author does often use the Japanese terms for certain actions and items, which may not be to some people's taste. Myself, I love the Japanese language and his use of the terms help add to the cultural feel of the book.

Someone previously used "inspirational" to describe the book and I will agree with that. I knew before purchasing that this book contains traditional Japanese home construction joints and while interested in furniture and cabinetry..... I figured I might see some things I could put to use.....and after a couple of days reading the book I have. Less than 20 bucks.....if you are a woodworker...even if you don't make a lot of hand cut joints.....it's still an interesting book to read. I haven't worked with wood in a couple of decades and am wanting to get back into it on a small scale.....and being interested in joinery.....hand cut joinery....I think it will be fun to reproduce some of these joints.....or joints similar to these in some projects.....

Detailed descriptions, historical information regarding the tools and abundant pictures with more joinery than any other book on the subject make this a favorite of mine. I see herein there are more fundamental joints meant to be seen than there are in Western design. This is a spectacular art and the book covers a great deal of it.

This is a late review for me as I purchased this book in 2006. I have lived in Japan for about two years. Prior to that I did some work in remodeling and small buildings. I had training in the technology. So when I watched Japanese woodworkers building in a new suburb in southern Japan, I was surprised to see more of a timber frame construction process using round timbers. The masters of joinery at work. I thought to myself how strange? As I said two years ago I purchased this book on my quest to understand beauty and craftsmanship. I still use the phrase of the carpenter's training manual to bring me to "reality" when I am involved in "More Power!", "More power tools!" It says find a place under a tree and set up your tools. When I read this I laughed heartily at myself. I had been a tool envious "Norm" follower for many years. He always has bigger and better, even when I was catching up! This is about wood. Hand tools! Craftsmanship! And the heart of the samurai wood worker. These joints have evolved and at one time were secrets of the particular trade guild, only taught to people after long apprenticeships. Look at the joints! Get the spirit of

working with the wood. Learn secrets of joining. I liked this book so much that when it got lost in my piles, I bought another. Marc Adams of the Marc Adams school uses a phrase he stole from someone. "See one, do one." It's the way of wood!

This book covers much of traditional Japanese joinery. From the tools, to the wood, to the traditional workshop setup. I bought it mostly for the joinery details, of which it contains many. It has diagrams and drawings on many intricate and interesting joins.

Amazing woodworking without nails and screws!

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