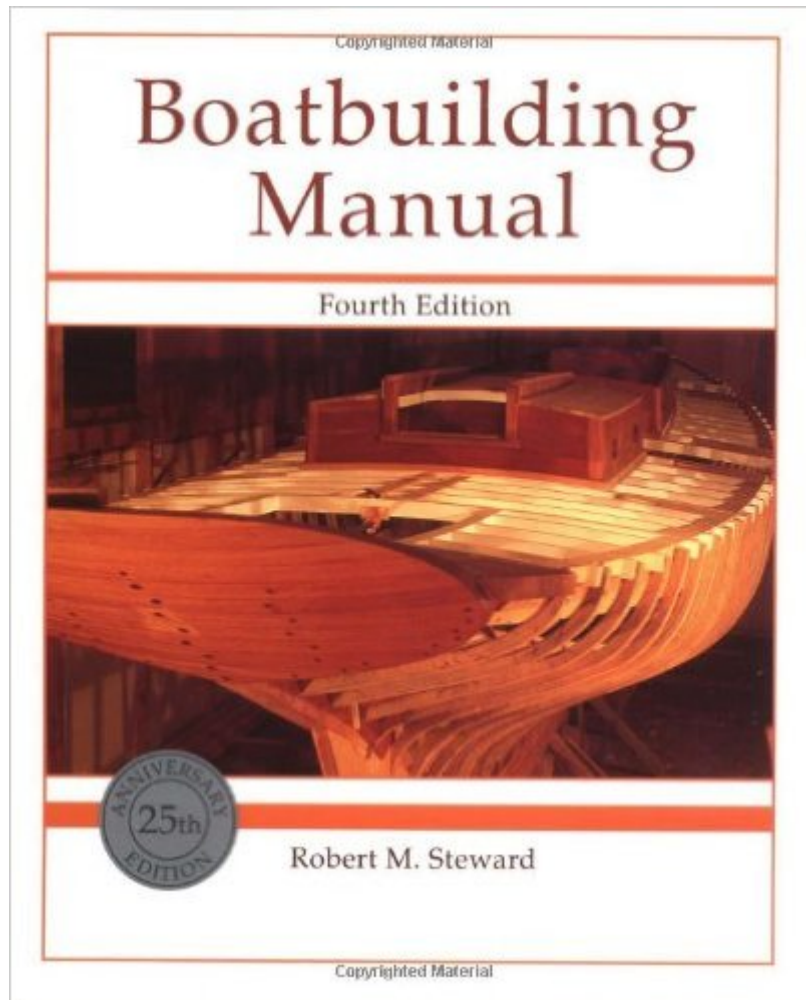


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# Boatbuilding Manual



## Synopsis

Boatbuilding Manual is one of the most widely read texts on the subject, and it has been used for years as a standard reference at both boatbuilding and design schools. A builder and designer for more than 55 years, Robert Steward has rare abilities as a writer and draftsman. His phrasing is clear and easy, and he writes the absolute minimum necessary for a complete understanding of the subject. This fourth edition, like its predecessors, emphasizes traditional wooden construction but also surveys plywood, wood-epoxy, fiberglass, steel, aluminum, and other boatbuilding methods. The chapters on interpreting plans, lofting, and moldmaking are common to all methods. New to this edition are several chapters arising from the "Miscellaneous Details" chapter of earlier editions; an appendix on sharpening tools; expanded tables of metric equivalents; an expanded and annotated source guide for plans, fasteners, hardware, wood, and other staples of boatbuilding; and a list of additional reading. Praise for Boatbuilding Manual: ". . . the best building manual for wooden boats there is--clear, concise but inclusive, and written so the inexperienced boatbuilder can read it."--John Gardner, Mystic Seaport Museum "I first got acquainted with the Boatbuilding Manual in the early 1970s when Murray Peterson, the yacht designer, gave me a copy saying, 'Read this. It's the best book on small-boat building I've ever seen.' I had to agree and it's still true. Steward's book is in a class of its own. It's the book I always recommend for boatbuilding classes, and we've used it to fine advantage at the local high school."--Sonny Hodgdon, Hodgdon Yachts, Inc., East Boothbay, Maine This is a book at home in the workshop, not the library. Pulled from beneath a pile of shavings, it is the thing to help make a tough decision or to quiet an unwelcome adviser."--SAIL

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is (or should be) truly mandatory for anyone constructing a boat or rebuilding a boat (sail or power) made of wood. It is an invaluable reference, and has a wealth of information and tips for the most experienced boatbuilder. Most importantly however, is that it paints a remarkably accurate portrait of what is involved in working with the media of wood and water. It will either encourage the motivated amateur, or discourage him or her with its no-nonsense explanation of the nature of such an undertaking. In short, it makes life easier for \*anyone\* who works with wooden boats, sail or power.

The Boatbuilding Manual is essentially a text book, in all sense of the word, of boatbuilding. It's a great introduction to boatbuilding for beginners and amateurs. If you're looking for a quick, purely instructional guide to building a seacraft, this might not be your cup of tea. But if you are looking for an in-depth, well-researched and well-presented book building a boat, then you have the right book.

I have worked as a carpenter professionally for thirty years and I have finally reached a point in my life where I would like to build something for myself. Why not a boat? Upon the recommendation of a naval designer, I purchased a copy of this book and a couple of others. Having had no experience with boat building, sailing, or the like, I was in hopes of finding some answers to questions like, "How do I get started?"; "What order do you work in?" and "where do I go for materials and fittings?" The first thing I discovered is that the terminology and language of boat building is far from anything I have known and the book helped a great deal with defining and aiding the understanding of the language. Next, the book opened up not only a whole new world of carpentry, but a history of the evolution of boat building through the various designs, styles, and methods of construction, and they are numerous. This is both an entertaining book, if you like boats, as well as an educational book if you are searching to answer the questions that plague a non nautical person faced with the task of building a boat. In the case of the latter, sometimes the first reading is not enough, but the answers are there. I would certainly recommend this book to anyone who wished to pursue the craft, with the warning that the Patience required when reading to educate yourself, is proportional to that required to carry on the physical craft of construction. Take your time, work the math, and enjoy! This will definitely remain a resource for me throughout the project.

Here's my list: Boatbuilding Manual, Pardey's Details of Classic Boat Construction, Chapelle's Woodenboat building and Bingham's book on the details. With those on hand, almost every question I've wondered about has been answered.

This is a beautifully illustrated book, easy to read, and simple to understand. It is really all you need to build your own wooden boat. It is inspirational and important at the same time. This would make a wonderful textbook for those whom wish to study the craft in a more rigorous academic environment. While it is a great book, I found some other books better as far as being more complete and up to date. I rated this book a four star rating for this, and only this, reason. I recommend it, and suggest that it would make a great addition to any library of boat construction techniques.

Good book, covers more than you want or need to know. One book does it all. If you want to build a boat, get this book first. I'm using this manual to rebuild my travel trailer (yes, my travel trailer) since books on travel trailers don't really deal with how to refurbish them, only just maintain them. This book has a lot to say about framing, electrical systems, plumbing, layouts, materials, and waterproofing. Travel trailers should be built like a boat since water damage has a lot to do with why travel trailers need renovation. I'm still reading and I'm still riveted. This is a very good book. I might change more than I first figured on after reading this manual. Lots of good info in this book.

This book is a wonderful introduction and reference work on the art of boatbuilding. Although I would love to see Mr. Steward do an online version of the book so that the techniques and materials would remain up-to-date, his methods and materials are time-tested and proven to work as is. There is no better work for beginners.

A beautiful book even electronically. Nice information. I got it because I'm a woodpecker and interested in tools and building. Hope to build a small boat even though I'm not a boat or water guy. Just love anything made of wood. Lots of models in here. Great descriptions of how to build a boat and good history. I just got the book so can't comment about the whole book but so far, it was worth getting.

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