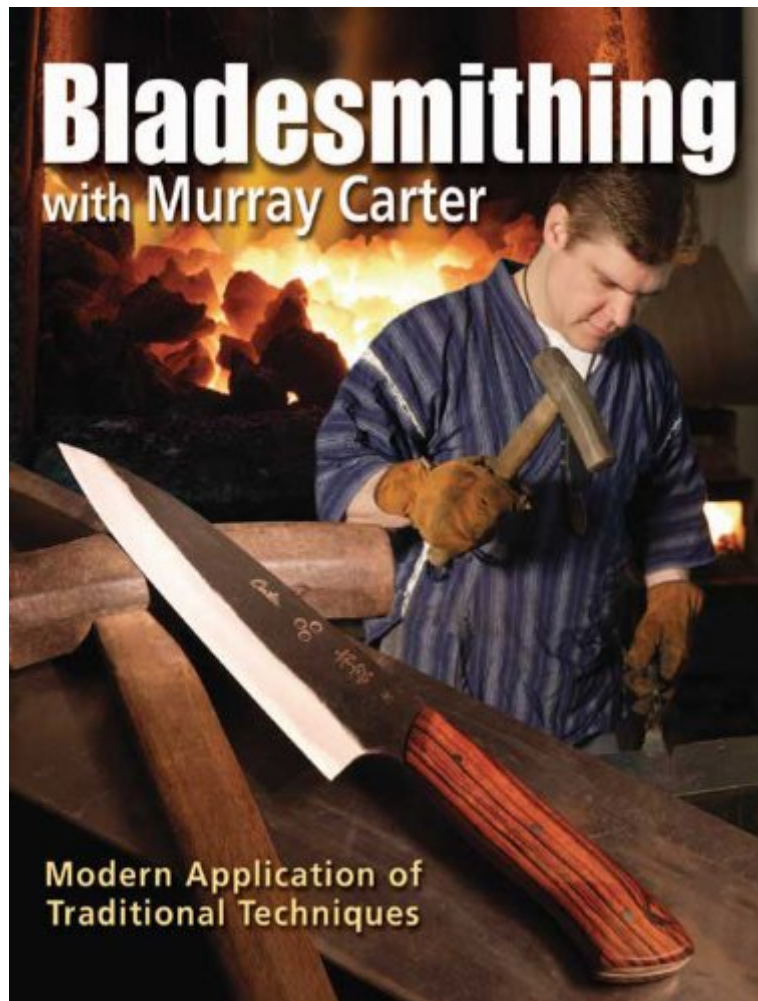


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Bladesmithing With Murray Carter: Modern Application Of Traditional Techniques



Synopsis

Bladesmithing with Murray Carter provides the reader with an in-depth look into traditional Japanese Cutlery forging techniques and their modern applications. A non-stop flow of inquiries to Murray has prompted him to reveal the secret techniques learned during 18 years in Japan, where he lived and worked as a village bladesmith. He now shares this wealth of information for the benefit of the curious reader and Japanese knife enthusiast alike. Owners of nearly 15,000 of Murray's knives will be delighted to see a comprehensive book written by the knives' creator. Features: 250+ dazzling, full-color images, including many by renowned photographer Hiro Soga. Unique and extremely rare insight into the Japanese culture through the (blue) eyes of a Japanese village bladesmith. Detailed explanations of Traditional Japanese Bladesmithing techniques that until now have been cloaked in mystery and myth. Enough detailed information to guide an aspiring bladesmith to become a successful smith in the Japanese style of blade making. About the Author Murray Carter is one of the most popular custom knifemakers at the annual BLADE Show, regularly conducts wildly popular seminars on shaving with a machete, and is known for standing at his booth sharpening knives while teaching the techniques to interested attendees. Carter lives in Vernonia, Oregon.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is not by any means a "how to" book, or contains any meaningful discussion of technique. It is a catalog or other sales tool for Murray Carters knife making business. Lots of pretty pictures of knives (mostly the kitchen variety), some *extremely* brief discussions of the forgecraft Mr. Carter employs, but not likely enough to appreciate or learn those techniques without an undue amount of wasted time and material--even if one can get past the preachy, self-promotional writing style. For whatever reason, there is the usual Health and Safety stuff, which should be obvious ("red hot steel shouldn't be touched with your hands cause its hot" or "wear safety glasses" sort of thing) and then ignores further mention of blacksmithing fundamentals. There are a few pages on various steels, some by their commercial names and others by composition, which is kind of nice, but there is barely enough to get started and someone with a reasonable degree of experience will likely know about the materials mentioned. Making handles and sheaths is summarized in few pages. (Surprisingly, Loctite and 5 minute epoxy is apparently within the boundary of "Traditional Technique". Who knew?) Sharpening and surface finish is dealt with in a similarly truncated manner. Its almost as if Mr. Carter had been thinking at some early point about writing a book about basic blacksmithing employing some of the body of Japanese technique, but forgot what he was doing a few pages into each chapter. This volume is unlikely to teach much, if anything, of practical value. It does not offer basic/intermediate/advanced or culture-specific technique.

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