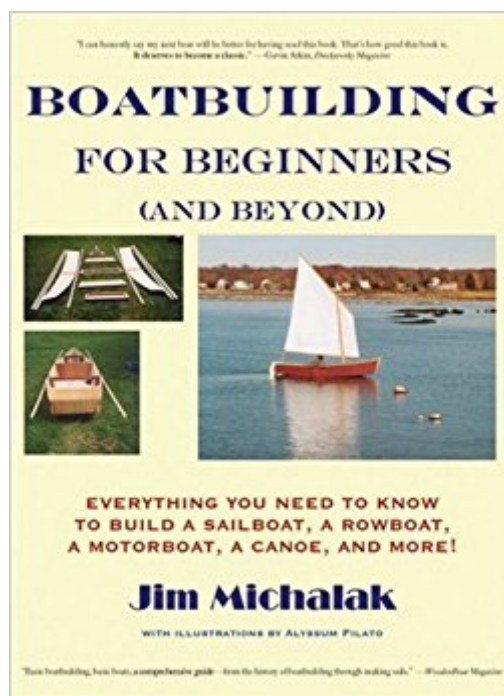




The book was found

Boatbuilding For Beginners (and Beyond): Everything You Need To Know To Build A Sailboat, A Rowboat, A Motorboat, A Canoe, And More!



Synopsis

This book takes the complete novice--armed only with a gleam in the eye, and a basic knowledge of hammer, saw, and screwdriver--and walks him or her through the process of building a boat. The only materials needed are easily available from any lumberyard: plywood, 2x4s, nails, and wood glue. The process is simple, the result is extraordinary--your own boat, ready to sail, in just a week or two, for a fraction of the cost of buying a factory-built (boring!) boat. And the sense of accomplishment is beyond compare. The main focus of the book is on building the 14-foot sailing/rowing skiff called "Mayfly." Full plans and detailed step-by step instructions are given, with numerous line drawings and photographs. Those instructions can then be applied to the other full plans included: for a dinghy, a motorboat, a rowboat, a canoe, and two other sailboats. The only other book to compare is Harold Payson's venerable *Build the New Instant Boats*. But where that book leaves off, this book goes beyond: with chapters on making your own oars, making kick-up rudders, pivoting leeboards, sails, flotation compartments, water ballast, hatches, and tips for cartopping and trailering your boat, and much more. It is an introductory book that will continue to be pored over as the beginner transforms himself or herself into an experienced boatbuilder. Also included are a catalog of twenty other boat plans for dreaming over, a guide to boatbuilding sites on the web, a guide to materials suppliers, and a bibliography of further reading. A great book for families, for scout groups, for school shop classes, for anyone who enjoys messing about in boats. Jim Michalak is a former aerospace engineer who has become, in the last decade, one of the foremost designers of small boats in America. He lives in Lebanon, Illinois.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is an extraordinary value -- full building plans for six different boat, and clear, methodical instruction to help anyone build their first boat. Over a hundred photos and drawings to illustrate the process. Full building plans included for: Mayfly: 14' sailboat Piragua: 13' pirogue, or simple canoe QT Skiff (rowing version): 13' rowboat QT Skiff (motor version): 13' motorboat Jonsboat: 16' jonboat Robote: 14' taped-seam rowboat

Jim Michalak is a former aerospace engineer who has become one of the foremost designers of homebuilt boats in America. He lives in Lebanon, Illinois.

I have been thinking about taking up boatbuilding as a new hobby, and after only reading this book I'm ready to get started this weekend. Such a simple approach to an intimidating process. I really feel confident about starting my first build.

I bought this book based on the reviews and am a little disappointed. It is well laid out with lots of helpful information, but the plans leave a little to be desired. Because I have some construction background, I am able to figure out how to make it work, but the dimensions for some of the Pirogue pieces are way off. Overall, a good book, but not for someone who doesn't have much experience building things.

I'm not much of a wood worker...never built a boat...but I built the 16' jonboat with my 9 year old son helping out. Sturdy. The plans take a little deciphering and could definitely be clearer or laid out in a grid so doing/converting measurements to the plywood would be a lot easier. This is a good entry point. You don't need experience and only minimal tools. Instead of building in the wood seats I used igloo boat coolers that serve as seats and coolers all in one. Added fishing rod holders out of pvc pipe. One consideration when building a 16' boat - I only lived a couple of blocks from a launch but otherwise have a trailer or BIG truck bed. Have fun.

Excellent book. I am definitely going to build a boat now! The information in the book seems to be complete. Two days ago I had no idea what lofting was, or how to even go about building a boat. This book made it all clear. The book comes with some of the author's boat plans. There are also a plethora of other boat plans available for online purchase from the author. I have dreamed of making my own boat since I was a kid. Now it's time!

Not sure what others see in this book. Illustrations are small and very fuzzy. It's not well organized and certainly not detailed.

I found this book covers everything you need to know to build simple boats using instant boat building techniques, as well as almost anything you would ever want to know to rig any type of boat, sail, row, paddle, or motor. It took me a while to read the whole book and I found the chapters on setting up boats I don't plan on ever dealing with as interesting as the ones I do build and use. All of his boat plans are not in the book, for a current list go to [...] and find his name in the index of boat builders, even if you don't build a Michalak design the construction details he gives will help you build almost any other boat plan. There is nothing that feels as good as being able to say "I built it myself" when people ask about your boat.

I am new to boat building, even new to boating (occasional canoeist), and have been reading a lot of sailing texts and boat building books. This one is the best, period. Experienced boatbuilders find it useful, but for those of us with no experience, it is a primer of basic boat construction. I loved the illustrations in Bolger's books and the other texts that I got through interlibrary loan. I borrowed Harold Payson's books from a friend, but the combination of clear writing with easy to comprehend drawings, and best yet, complete plans for 5 boats, make this the one book you have to have. Even if you have 10 books on boat building, you need this one. I finally decided to build a PD Racer as my first boat (NOT a Michalak design) and this book and the help of Dave Gray of Polysail were ABSOLUTELY the things that got me started and have kept me going. Without this book, I would have a pile of bonfire material and some bad memories, instead of a boat. Thanks Jim. And my next boat will be a Piragua! (And I wonder if an IMB can be rowed and sailed all the way on the Intercoastal?)

This is an absolute must-read book for beginning boatbuilders. I was able to build the QT Skiff from the plans in the book (I later ordered plans from Jim Michalak for 3 of his other boats) and I am having a great time rowing for exercise and taking the family fishing. Absolutely full of great information.

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