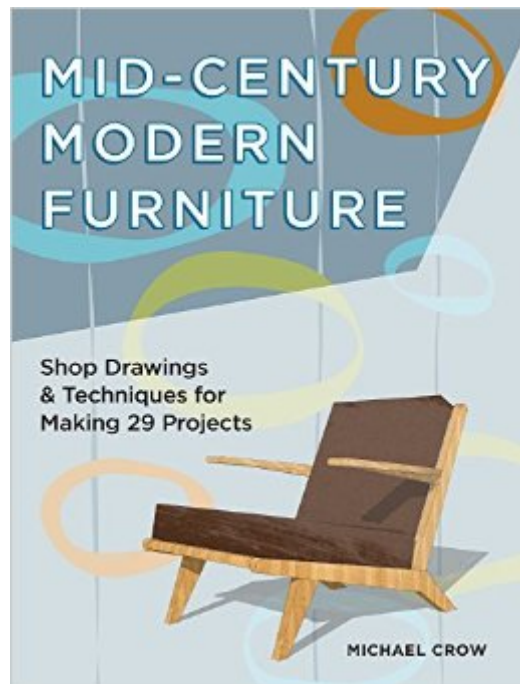# Mid-Century Modern Furniture: Shop Drawings & Techniques For Making 29 Projects

Synopsis

Minimalist design--maximum style!In the middle of the last century, a new generation of designers sought to render furniture to its most essential forms. In doing so, they created timeless designs that defined Mid-Century Modern Style. From the sleek geometric lines of Bauhaus-inspired design to the sculptural shapes of Danish masters, this furniture captured the imagination of the era and enjoys growing popularity today.Now for the first time, author Michael Crow has carefully detailed 29 seminal works by the era's foremost designers, including Hans Wenger, Finn Juhl and George Nelson. At their best, these spare, often sculptural designs transcend their period and are at home in a variety of settings. Each piece has been selected carefully so it can be built in an average workshop. Inside this book you'll find:More than 100 drawings with exploded views, elevations and details for projects to fit every room in your house.Practical advice on wood selection, hardware sources and contruction and finishing techniques.Two step-by-step project builds.A richly illustrated historical overview tracing the evolution of the style and exploring the designers and makers who shaped it.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (17 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The beginning of the book details out techniques, tools, and design philosophy behind these pieces. That kind of information is always interesting to me. The first two projects have some direction to them. After that, you're on your own with only a shop drawing and a cutlist to guide you. The

designs the book has is great, but it is assuming you have a solid background in woodworking. I'm currently building the nesting tables from the book as part of a woodworking class at my local art center. If it weren't for having someone with years of experience guiding me through this project I would not be successful.Most of these projects are also made to be assembled out of solid wood, not plywood. (Although maybe that's my limited experience talking.) If you're looking to build your own Mid-Century Style furniture, but need a bit more guidance, I recommend Handmade Modern.Update: I've attached photos of the tables I made from this book.

It's a decent book but not the end all of design books. Leans heavily towards the Danish designers. the drawings are Ok but leave some things to be desired. as an example the chair featured on the cover while having many measurements lack the angles needed for the legs and back. one has to guess and try to figure the angle by combining several other measurements. the same holds true for any piece that tapers. the botom measurement is given but many times the top measurement is missing or is buried somewhere.

The book provides only the most broad-strokes study of mid-century modern furniture. The drawings seem to be inaccurate or incomplete (I noticed at least one drawing had pieces entirely missing from the cutlist). Another annoyance is that the renderings of the projects have the grain-lines oriented in the wrong direction. If the pieces were built in the fashion illustrated, they'd be weakened.

The designs in this book are very good, and there are a lot of ways to take off from them and customize. The construction of the furniture is complicated enough to stretch my skills, but not so difficult as to be overwhelming. A very good book if your taste in furniture veers away from traditionalist.

Good, but not perfect. This book has a great overview of mid-century modern furniture pieces starting from around the Bauhaus time. The furniture diagrammed in this book ranges from the medium hard difficult.

I have read reviews saying that there are some inaccurate measurements in the book which is a concern. However, my purposes do not require such accuracy because I use it as a reference for making miniature furniture. Book covers key pieces designed by iconic designers of the mid-century

modern period and some nice history/background on designers.

The furniture was not the most typical.The joinery wasn't shown in detail. Is the user supposed to imagine how to do it ?

I debated whether to give it 2 or 3 stars and decided on 2. The projects were interesting but the photos are dark and hard to see. The instructions were sketchy. The drawings are poor and hard to follow. Some of the projects gave virtually no instructions. Save your money.

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