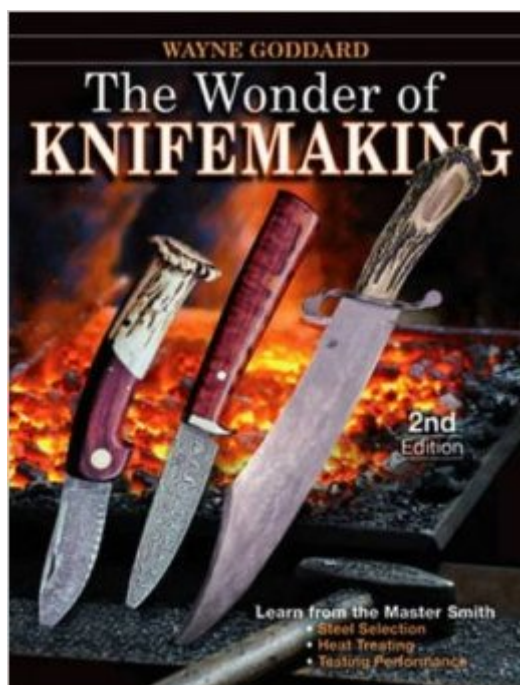


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The Wonder Of Knifemaking



Synopsis

As a columnist for BLADE magazine, Wayne Goddard has been answering real questions from real knifemakers for more than twenty years. Now, find all the details in one place in this handy reference for every knifemaker, amateur or professional. Clear and precise answers on every aspect of knifemaking, from selecting steel to heat treating and finishing the blade. Tips and tricks for knifemakers of all skill levels. Completely revised and updated with more than 11 years of new answers. About the Author Master smith Wayne Goddard is an icon in the field of knifemaking. As a full-time maker, teacher and writer, Goddard works as hard to teach knifemaking skills as he does to acquire them. His affiliation with BLADE Magazine has brought new and interesting information, tips and tricks to thousands of would-be knifemakers.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Krause Publications; 2 edition (July 10, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1440216843

ISBN-13: 978-1440216848

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.4 x 10.9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (41 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #95,652 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies &

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Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Weaponsmithing #50 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies &

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Customer Reviews

This is the Second book a knifemaker should buy. If you are new to knifemaking, you would be better served by reading "How to make Knives" by Loveless and Barney, or one of the other how to books. If you have already made a knife or two, Wayne's book is for you. It answers many questions that will come up when you continue to make knives and sharpen your skills. Wayne also answers many questions from his popular series in Blade Magazine adding quite a bit of detail for a thorough presentation. All of the techniques, materials and processes are complete and more importantly up to date. Wayne covers the Crucible partical metallurgy steels (CPM) and steels that are currently in vogue such as BG-42 and ATS-34 as well as old standbys like 5160, 52100, O-1, and D-2 (to name

a few). While not a reference book, "The Wonder of Knifemaking" could easily serve a knifemaker in that capacity. If I could only have one knifemaking book (believe me, I have them all; even the little paperback from Atlanta Cutlery and Bob Engnath's Catalog, God bless him) it would be "The Wonder of Knifemaking" by Wayne Goddard. I rated this book 4 Stars because the organization could have been a little better. There is so MUCH information in so many places in such a short span. Ok...Ok, I'm writing a critical review here and this is the only thing I can fault. I just didn't want this piece to read like a commercial from the Wayne Goddard Fan Club. If you are a knifemaker, buy this book. In Summary, I think Wayne just wanted to get everything he has discovered, learned, or worked-out in his 20++ years of knifemaking onto paper for everyone to have; that's the kind of guy he is. Oh boy did he do an excellent job.

Wayne Goddard is probably one of the top 10 hand-made knife makers in the United States. This book, however, was a somewhat disappointing rehash of his BLADE magazine articles of past years. There are sections of the book which are repeated verbatim on more than one page, and the disjointed collection of old articles is somewhat difficult to follow at times. On the other hand, the information that is presented clearly is very useful if the reader is interested solely in blade forging, as the stock removal method is almost entirely dismissed. Included is an excellent dissertation on the chemistry of steel.

There is a lot of detailed information in this book, most of which are from ABS master smith Goddard's regular Q&A column from Blade magazine. As a bladesmith for more than 30 years, Goddard explains the theory and practice of his craft clearly and simply. The section on what happens to steel during hardening (quenching) and tempering is especially well done which plain old knife enthusiasts (non-metallurgists) will appreciate. For the beginning or intermediate bladesmiths, this book is worth every dollar for the value of the information alone. For inspiration, there are a number of colour plates in the book to display Goddard's lovingly-crafted knives. Well written, easy-to-understand, plenty of photographs, and overall, a great pleasure to read. Just wish it was better organized.

I finally found what I think is about the best knife making book so far. This one really explains the art of knife making -- from which type of steel works best for any desired result, to the mystery of tempering and heat treating. Mr. Goddard put all of his knowledge and effort into this book and you can tell. I've met Wayne at a large knife show in Oregon where he was selling his book. He was

very personable, and the other knifemakers at the show spoke of him with high regard. He's been making knives for a long time and has made all the mistakes a guy can make trying to forge one. From his life-long experience, it's great to read what the tried-and-true methods are before starting the process.

I was looking for a book that would explain some practical details of knife making. This isn't it. Granted it has some interesting stories and makes some points. This book is not instructional - rather it's anecdotal.

If you have ever sampled any of Wayne's articles in Blade Magazine you will certainly know the quality and style that comes with his instruction. If you are new to knifemaking or are thinking of making a knife this is the book for you, heck, even if you're an "old pro" there are ample opportunities to teach that old dog some new tricks. I wish he had written this book three years ago, it would have saved me at least one and a half years worth of learning the hard way.

This book rambles a lot, probably because it is based on a selection of articles the author published in magazine form, hence 4 stars. Mainly it is a catalog of his experience as a blade maker and using various scrap steels, files, saw blades etcetera as blade steel. Good tips on dealing with the various steels and building your workshop on the cheap if that is your goal/need. Probably useful as a reference when in electronic form as you can search for specific alloys he has experience with. Fit, finish, and design are generally asides not topics.

Although I liked this book, I preferred Wayne Goddard's *Wayne Goddard's \$50 Knife Shop, Revised* which is geared towards newbies. In this book the author assumes that you are a more knowledgeable reader. Lots of information and very well illustrated with color pictures and graphics.

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