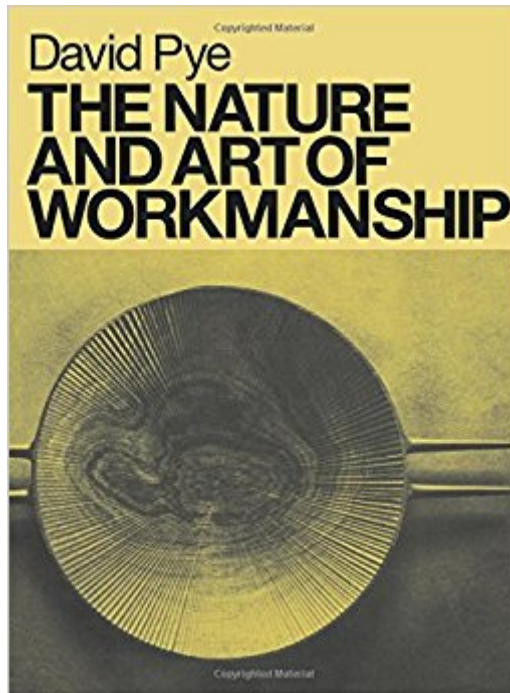




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# **The Nature And Art Of Workmanship**



## Synopsis

This is one of the classic books on craftsmanship and design. In it, David Pye explores the meaning of skill and its relationship to design and manufacture. Cutting through a century of fuzzy thinking, he proposes a new theory of making based on the concept of good workmanship and shows how it imparts all-important diversity to our visual environment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a digital reprint of David Pye's original 1968 edition. Within it he argues that the aesthetic quality of our environment depends as much on its workmanship as on its design, and that workmanship has been largely ignored. Mr Pye shows how and why we are conscious of finish and workmanship, goes on to ask why so much of our environment is impoverished and asks what can be done about it. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

David Pye, who died in 1993, was an architect, industrial designer and craftsman. For many years he was also Professor of Furniture Design at the Royal College of Art, London. He is also the author of *Ships* and *The Nature and Aesthetics of Design*.

This book was recommended as a supplemental reading in a pottery course. The author of the book primarily worked with wood and there are many examples of furniture and turned wood objects in the book. The real value of this book is in articulating the aesthetics of hand made objects and what makes them special and wonderful as compared to machine made objects. It's an excellent read for

anyone who makes things with their hands.

I originally purchased this book after hearing an experienced woodworker refer to the author's concepts as they applied to working with wood. I was not disappointed as the author takes the reader through a well thought out and cogent presentation. Definitely worth the read if you are a craftsman, educator or supervisor of craftsmen and want to articulate concepts of workmanship as pride, professionalism and artistic expression.

David Pye was not only a designer and craftsman, he was an eloquent wordsmith. This book is a must read for any craftsman, artist, designer, engineer, architect or person interested in how we view the designed and fabricated world around us and why we fabricate things in the ways that we do. I first read this book in 1977 and I'm glad to see that it is back in print. I cannot recommend this book highly enough.

Having read a review beforehand I knew it would, in the reviewer's terms, be somewhat abstruse. He was right. But it gets one thinking about their individual woodworking approach and style in a different context than just "measure twice, cut once."

One to read for any craftsperson

A slow read

Great content

It's a bit of a long-winded essay, but decidedly makes a great point.

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