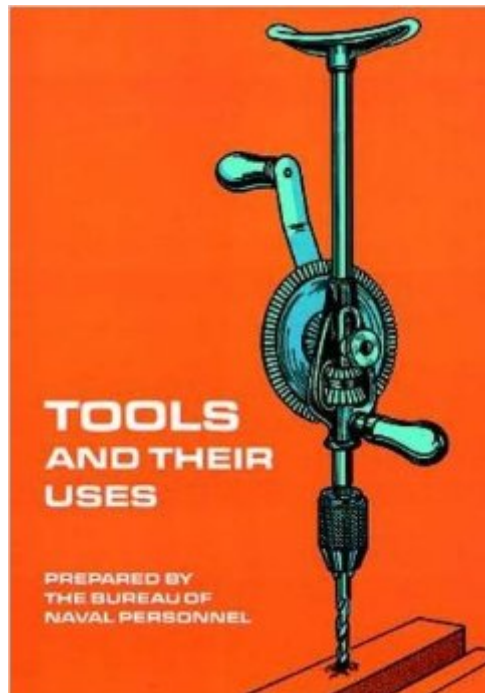


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Tools And Their Uses (Dover Books For The Handyman)



Synopsis

Do you have trouble with tools? Do you find that they wear out too quickly, find that you can't decide which tools to buy or which tools to use for a specific job, find that little things continually go wrong? The only way to learn to use tools, of course, is by using them, but first you have to know which tools to use and why. This manual, originally prepared for the use of naval personnel, was designed to present the basic hand and power tools that the ordinary person is likely to use. Through a wealth of diagrams, clear explanations, safety tips, and operating instructions you will soon learn the basics of choosing tools and using them as they were meant to be used. Nearly every hand tool you are likely to use around the house is described in the first chapter: hammers, wrenches, screwdrivers, wood saws, planes, wood chisels, metal chisels, dies, drills, files, hacksaws, punches, reamers, taps, clamps, vises, pliers, knives. Chapter two covers the common power tools: drills, grinders, sanders. Chapter three covers measuring tools from rules and tapes to calipers, micrometers, and squares with detailed instructions on how to use each one. Chapter four describes the common nails, screws, bolts, nuts, rivets, and other fasteners you are likely to use. Chapter five describes grinders and shows how to sharpen and care for screwdrivers, chisels, drills, and snips. The final two chapters cover such miscellaneous tasks and tools as metal cutting operations, stripping insulated wire, and soldering techniques. By the time you finish you should know the names, general uses, and correct operation of all the basic tools, fasteners, and measuring devices you are likely to need around the house. You should be able to select tools for a basic kit for doing simple home repairs. And you should be confident in beginning to use tools for yourself to perform all those simple but necessary repair jobs.

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Customer Reviews

I first read this book from cover-to-cover, twice, nearly 30 years ago and found it immensely useful and highly readable. Over these years I have built a large shop, with most of the tools described, and have often shared my space, tools, and knowledge with others. Recently, as I was considering using this book as a gift, I read it again, from cover-to-cover. First, I realized that much of the tool knowledge I have been sharing with others has come directly from this great little book. Second, I realized that although it was written over 30 years ago for personnel of the U.S. Navy, it is still extremely relevant. Over 95% of the book relates to tools and techniques that could be used today by anyone interested in doing home repair or vehicle maintenance tasks, construction, or wood or metal craftsmanship. All of the tools described are still widely available and just as useful as ever. Much of the focus is on the use of hand tools or the principles behind proper measuring, cutting, grinding, and fastening. The many black-and-white photographs, or excellent line drawings, add to the clear communication of the text. I know a number of professional tradesmen who could learn more than a few things from this book. Yes, it is missing a few contemporary tools and techniques that have been invented or refined in the last 30 years, but we can, and do, still use all of the hand tools described. Furthermore, all of the principles that are presented are still relevant, even if a power cord or a battery powers the working-end of many of today's tools instead of "elbow grease." Less than 5% of the book touches on issues seen primarily in the military (e.g. certain fastening techniques), and these few pages may be easily read or skipped.

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