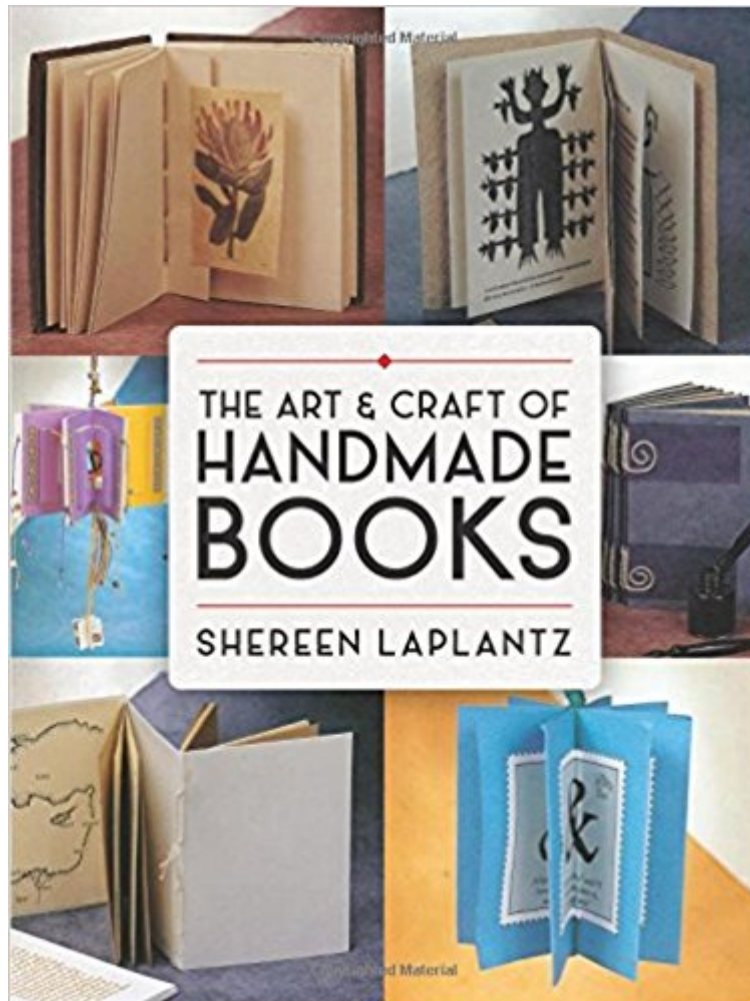


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# The Art And Craft Of Handmade Books (Dover Craft Books)



## Synopsis

"A beautiful and worthwhile book." — Next Book Please  
This innovative approach to bookbinding demonstrates an array of creative techniques that elevate handmade books into extraordinary works of art. Easy-to-follow, well-illustrated directions for more than 25 patterns explain how to make seven different kinds of books with pop-up panels and pages that "explode" from the spine as well as slipcases, tassels, and other distinctive features. The guide begins with instructions for a simple accordion-fold book. Successive projects build on methods readers have already mastered and introduce new skills, including the pamphlet stitch, ideal for photo albums and scrapbooks; tacket binding, the versatile stitch of medieval Europe; and the Coptic stitch, employed by Christians of ancient Egypt. A full-color photo gallery, with contributions from more than 60 artists, offers further inspiration for enhancing and personalizing projects by using alphabets, bestiaries, botanical illustrations, and other designs. The author includes a glossary of terms as well as information on materials and tools. "Well-written, imaginative and just plain fun to read. I learned a lot about ways to make books that I never dreamed of. Ms. Laplantz is a creative genius." — Bassocantor Reviews  
"This is a gorgeous book filled with beautiful projects." — The Sheepish Reader 'n' Writer

## Book Information

Series: Dover Craft Books

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; Rev Upd edition (July 20, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486800377

ISBN-13: 978-0486800370

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.3 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #224,474 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Papercrafts, Stamping & Stenciling > Book Making & Binding #514 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Papercrafts, Stamping & Stenciling > Papercrafts

## Customer Reviews

THE ART AND CRAFT OF HANDMADE BOOKS is one BEWILDERING book, full of astonishing

creations. Books are dull things, right? No way! When you open the cover of this book, you are in for a SHOCK. I had no idea whatsoever of the many creative ways to make a book. My favorite is the "Six-Armed Star Tassel Book." You can see some of the creations in the photos here. As I read through each type of book, I was newly surprised (and impressed) each time: "Skewer" book--no problem; "Coptic Stich"--we got you covered. What about "Two Signature Pamphlet Stitch"--of course! And one type of book is like a TUNNEL! What?? Each method of book creation is illustrated with color photos or illustrations. Then, the author presents detailed, step-by-step instructions on how to create the binding. There are also "Tip" sidebars that give more information. For example, under the section for "Coptic Stich," the author recommends one should "Sew from the middle outward. It's easier to fish the needles out that way." I found these sidebar suggestions to be spot on. Excellent tips! So all in all, I found THE ART AND CRAFT OF HANDMADE BOOKS to be an outstanding book. Honestly, I was surprised--I had no idea that books could be designed in so many unusual, fun ways. This book is well-written, imaginative--and just plain FUN to read. I learned a LOT about ways to make books that I never dreamed of. Ms. LaPlantz is a creative genius. On a special note, the author points out many people who helped her out whilst she was undergoing treatment for cancer! Bravo, Bravo to those kind assistants! Advance Review Copy courtesy of Netgalley.

Including work by nearly 60 contributing artists, this book consists of 124 pages of lovely photographs of these very beautiful and very unique books. Also including 20 pages of basic introductory information, the tools, the techniques, materials, etc. and divided into seven Project Sections: Concertina, Slit Concertina, Star Tunnel, Pamphlet and Running Stitch, Tacket Binding, Coptic Stich, and Recessed Skewer Binding. These are all Artist's Books, most are not something you would use in a basic, utilitarian way, but the emphasis in this book is more about the visual art of these creations. These are meant to be displayed like the work of art they are, typically, although some are more useful, the majority are works of art. Lovely to look at. Included are such helpful things as: Making Wheat Paste in a Microwave " and while this is not something I've ever had a recipe for, I suspect if you are making one of these books it would prove extremely helpful. Archival vs. Nonarchival Quality Materials. Diagrams. Boards: archival board, four-ply museum board, heavy noncorrugated cardboard. Thread. Tools: a "Basic Book Artist's Tool Kit. If you're looking for inspiration, information or some basic ideas for how to create something as simple as a pamphlet, this is an excellent book, with fairly thorough instructions and beautiful illustrations of the finished work of approximately 60 artists. Many thanks to Dover Publications,

NetGalley and to author Shereen LaPlantz for providing me with an advanced copy for reading and review.

THE ART AND CRAFT OF HANDMADE BOOKS is one BEWILDERING book, full of astonishing creations. Books are dull things, right? No way! When you open the cover of this book, you are in for a SHOCK. I had no idea whatsoever of the many creative ways to make a book. My favorite is the "Six-Armed Star Tassel Book." You can see some of the creations in the photos here. As I read through each type of book, I was newly surprised (and impressed) each time: "Skewer" book--no problem; "Coptic Stich"--we got you covered. What about "Two Signature Pamphlet Stitch"--of course! And one type of book is like a TUNNEL! What?? Each method of book creation is illustrated with color photos or illustrations. Then, the author presents detailed, step-by-step instructions on how to create the binding. There are also "Tip" sidebars that give more information. For example, under the section for "Coptic Stich," the author recommends one should "Sew from the middle outward. It's easier to fish the needles out that way." I found these sidebar suggestions to be spot on. Excellent tips! So all in all, I found THE ART AND CRAFT OF HANDMADE BOOKS to be an outstanding book. Honestly, I was surprised--I had no idea that books could be designed in so many unusual, fun ways. This book is well-written, imaginative--and just plain FUN to read. I learned a LOT about ways to make books that I never dreamed of. Ms. LaPlantz is a creative genius. On a special note, the author points out many people who helped her out whilst she was undergoing treatment for cancer! Bravo, Bravo to those kind assistants! Advance Review Copy courtesy of Netgalley.

AN AMAZING BOOK ON MAKING BOOKS! This book is great for beginner book makers as well as advanced book makers. It is all encompassing and includes different binding techniques, cover techniques, and signature techniques. Shereen LaPlantz begins by defining the terms and materials she will use throughout the book which is very helpful because you can always go back to the beginning as a reference. I learned so much about the different parts of the book, and different techniques that can be used throughout the book making process. This book would be very beneficial to anyone looking to bind a book of their own. The process is primarily for artists' books, books that are playful and full of imagination not just your typical bound book. The passion that Shereen LaPlantz shows for book making inspires you to make a book of your own. She walks you through the process of making different types of books listing the materials and methods used for each book. Not only are you learning about different book types, but you learn how to make it

yourself. The instructions are very concise, and have pictures that explain very clearly what you should do. The pictures that she chooses as examples inspire you and spark your creativity. I never knew how many different types of books I could make, but after reading this the book making process seems like so much fun and such a great way to express your imagination. I want to try making a book myself immediately!\*\*I received this copy from Netgalley for my honest review\*\*

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