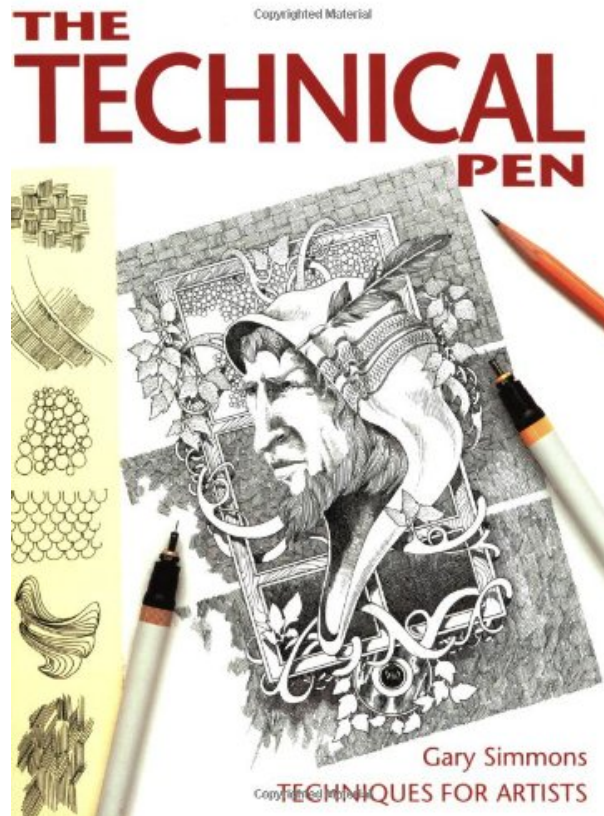


THE TECHNICAL PEN BY GARY SIMMONS

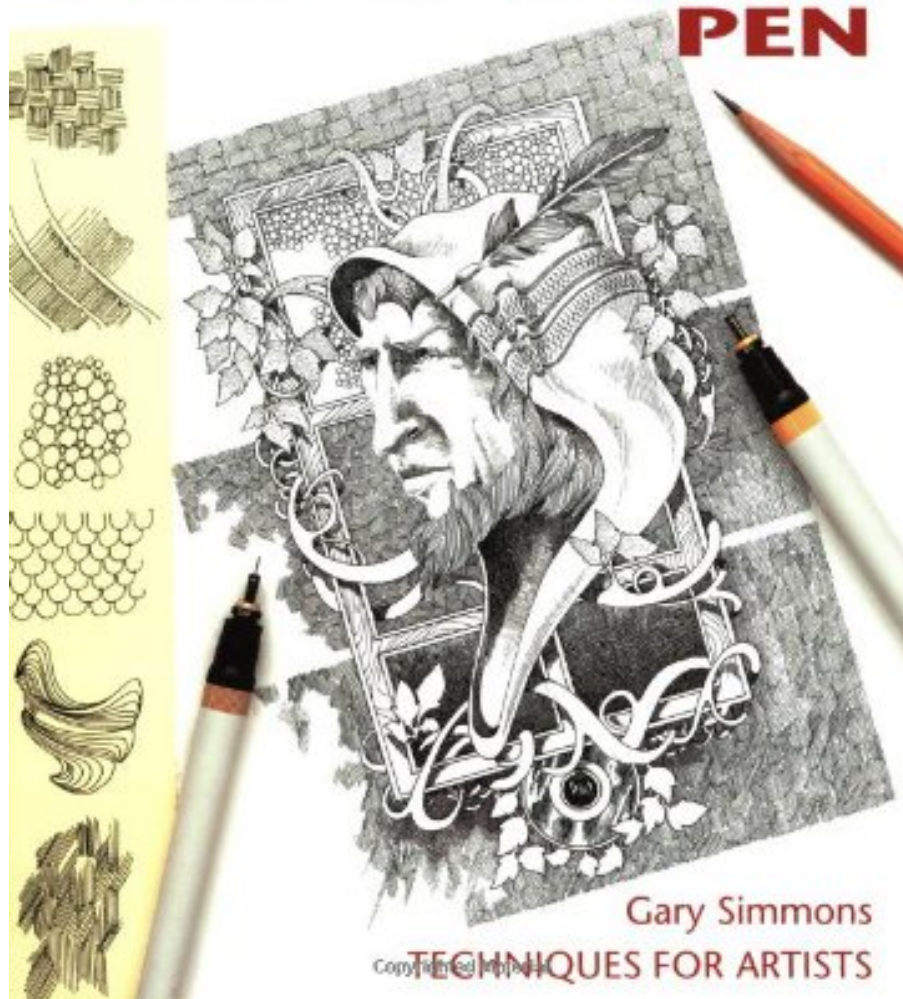


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From Library Journal

Simmons has written what could be termed the bible of technical pen artistry. The technical pen is widely used in drafting and in architectural renderings to make a narrow, consistent line but is often neglected by artists who rely on the quill (flexible nib) pen because of its ability to make lines of various thickness. Through numerous examples, the author demonstrates how to compensate for the lack of a flexible nib by using cross-hatching and line placement to create the desired effects. In an impressive series of drawings, Simmons offers 28 renditions of the same subject, demonstrating how to create specific textures and values for different results. Simmons analyzes everything from the mechanics and maintenance of the technical pen to choosing specific nibs for desired effects. He also considers the use of colored inks. Recommended for graphic arts collections in public and academic libraries.

- Jacqueline Garlesky, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Pa.

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About the Author

Gary Simmons has been working with pen and ink and the technical pen for nearly thirty years. Simmons has conducted pen-and-ink drawing workshops nationally for Koh-I-Noor, and he teaches fine arts at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

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THE TECHNICAL PEN BY GARY SIMMONS PDF

Here, for the first time, is a book devoted to a medium that has gained increasing popularity among artists who work in pen and ink. Originally designed for architects and engineers, the technical pen moves smoothly and easily over the paper's surface and offers a precise and predictable line quality that can't be matched by any other type of pen, permitting both loose, gestural sketching and tighter, more deliberate renderings that make it an ideal tool for fine artists, illustrators, and graphic artists alike.

Simmons then shows how to put the pen strokes to work through step-by-step demonstrations that illustrate the ins and outs of good, solid image construction, from initial pencil sketch through final inking. He explains how to build form, tone, texture, and "color" in drawings, and how to make sure that the pen strokes do what you really want them to do—a major concern in pen-and-ink rendering. For instance, perhaps you've added a layer of hatched lines over a bird's feathers to create a shadow effect, only to discover that you've suddenly obscured their texture, or maybe one area of your drawing has become too dark. Gary Simmons addresses these and other common problems of mastering the medium and tells how to avoid or solve them.

A special, ground-breaking section explores working with the new acrylic-based color inks, including advice on basic color theory, ink selection, color mixing and layering, and how to build an image in color step by step.

Gary Simmons, who has been teaching pen-and-ink techniques for some thirty years, covers every aspect of working with the technical pen, beginning with a thorough explanation of its anatomy, operation, and care and including troubleshooting tips as well as advice on choosing appropriate nib widths, inks, and drawing surfaces. He shows in detail how to achieve the wide variety of strokes and stroke patterns the technical pen makes possible—continuous parallel line, crosshatching, stippling, and more—and explores, with copious illustration, the different effects each of these can create alone and in combination.

- Sales Rank: #645424 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Watson-Guption
- Published on: 1992-09-01
- Released on: 1992-09-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .47" h x 8.28" w x 10.94" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 144 pages

Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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Most helpful customer reviews

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

This book is excellent but the 2014 printing is not good

By Lonesome Fugitive

I had previously borrowed the 1992 edition from my library and thought the book was excellent and thorough. The book was out of print at the time and I wasn't able to find a used copy at a reasonable price. I recently tried to find one and was pleasantly surprised to see that it was back in print and quickly placed an order. There were bad reviews for the hardcover edition, so I ordered the paperback version. However, I was disappointed when I started flipping through the pages of the 2014 edition.

The content in the book deserves 5 stars. I'm only rating this 3 stars to point out that the quality of the new edition is not great and looks like they photocopied the original on a cheap copier. The printing is inconsistent. In some cases it is too light and in most cases you can not make out the detail of the fine lines due to the poor reproduction. The paper is also thinner. As pointed out in the product description, the paperback copy is grayscale so the section on color is all in black and white.

I was so disappointed that I ended up buying a "like new" copy of the The Technical Pen 1992 edition published by Watson-Guittill from an Amazon third party seller and I would suggest you do the same. My 1992 edition also cost less than \$19.99 which was another bonus. You should be able to find a good copy at a reasonable price.

The default sized amazon photos are too small so the comparison for the last two pictures may not be obvious. To see the large picture, click on the title of the review "This book is excellent but the 2014 printing is not good" next to the 3 stars which will bring you to the review on a separate page. After clicking on the small thumbnails to get the larger image to pop up by itself, you can save the larger image to your desktop, or right-click and select properties to get the URL of the image and paste it in another browser window.

-comparison of covers (2014 edition is on top)

-page 106 of the 2014 edition (notice that the overall picture is too light in comparison to the 1992 edition. you can't even make out the shading of the horse in the left picture. The shading of the girl's shirt and helmet are much lighter. You will also notice the paper is thinner so that the text on the back side is more apparent)

-page 106 of the 1992 edition.

-comparison of page 130 which is the start of the section with color

-inside cover page of 2014 edition (the reproduction is blurry so you can't make out the details of the pen strokes. see above note about viewing the larger version of the image. This comparison is representative of the overall poor quality of the images in the rest of the book)

-inside cover page of 1992 edition

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

I was rather disappointed at the printing however

By IBELEME NKEMAKOLAM

I don't know really. I bought it in my search for more "killer strokes" and texture ideas as I had first discovered in James Richards' "Freehand Drawing and Discovery: Urban Sketching and Concept Drawing for Designers". I was rather disappointed at the printing however. It must have been the press or something. It seemed like some random binding done on a photocopier low on ink. Isn't it called "The Technical Pen"? What good is it to me if I can't discern the lines??? Good book regardless. The printing is annoying

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

Perfect companion book to Guptill's

By ezra

I finally found a good-condition copy of this at a reasonable price and I am glad I bought it. It is a perfect companion book to Guptill's "Rendering in Pen and Ink: The Classic Book On Pen and Ink". This book has great information on the care and use of the Technical Pen and has more imaginative examples of pen and ink than Guptill's more traditional (but, none the less beautiful and important) works. This book also has more on the "process" of doing an initial pencil outline, choosing pen strokes and building up patterns to create a drawing. It includes a section of problems to avoid with pen strokes and tones etc. which was very helpful to me. I would have never thought of using the patterns the author used to render some of the drawings. I look forward to playing with these in my own drawings. I would recommend getting both of these books and you should have all you need for a really good foundation in pen and ink.

See all 38 customer reviews...

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