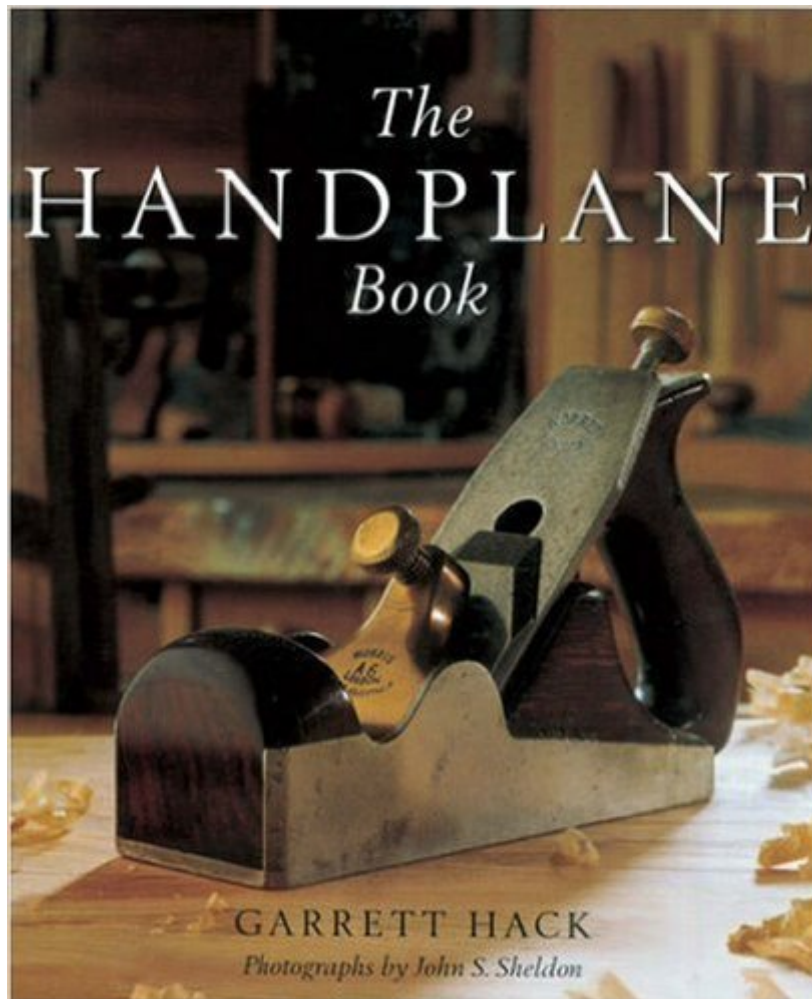


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# The Handplane Book (Taunton Books & Videos For Fellow Enthusiasts)



## Synopsis

The Handplane Book is a complete guide to one of the best known and most collectable hand tools. It covers all the basics, including how to buy a plane, tune it up, and use it. Fascinating background information on the development and manufacture of handplanes shows the rich heritage of this versatile tool. Focusing on planes from the golden age of the handplanes (19th and early 20th century), it also profiles tools from many sources around the world.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (109 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #165,504 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Hand Tools](#) #226 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Woodworking > Projects](#) #4597 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies](#)

## Customer Reviews

Hack presents a job far removed from his name. Another pun: this is no hack job; this is a meticulously shaved job. Now, on to the review. Hack is part of the essentials for handplaning; there's no doubt about it. When I decided I wanted to learn to use a handplane for serious hobby-making, I was unable to make shaving number one, even after buying two planes. Along with a few forums, a good friend and, above all, Hack, I'm turning roughsawn oak into lots of long, thin, beautiful shavings. As noted elsewhere, the history helps in understanding the plane. The descriptions and photographs bring the plane to life. The comparisons and contrasts among the innumerable planes help in choosing the appropriate plane for the job at hand. The photographs and diagrams are especially helpful, and this feature really is the crown of this book. Quite frankly, other books don't meet Hack's standard, and the web is limited, still, by bandwidth and amateurish

production quality. Without the text, Hack's photographs and diagrams, with their accompanying notes, are an achievement by themselves. The text is easy to read and very descriptive, but I do have some quibbles. Although Hack is careful to distinguish between planes which are collectible and those which are useable (or both), I wish that he had disentagled them from the text, perhaps in different subsections. I found myself mildly annoyed trying to use this book as a reference, e.g., looking for a tip on using a plow plane, but having to extract the tip from descriptions of some interesting, but basically unuseable specimens from an age gone by. Now, Hack's technical writing is excellent, above all, bar none. It's the real McCoy.

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