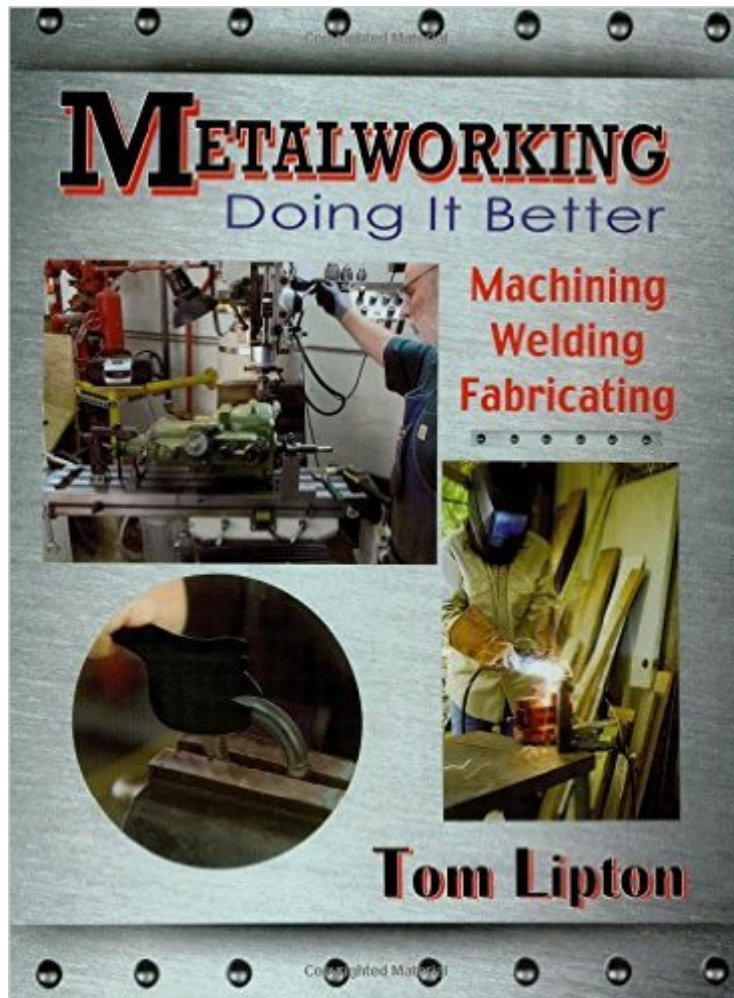


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# Metalworking: Doing It Better



## Synopsis

Â OverviewÂ This collection of priceless tips, tricks, skills, and experiences from a veteran of the trade is presented in a way that captures the readersâ™ attention and engages them in the process of furthering their skills. It includes shop-tested descriptions and illustrations of creative and unique techniques and observations from four decades in the metalworking trades. Perfect for hobbyists and veterans alike, and everyone in between, and for those who work out of either small shops or garages, backyard facilities and basements. It will help any metalworker do better work and do it faster!Â Users will learn about:Â The shop environment. Basic generic skills such as drawing and sketching, accuracy, speed, shop math and trigonometry, and angles. Setting up your shop, including floors, light, heating and cooling, workbenches and tables, air supply, raw material storage and handling, safety equipment, filing, sawing, rigging and lifting. Manual and CNC lathes. Manual and CNC mills. Welding. Flame straightening. Sheet metal, patterns, cones, and tanks and baffles. Sanding, grinding, and abrading.Â FeaturesÂ Covers hundreds of shop-tested techniques.Â These creative and unique techniques have been shop-tested by the author the old-fashioned way, by repetition and hard work. Features hundreds of 4-color photographs.Â Metalworking â ”Doing It Betterincludes over 900 4-color images personally photographed by the author to illustrate the methods he describes in the book. Fully integrates text and photographs.Â The guide has been designed so that in virtually every case, the tips and the supporting photographs appear together on the same page. Provides wide range of topics.Â Many of the topics address specific trade skills, working with manual and CNC lathes and mills, as well as welding flame straightening, sheet metal, sanding, grinding, and abrading. Earlier chapters focus on general across-the-board skills, including essential shop math and trigonometry, accuracy, speed, drawing, and sketching. Includes extensive guidance for setting up your workshop.Â Chapter 4 helps you with shop basics â ” finding the right floor and lights, heating and cooling, workbenches and tables, air supply, storage and handling of raw materials, and much more. Written from a folksy, personal perspective.Â The tips and techniques are presented as an ongoing, informal conversation between the author and the reader.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am currently reading this book. When I am finished with the first pass I will update this review. The book has information I want for my hobby, metalworking. The author is active in sharing his knowledge on YouTube, I like his approach, sense of humor, and respect for his trade. It is well reflected in what I have read so far. He discusses among other things the need to pass along what has been given to you, albeit more freely than it was given. Working in metal; designing, machining, and fabricating, is fascinating, and rewarding, well at least to me, to my wife not so much. The forth chapter on shop organization has made it well worth the price. This book is out in my shop right next to Machinery's Handbook. If metalworking is your trade or your hobby I will already endorse this as a good read and source of good ideas. (still reading)2/27/2014Here is the update: After finishing reading this book I would give it 6 stars if I could. I enjoyed reading it, the illustrations are clear and meaningful and the advice is practical. Buy Metalworking Doing it Better!, buy the Machinery's Handbook used, anything greater than the 19th edition (30th is the current).

Really there are two ways to review this book. If you don't already have "Metalworking: Sink or Swim" it's really a five star book. I bought "Sink or Swim" several years ago and have constantly referred back to it. It's the only book I own that has so much solid information about machining, welding, and sheet metal work all in one volume. I also subscribe to Tom's YouTube channel, and there is a bunch of great information over there. I was hoping this would be another volume of new information. The bad news is that 99% of the information contained in "Doing it Better" is exactly the same as what was in "Sink or Swim". The introduction is a little different, but you have to look pretty close to spot differences between the two. "Doing it Better" even has the same life preserver graphic on all the pages that was in "Sink or Swim." So, if you don't have either of Tom's books, I would encourage the purchase of one or the other. Getting both is really not necessary.

This a verbatim reprint of "Metalworking Sink or Swim". There is a bit of different in the introduction where the author waxes poetic how he wanted to write a book for hobbyists. Apparently that dream didn't come through, because this book is 99% identical to the first one. I wouldn't even call it "Second Edition". This is a shame, though, because the book is actually pretty good.

This book is nearly identical to Metalwork Sink or Swim. If you have one or the other I wouldn't buy the other, but it is a good book. I thought I was buying something new not just a new cover.

The content of this book is very good and I know because I purchased Metalworking Sink or Swim. This is the same book with a new shiny cover. I fault the publisher for pulling essentially a bait and switch. If you do not have the other book this is a good buy, but Industrial Press wants you to buy two books that are the same.

Like some of the other reviewers I am disappointed with this "reprint" under a new title. If I had not bought/read "Sink or Swim" I'd have been impressed. I don't think there was enough new stuff in it to bother - even though I had hoped otherwise.

I liked Tom Lipton's previous book: Sink or Swim, so I guess I also like this book. However, I can't give it a high rating because I already bought it once and getting virtually the same material when buying this book doesn't work for me. If you are considering this book, please know there is barely enough new material to honestly call it "Sink or Swim, 2nd Edition". The title & description certainly don't give the correct impression of what you will receive. Most of the material is copied and at best slightly reworked. If you have neither, buy this one instead of Sink or Swim. If you have Sink or Swim, save some money and give this one a pass.

If you already have sink or swim, as many others have stated. If you have not purchased either, get this one. I too am disappointed that it is a reprint not new content. I do think it is nearly a second edition as I feel it is laid out better. The figures referenced and the text line up better than in sink or swim. I bought this one first and found sink or swim to be more disjointed. This version does not have some of the anecdotes from sink or swim and the "setting up your shop" chapter is tailored a bit more towards the hobbier. If you are interested in metalworking buy one or the other.

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