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How To Build Modern Furniture: Vol. 1: Practical Construction Methods, Vol. 2: Designs And Assembly



Synopsis

How to Build Modern Furniture, first published in two volumes in 1951 and 1952, is a classic, practical guide to making simple, well-proportioned furniture in the home workshop. Profusely illustrated with detailed plans and drawings, the book brings together dozens of construction techniques and furniture plans, along with detailed construction advice for every step of the process. Long out-of-print, the two volumes are now available in a single book. In Volume One: Practical Construction Methods, author Mario Dal Fabbro details the basics tools and methods of woodworking and furniture making. In Volume Two: Designs and Assembly, he describes the tools and equipment needed for the novice to advanced woodworker, followed by methods of woodworking and an extensive catalog of furniture plans for the home. About the Author: Mario Dal Fabbro (1913-1990) was an Italian craftsman designer known for his functional, yet elegant, designs of contemporary furniture. During his long career, his output was prodigious as he designed hundreds of pieces of furniture for private individuals and also for important Milan furniture houses. Fabbro came to the United States in 1948 and continued his design work for American manufacturers. Fabbro authored several books on furniture design and construction, and was a contributor to the do-it-yourself pages of many newspapers and magazines, including The New York Times and House and Garden.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The designs are a mixed bag: some very pleasing, some not so much. The actual utility of some of the designs didn't impress me, either. The instructions are peculiar (which is NOT the same thing as "bad") in that there's an extensive section on how-to, but very little instruction with each piece. I also

haven't yet completely deciphered some of the plans, but I can't, or haven't yet, found some of the dimensions or angles needed for construction of some pieces. After all these non-laudatory comments, I do have to say there are some really intriguing pieces and lots of useful information on construction. For those of you who don't have a huge and elaborately equipped shop, this book is much more oriented to hand tools than most of the newer books I've seen. The fact that it's a reprint may account for the, mmm, "unimpressive" quality of a lot of the illustrations. The line drawings are much better, if not great.

It's a nice subject but the print quality is very poor, the type is thick as are the technical drawings making them hard to follow. The book itself is flimsy and won't stand up to much use. Don't bother ordering this, hunt out the original books, they're readily available on used book sites

Good book, I've built a few projects I saw in this book, I would buy this again.

Excellent reference book for designing mid-century modern furniture. Offers a good variety of complex and basic techniques which makes this a great choice for beginners and advanced woodworkers. Many images with easy to read descriptions. For being an older book I received a slightly musty smelling but overall very condition copy.

I hope V2 comes out at some point, just like the originals, because this book really does feel like half of the puzzle. If you like "mid century" furniture build, it's pretty good, but not 5 stars, sorry.

Simple, concise, all in one book containing 2 sections. First section is General Instructions. Section gives simple concise definitions and how-tos for joints, covering edges, doors, shelves, drawers, gluing, upholstery and materials. Second section is Furniture Designs. Section includes 53 projects with line drawings, material list, and instructions.

An excellent resource for building concepts. Large composed of drawings and explanations for joints, wood, tools.

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