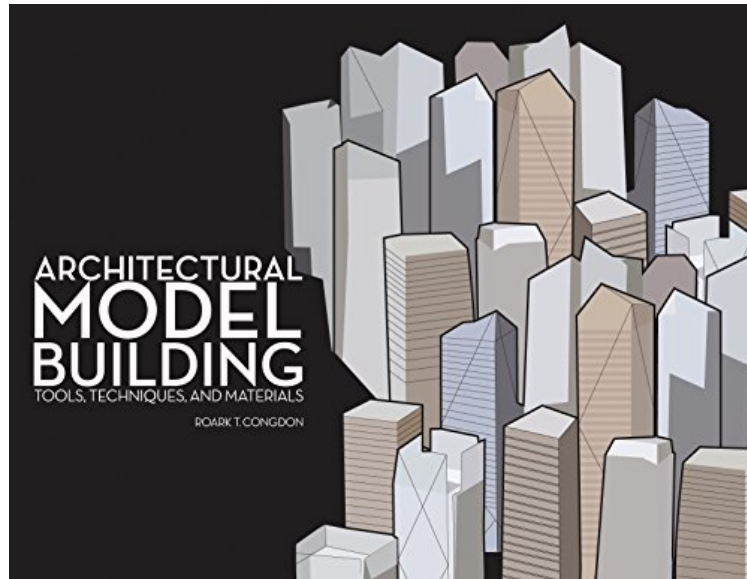


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Architectural Model Building: Tools, Techniques, and Materials

Roark T. Congdon

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Roark T. Congdon : Architectural Model Building: Tools, Techniques, and Materials before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architectural Model Building: Tools, Techniques, and Materials:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Excellent text, mediocre illustrations By L. Schattman The text of this book is an excellent introduction and step-by-step guide to building models. It defines the different types of models and explains when each one is appropriate. It describes different types of materials and explains how to use them. It provides advice on setting up a workspace, and guides students through the entire model-making process, from planning to adding material finishes. A final chapter discusses entourage - the elements that provide scale, such as people and trees. The text is clear and concise. It assumes no prior knowledge and takes readers from the basic elements through more advanced techniques and more difficult materials. The illustrations, however, are not equal to the text. With the exception of 6 pages of beautiful, glossy, full-color photographs in the middle, all the illustrations are black-and-white photographs. The bw photographs are not particularly crisp, and the contrast isn't very high. The quality is barely adequate to the task of illustrating a particular type of model or step in the building process. In many instances, a simple bw line drawing would have been much clearer. If this were an inexpensive book, I would happily forgive the mediocre illustrations, but at the list price, I think the illustrations should be better than the ones I take with my cell phone. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Helpful with concise instructions. By Arturo the Architect I had recently took a model building class at my local community college and really didn't learn very much. I then purchased this book for a class I am taking now after transferring to a University. I have learned more after only a couple hours of reading this book than I did from an entire semester at the community college. I was very frustrated, but now feel like I have been able to gain a real grasp on certain elements such as planning, understanding what type of adhesives to use and when, and how to properly cut and construct complex shapes such as curves, and oddly pitched roofs. We had models do in class last week, most of the other student models had ragged edges and sloppy glue jobs.

The professional look and cleanliness of my model stood out so much so that my professor actually used it as an example to the class on how to build a proper model. I couldn't believe it. After struggling so much with my previous class in community college, despite really making an effort and doing all the required reading, I was very nervous about spending the money for this book. I could not have made a better purchase. This book has really helped give me confidence and the believe in myself that I can succeed and do well in this field. To anyone starting out in architecture school this book is a must have. 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Great step by step instructions! By design for youth I had to buy this book for a class. It is awesome for beginners! A couple of upperclassmen have been looking through it and think it is super helpful for them even though they have already been making models for a couple years. It is the most helpful art type textbook I have ever read. I have only had it a couple weeks, but I have learned proper cutting, gluing, and even how to perfectly curve mattboard and foam core without denting it. Instead of just talking about tools and stuff, this book actually explains the right way to use them, and what tools should be used for different materials. One of the best parts of the book is where it explains common mistakes model makers make, and how to avoid them. Lots of step by step instructions and pictures for every technique. some of the pictures are a little blurry though, it would be nice if they were clearer, but if you read the instructions and look at the pictures you will learn a ton!

Advances in computer-aided design have proven to be an invaluable tool for the architect and designer, yet Frank Gehry still begins his creative process by making "simple" models out of modest materials. Drawings and video, while an essential part of the design process, are still not substitutes for the tactile sensation one receives from a scale model. Drawing on 20 years experience in art and architecture, the author has developed this book on model making as it applies to students and professionals of the built environment. More than 300 photographs illustrate a multitude of techniques and the use of a wide variety of materials, providing a solid foundation for students and professionals to create and enjoy three-dimensional model making for interior design, architecture, landscape architecture, furniture design, theatrical design, and retail merchandising.

About the Author Roark T. Congdon is a professor of studio and history courses at the International Academy of Design and Technology in Seattle and has taught model building, sculpture, drawing, history, and design at the university and high school levels in both in the US and China for over 15 years.