Dining Tables: Outstanding Projects From America's Best Craftsmen (Furniture Projects)
Synopsis

The sixth book in Taunton's Furniture Projects series, Dining Tables features nine attractive, practical projects in a variety of different styles. There's Country, Shaker, traditional Colonial, even Queen Anne. These projects are designed to provide a suitable place for a gathering, as well as enhance a family's special occasions.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (23 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

I've purchased numerous woodworking books and found this one of the more useful. The photos are excellent and coupled with the text and tips are close to looking over the craftsman's shoulder as he completes each technique. The book covers a wide range of table styles and techniques. It is useful to the range of woodworkers from beginner to advanced. Basic operations such as jointing, gluing, mortising are covered as are pattern cutting and veneering. Design, dimension, structural considerations and material selection are discussed in detail. The several chapters are veneering are especially helpful. The table projects themselves range from a basic kitchen table to Queen Anne to torsion box veneered conference tables to veneered circular table. The book is helpful for some one designing a table and uncertain of the size, design or materials to use. Some good general shop and tool information is also available on K. Carleton Graves web site.
If you need to construct a dining table you would be hard pressed to require a design or construction technique not found in this book. The introduction covers design criteria specific to dining tables: space required per person, height requirements, and seating arrangements. The first chapter covers a basic kitchen table using mortise and tenon joinery with solid wood. The author then moves through a variety of designs including trestle, circular, queen anne, expanding, and "boat shaped" (i.e. conference) tables, among others. The vineyard table is quite unique. In addition to the designs a variety of construction and decorative techniques are presented. Mortising machines are discussed side-by-side with mortising chisels. Veneering is in three chapters and curved and circular work comes up in several chapters. Most of the ideas can be adapted to other types of tables, and the discussion on veneering alone is worthwhile to almost any project. I found it one of the better guides to basic veneering techniques. This book would be suitable for entry level woodworkers as well as experienced ones looking for fresh design ideas and inspiration. Highly recommended.

I bought this book looking for a design I could use for a dining room table. What I found was not only a design that I loved, but clear step-by-step instructions, drawings, and great photographs. The section on table building basics which covers table size and clearance, wood movement, and torsion box construction was extremely informative.

I am in the throws of building a dining table. Although this book didn't show me the table I want to do, it gave me a lot of ideas and well needed information on sizes and hardware. There are a lot of different tables in here, well suited for the majority of what people really want, but all I wanted was a simple rectangular table. They have one in there which is expanding, mine will be similar, but not expanding. However, I am going to incorporate some of the details from other tables into mine. I am glad I bought this one, even though I have several other table building books, this one had more of what I really needed to know. But then I wouldn't expect any different from Taunton press. Thanks also to ... for the "read inside" part of the book, it persuaded me to purchase it.

Tables...design, techniques, joinery, finishes....it is all covered in this book. I have looked for a book on tables for a long time and I finally found this one by Kim Carleton Graves. If you are a beginner, intermediate or advanced woodworker, you will learn something from this excellent book. This book is clear, concise and to the point for all skill levels. Even if you are just wanting to learn something about tables, this is still the book to buy. I very highly recommend it to anyone interested in designing, building or learning about tables. You won't be sorry you bought this book!!!
I bought this book to learn about dining table construction. The instructions are clear and concise and includes ALL the steps required to make 9 tables. Kim Carleton Graves is obviously a very good teacher and it really comes across in this book. I found this book a great learning aid and I'm sure I will refer to it time and time again. Please publish a book on chairs.

Taunton puts out great books with great authors, this book is no different. Great layout and information. I can't add much to what was already stated in the earlier reviews except that Kim Carleton Graves was easy to contact through email. He responded quickly, professionally and was very informative. In summary, buy the book you won't be disappointed.

The simplicity of the plans allowed me to have the wood precut at the lumberyard. Table was completed in 2 days. Beats the heck out of paying 5x the cost and settling for an inferior premade product.

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