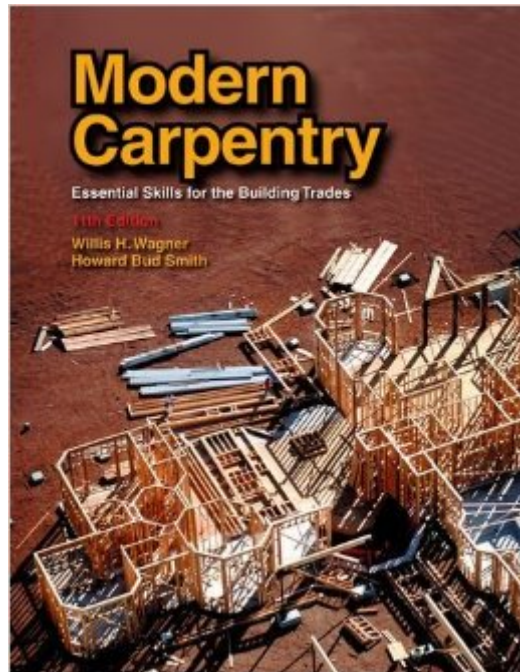


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# Modern Carpentry



## Synopsis

Modern Carpentry provides detailed coverage of all aspects of light frame construction, including site preparation and layout, foundations, framing and sheathing, roofing, windows and doors, exterior finish, stairs, cabinetry, and finishing procedures for interior walls, floors, and ceilings. Beyond a solid discussion of building basics, this text covers special topics, such as chimneys, fireplaces, and decks. Systems-built housing, remodeling, solar construction, and painting and decorating are also covered. Chapters are arranged in a logical sequence similar to the order in which the phases of building construction are performed. Includes step-by-step procedures graphically offset from the text. Presents clear, nontechnical language and detailed illustrations in an easy-to-understand format. Provides useful career information in a dedicated chapter, plus more than 20 On-the-Job features describing building trades occupations. Â

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My colleague teaches an undergraduate course on building construction and materials and this is the textbook that he uses. I sat in on all his lectures and read the book as I am undertaking a major knock-down and build-back-up to my house. While it's certainly helpful to take a course on the topic, I have to say, this book does a great job on its own of describing residential building construction! The book is great as an intro to someone who hasn't built before and it is also superb for the person who has some knowledge/experience and is looking to fill in voids in their knowledge. I really liked how the book is written. It doesn't assume you know all of the terminology. It's so aggravating when

I'm reading an introductory book/material/Wikipedia entry when the author describes terms using other terms.... Not so in this book. Also, the layout is great. Since the book walks the reader through building a house from the ground up, the beginning chapters are on building layout and then, footings and foundations. This is to be expected. But, what I like is that, within each chapter, the authors lead the reader through each step in that particular process with detail. Just as I would start to wonder, how are the angles figured out for that rafter, what size nail would be good for nailing this, how would the stairs get laid out on the supporting stringer, the answer comes in the next paragraph. I never once thought to myself, "Geez, I wish they had mentioned this earlier." It's very readable and with the logical presentation of material, you don't have to keep flipping back to relate what you're reading to something you read before. A lot of detail with easy to understand diagrams is given throughout the book. The authors do a great job walking someone with no knowledge, through each process of constructing a house, giving them all the requisite details. It's great at answering the "How" and "Where" questions: "How do I tie these two exterior walls together?" "How do I lay out the shingles in the valley between two intersecting roofs?" "Where do I drill through the joists to run the plumbing?" Not knowing anything about construction, I feel a whole more confident after reading this book. I now know how to build the pieces of a house and how they go together. Certainly, there's tons that can only be gained by experience but I feel like I at least know what I'm doing unlike the folks I watch on "Renovation Realities" on the DIY Network! I read the whole book except for a few chapters. I agree with the authors that the book is geared for someone who is interested in the residential construction trade, who is taking a course, or for the do-it-yourself person. Shortcomings of the book are few. This book is about construction of the house as a whole. If you're interested in only the electrical or plumbing aspects, another book is going to be better. This book has a chapter on each but obviously, you will get more out of a whole book on the topic than just a chapter. This book is also about light residential construction. It focuses on building with wood (Although, there is a short chapter on framing with steel). If you're wanting something for more involved construction: Steel and fabricated buildings, this book would not be what you'd want. The other topic not covered that may be of concern, is renovation of an existing house. The book is all about new construction. So, if you are renovating, there are going to be some knowledge gaps between learning how to build it new and tying it into the existing house.

I received the 1973 edition as a housewarming gift for my first fixer. That book is falling apart from use, and I'm buying the latest edition today! It got me through many remodels, and even my dream home.

I'm a do it yourselfer with a couple years of house building about twenty years ago. When I started doing some heavier work around the house I realized how many of the basics I'd forgotten. Look no further! This book covers just about every detail of everything you need to build your own home. It's a great reference manual for do-it-yourselfers or for someone doing home construction that can use it as a study guide or reference. You cannot go wrong with this one!

Good delivery of content. Chapters are arranged in a chronological order of steps to building a home. This would be a great overview for a beginning carpenter or home builder but it's not detailed enough for many of the building trades if you are looking for a single all-inclusive book. The book covers general plumbing and electrical principals but you would need to consult other books to design specific systems. Rough carpentry is explained well but some of the math examples are not clearly defined.

We bought this book because my husband needed it for his college courses. The review of the book itself is simple: It's a good text, straight-forward, and has a wealth of easily processed information for carpenters in training. The review of is also simple: It cost less by far than buying it new from any other website (or the school bookstore, Mercy forfend!) and it came promptly and in good condition.

Make no mistake - this is a textbook like when you were in junior high school. It tries to cover everything, but I felt like it was leaving out 10 percent of the story. It didn't instill in me a sense that I could go out and build something correctly. Overpriced even used. Wish I'd saved my money.

A must for anyone who is entering the field and for those who need to update their knowledge. It also covers a wide spectrum of related subject also. Well worth the money.

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