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# Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide To Jigs & Fixtures (Complete Illustrated Guides (Taunton))



## Synopsis

This book, in the "Complete Illustrated Guide" format covers jigs and fixtures, a subject of perennial interest to woodworkers. Jigs are like clamps. As the saying goes, "You can never have enough of them." Jigs, simply put, are devices, sometimes shop-made but now often available commercially to enable woodworkers to do something more than once. For example, some jigs are fences that ensure straight cuts or templates capable of guiding tools to create a certain shape time after time. Woodworkers love jigs and fixtures for the same reason they are drawn to woodworking—designing them is about figuring out how to do something. All woodworkers are secretly engineers and inventors, and jig design and construction is a way to indulge that need. Some woodworkers love jig-making so much, they never build anything but. Simple or elaborate, jigs are an essential part of woodworking. This book, authored by prominent woodworking author, Sandor Nagyszalanczy, is organized like his successful 1994 book "Workshop Jigs and Fixtures," according to function. This approach allows woodworkers to either build the jig exactly as shown or modify it to suit a wide variety of purposes. (Another thing woodworkers like is having choices.)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sandor Nagyszalanczy has just added another excellent book to his growing and versatile collection of woodworking guides. The organization of his [Jigs and Fixtures](#) book is first rate, logical and easy to

follow. It starts out with a short section on how to use the book and then follows with sections organized in a very useable way. Safety notes are interspersed throughout and are appropriate for novice and professional woodworkers alike. I have several other jigs and fixtures books which are generally boring to read and used only to look up a specific jig. However, this is not true for Mr. Nagyszalanczy's most readable and informative works which I enjoy cover to cover. I have another of his books on built-ins which is also great, and have preordered his new shop organization book. He is a frequent visitor on DIY Network's "Tools and Techniques" hosted by Popular Woodworking's David Thiel. He is as enjoyable to watch and listen to as his books are to read. I rate this book at 5 stars and my only minor critique is that the many color photos, while excellent and instructional, tend to be a bit smaller than my 64 year old eyes like to see, but that's not a big deal. As an aside, most Taunton Press woodworking guides, of which I have many, are typically of very high quality. I look forward to more guides from this extremely knowledgeable and entertaining professional woodworker. M.W. O'Brien, Valley Head, Alabama

Generally, anything from Taunton Press is good reading material, but this book, for what it is supposed to be for, is not very good at all. The book only shows approximately four photos of each jig/fixture, and has no plans or dimensions for them. It is to the point of being very vague on each design, and I would only recommend reading it for obtaining a very basic and general idea on jig/fixture design. They say this book is a "complete illustrated guide", but it is much lacking to anyone who has been designing and building jigs and fixtures for thirty plus years. Bad points: Too few photos, No dimensioned drawings, Not enough info for reference

This book covers a lot of jigs. What it doesn't do is supply enough detail on how to make them. Each jig is supplied with a few photos and a pretty high-level description of how to make it. Very low on details, and I'd have appreciated more photos - especially of in-progress builds of each.

This is the best yet. Very well illustrated, cross referenced, written extremely well and superb photos. The hardcover is worth the extra money just for the fact that it lies flat while opened, making reading on a bench very easy. Highly recommended.

Lots of good suggestions and jig building tips. There is no doubt that jigs and fixtures are a necessary part of the woodshop. For those of us with smallish shops, a large number of jigs strains the storage space and keeps you planning for the next shop.

Photos are all but useless. Don't waste your time on this publication. Very little constructive information with relevant images. Hopefully Sandor is a better woodworker than a writer.

This book was a great read because it enlighten me on how to make certain jigs and other things to make my jobs go much easier. So take the time and read it and enjoy playing around with the making of some of the things in the book.

This is a great book, more for referee and ideas, im not a beginner with this stuff, but every once in a while this book (and all of taunton's books I've purchased) gives you little AHA! Moments.

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