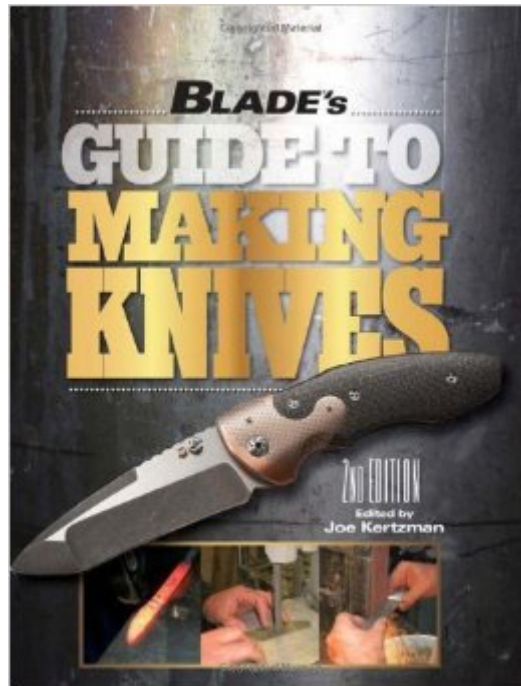


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# BLADE's Guide To Making Knives



## Synopsis

Learn the Secrets of Knifemaking From the Masters of the Trade With an all-star cast of renowned knifemakers, *BLADE's Guide To Making Knives 2nd Edition* brings you the most up-to-date, inside information available on fashioning edged implements. In this full-color, meticulously illustrated volume: John Lewis Jensen, designer and fabricator of one-of-a-kind ornamental edged weaponry, presents a step-by-step guide to creating your own art knife in "Desk Daggers: A Limited Edition Jensen Knives Trio" Tim Zowada, forger of damascus and smelted steel, reveals his trade secrets and methods in "Making the Using Knife" Allen Elishewitz lends his knowledge and know-how in "Making Patterns and Using a Pantograph" for those in the design stages of fashioning fine knives. Don Fogg, arguably one of the best sword makers on the planet, shares his expertise in "Forging Steel from Raw Materials" Vince Evans, crafter of Scottish dirks, Viking swords, Central Asian weaponry and other exotic and historical pieces, reveals his methods for "Making and Carving a Scottish Dirk" Rick Dunkerley, known for his mosaic-damascus masterpieces, opens his world of knowledge in "Building a Damascus Locking-Liner Folder" Kevin Hoffman unlocks the mysteries of "Lost Wax Casting for Guards & Pommels" illustrating each and every step of this tedious yet rewarding process. It's All Here! Forging Grinding Heat Treating Etching Polishing Sharpening Blades Guards Pommels Bolsters Handles Sheaths Whether your interest in making knives is new or you've been crafting blades for years, *BLADE's Guide to Making Knives 2nd Edition* arms you with knowledge to help you reap the rewards of a fruitful and fulfilling knifemaking hobby or career.

## Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Krause Publications; 2 edition (May 25, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1440228558

ISBN-13: 978-1440228551

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.7 x 10.9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #783,683 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #66 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Firearms & Weapons > Swords & Knives](#) #83 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Weaponsmithing](#) #158 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Power Tools](#)

## Customer Reviews

If you are new to knife making and want to make your first knife you are better off buying either the \$50 Knife Shop by Wayne Goddard or Custom Knifemaking - 10 Projects from a master craftsman by Tim McCreight (both of which I own) or, if you can get an edition with clear photos How to Make Knives by Richard Barney and Bob Loveless. If you have some experience you will find some useful tips that may help you. In 6 of the 7 sections of Blades Guide the editor has assumed a fairly high degree of knowledge, skill and expensive equipment for the projects that it overviews. I say overviews as I do not think a novice could use any of the sections except one (and I will come to that one later) as a manual to successfully complete the projects described. The projects are the construction of a tactical folder, the construction of a simple hunting knife, creation of pattern welded damascus, elementary sword smithing, installation of fancy screw fixed bolsters, forging a damascus tomahawk and blade grinding on a belt grinder. While the sections are well illustrated with colour photos and the text is easy to follow, the only section that a novice could use is Wayne Goddard's section on the creation of a simple hunting knife and even then large bits of this text and photos are lifted straight from the \$50 Knife Shop. The book does not have any real commentary on knife format and design, steel descriptions, classification and choosing the best steel for the job or sheathmaking or sharpening.

Although this book does have a lot of good info, several sections of this book are full of pretty pictures without much application to the average home knife builder. I'll start with the less useful info in the book. The first chapter leads off with a guy using an EDM machine (electric discharge machining) to begin making his knives, as the process goes on he uses a milling machine to do some of the other work, since I doubt anyone other than the most dedicated knife makers are going to have, or plan to ever purchase, that sort of equipment, it would have been better to see how to do these steps using more common tools and equipment. They were great looking knives but not much info a person could actually apply even in a well equipped home workshop. The third section makes no sense to me why it was even included, other than maybe to show how production shops used to make knives back in the 80's, it involves using a pantograph machine and making patterns for it. Since pantographs are used to make multiple copies of the same parts, and are obsolete (not very good if you are going into production these days), this really is of no use to a person actually trying to build their own knives. Another section in the book is about creating steel from raw materials and smelting. Although very interesting, once again not a lot of application for the knife builder or anyone else who is not already very experienced in knife making. This book does have some good sections

on basic knife design as well as some good info on casting guards and pommels, overall, I'd say about 1/2 to 2/3 of this book is actually useful. Even though this book has better pictures, for a person just starting out I would recommend getting this instead *How to Make Knives*

Not only does this book contain information about making blades, but it also has a lot of detailed information about making other parts of the complete knife. Some of the techniques are more advanced, such as lost wax casting, but this is a great resource for the beginner who wants to craft a more complicated knife than a simple piece of steel with a sharp edge. The photographs are plentiful, clear and in color, and add a lot of information to supplement the text. I purchased about a dozen books on making knives for the beginner. All in all, this is my second favorite book on this topic, and I strongly recommend adding it to your bookshelf.

Not a guide to making knives. I got this for my husband because he is learning to make knives thinking this would be more of a step by step but it is just a bunch of different people giving opinions and a few ideas. I would have returned it if I could have. Not worth it.

My husband was floored when he received this as a gift. He is very into knife making as a hobby and now has additional resources. Product arrived in a timely manner. I do not know what he thinks yet as he reads through then processes the information, then reads again.

The pictures are B & W, and aren't even particularly good B & W. David Boye's book is better and more detailed, as are several others. I know Loveless is a legend as a knife maker, but that doesn't have any impact on his written work. OK to buy as a historical document but there are better first books if you want to learn to be a knife maker.

I purchased this book for my kindle on my PC this unit is comprised of two books, this book covers a lot more ground than I thought it would ,really covers the process of making a good knife and swords and a few other subjects that are worth knowing.

it's a good book overall but it has nothing to do with what it say's."guide to making knives" would lead you to believe that it's about making knives.it's not. there are a few very cool special projects but nothing on making them.you may learn how to make a really artistic knife handle or copy a blank to a steel chunk using an expensive machine.but nothing if you want to learn how to make a knife

from scratch or a blank.

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