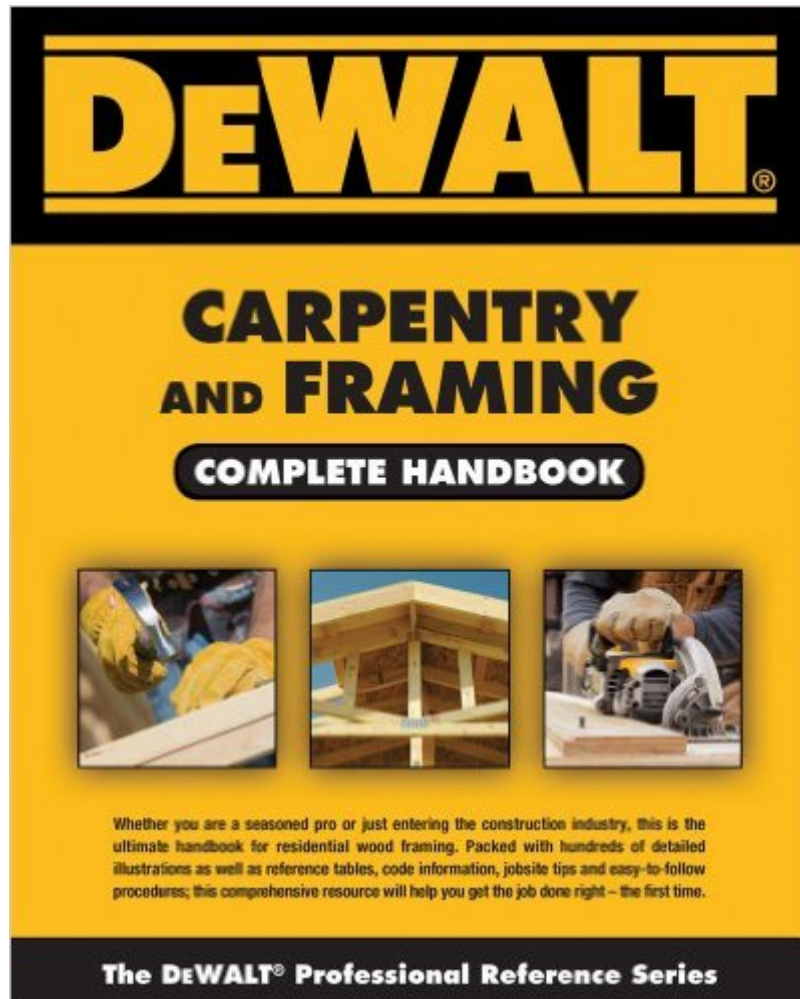


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# DEWALT Carpentry And Framing Complete Handbook (DEWALT Series)



## Synopsis

Whether you are a seasoned professional or just entering the construction industry, this is the ultimate handbook for residential wood framing and related topics. Packed with powerful, full-color diagrams and an easy-to-understand writing style, DEWALT Carpentry and Framing Complete Handbook does just that by spelling out, through pictures, the step-by-step procedures associated with key carpentry concepts. The accompanying text is clear, straightforward, and accessible, clarifying and elaborating on the visuals. Coverage begins with a discussion of house types and foundations, gradually progressing to more complex areas, such as wall and floor framing. The book concludes with a chapter on special topics, which includes an exploration of the construction of stairs, railings, porches, and decks. Logically organized for easy reference, this is a thorough yet concise introduction to the world of carpentry and framing for professionals.

**Key Handbook Features**

- Clarifies unfamiliar terminology with a glossary in each chapter that identifies and explains new terms for that topic.
- Explains potentially confusing math concepts through clear example calculations.
- Offers valuable information that extends beyond the basics with additional examples, span tables, and charts in the appendix; and notes, cautions, and tips in the sidebars.

## Book Information

Series: DEWALT Series

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (53 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

At 230 pages I didn't expect much beyond a quickie how-to-add-a-room book, but was pleasantly

surprised at how much useful information was packed into this thin book. It is light on text, but heavy on excellent color-coded drawings which quickly cover the essential ground on how an orthogonal house is (usually) framed, and it includes a useful appendix of (generalized) span tables for different woods and nailing schedules for different fasteners. Only a few pages up front are set aside for homeowners' design considerations before getting down to the gritty job of erecting the structure. There's no baby talk. The reader is presumed to be at least mechanically competent with a grasp of basic algebra, if not experienced in carpentry. Alternative ways are illustrated for laying sole plates, supporting stair treads, and hanging the barge rafters ("fly rafters" in this book) which project the roof beyond a gable end. The math formulas are there if you need to "stick frame" a complicated hip & valley roof, or frame a barn-like gambrel roof. There's a very useful discussion of the uses of engineered lumber (LVL & PSL beams, I-joists and the like) but no warnings about the pitfalls of mixing shrink-proof engineered stock with "green" dimension lumber. There's also scarcely any coverage of framing hardware, and none of fire blocking or bird blocks. Not good: Even though code-required use of these varies wildly, blocking is necessary in virtually all residential structures, and hardware--even if not mandated locally--is too cheap and useful to ignore. (Fortunately for the reader, illustrated hardware catalogs are available free online and at lumber yards) None of this is advanced framing. It dwells exclusively on modern platform framing methods.

I have about a dozen books on various aspects of construction. Most of them are limited to one subject or another (roofing, fencing, decks, for example). I do have several, however, that run the gamut from choosing a lot, orientating the house, choosing a floor plan, and so on. DeWalt's 'Carpentry and Framing' tend to be more of the latter style. It covers (though not in depth) picking a house style, advantages and disadvantages of each major style (one story, long and rectangular, and modular, et cetera). Its main focus, however, is from the first moment you turn a shovel of dirt, to the complete framing, including the roof framing, of the house (though not making it weather tight; there is no section on siding). I'm not a home builder, though I am an accomplished construction worker. I've done virtually everything necessary to build a house, and I've build a large garage from the footings to the ridgeboard. So I like to think I'm well-versed in most aspects of building. (Yes, all of my structures I've built are still standing!)'Carpentry and Framing' is an excellent book for both the novice (who has a general understanding of construction) up to and including my level of understanding. The book is detailed enough and replete with diagrams, charts, tables and drawings that explain building from the foundation to the top of the roof. The book explains the reasons for doing things they way they've been done for centuries; why one needs to add extra support for a

non-bearing partition wall that runs parallel, but between, floor joists (because the subfloor, unless it's, say, 2X6 running diagonal, needs extra support so it doesn't sag over time, opening a gap at the top of the wall).

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