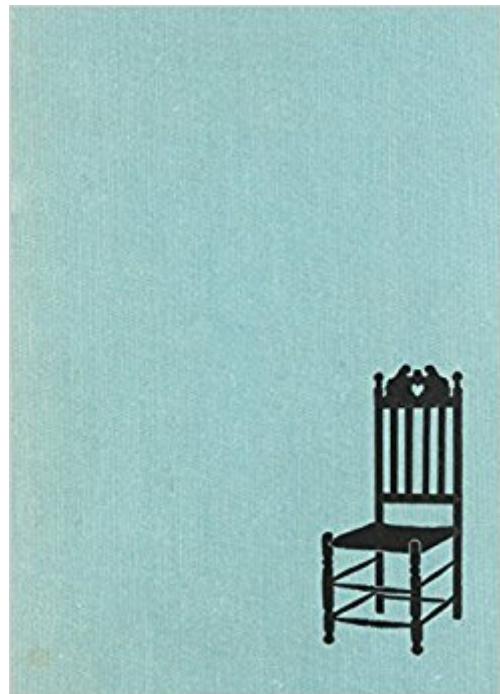


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# Country Furniture



## **Synopsis**

Describes the history, community, and daily life of the early American furniture maker, the types of wood he chose, his shop, tools, techniques, and business affairs. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 274 pages

Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co. (1974)

Language: English

ASIN: B00005VPM2

Package Dimensions: 10.1 x 7.6 x 1.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #725,346 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > House & Home #128 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Furniture #174 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Furniture Design

## **Customer Reviews**

Country Furniture is a practical guide to fashioning traditional country furniture by hand, using the techniques of old-time craftsmen. With the help of over 100 extensive, meticulous, and beautiful illustrations, the author provides sample workshop designs, practical tools and equipment advice, and reliable woodworking methods. Along the way he relays some of the fascinating history of country furniture - how it was made as well as interesting information about the furniture makers themselves. Country Furniture is a unique explanation of sought-after techniques. (8 X 10, 288 pages, map, illustrations, diagrams, charts) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Aldren A. Watson (1917-2013) was an illustrator and designer as well as woodworker. He had written and illustrated many magazine articles and books, including *The Blacksmith and Country Furniture*, published by Norton. He lived and painted in Vermont and New Hampshire until his death in 2013. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grew up in rural America where and back-when folks made and kept useful things needed in the

home and farm by using their own hands and efforts. No IKEA around for instant stuff. This book helps one to understand what it took to make even 'simple' things, and what the rightful pride the maker had in a well-finished product gave him/her. If you are curious about how it used to be before Walmart, and how those pricey antiques in the showcase shops came to be, this is a good place to start to understand the past that is getting too far away from our 'modern' life.

Here is a fun read and a valuable resource for anyone with an interest in traditional woodworking. The book is worth buying just for the superb pencil illustrations. I have bought several of Aldren Watson's books, he is clearly a man of exceptional talent.

Great book

Well written and beautifully illustrated.

Country Furniture is a wide-ranging book about furniture made from the 17th to the 19th centuries by amateurs and semi-professionals in New England. The book is as much about the furniture makers as it is about the furniture itself. Watson describes these furniture makers as resourceful, independent craftsmen working with locally-sourced materials in small shops in or near their homes. Watson shows how they used a relatively small but varied set of tools, and he indicates that they did not hesitate to modify and re-purpose tools when necessary. While professionals made fancy furniture for the rich in the large shops of Boston, Philadelphia, and New York, these country craftsmen built furniture largely for themselves and for a small, local clientele, but at their best, their furniture was no less refined or durable than the products of their urban counterparts. If Watson's account of these country craftsmen sometimes seems romanticized, it is nevertheless well-supported by historical documents like letters, diaries, and estate inventories. Watson's book details each aspect of the country furniture maker's craft, from the town he lived in and the lumber he used, to the tools and techniques he employed to make furniture for himself. The techniques Watson selects for illustration are sometimes haphazardly selected, but his descriptions are always informative. And like his other books, Country Furniture is lavishly illustrated with Watson's own line drawings, which are unsurpassable for clarity and precision. This book won't teach you how to build country furniture, but if you already know the basics of woodworking, it will show you many clever techniques for period work. Best of all, it will give you a deep appreciation for the woodworkers who

have gone on before you.

If you do an author/title search for this on , you will be amazed by how many times this book has been re-issued. You can also save some money - there's a range of prices for used copies. First, like all of his woodworking books, the line drawings are fantastic. Second, the practical ideas are usable by woodworkers of all skill levels. Third, he writes well and provides all the information you need for what he's describing. You owe it to yourself to get this book along with his others: Furniture Making Plain & Simple; & Hand Tools. These three books plus Bernard E. Jones' Complete Woodworker and Practical Woodworker will provide you with an unbelievable amount of information on hand tool woodworking. They may be from an earlier time, but quality never goes out of date.

Truly one of the best instructional/reference books on early American country style furniture published in the last 50 years. Although the book covers some basics it is more geared to the intermediate to advanced skilled craftsman. It features over 250 pages of detailed text, illustrations and diagrams. The book has over 300 detailed pencil drawings by the author and has wonderful instruction and history of country furniture craft technique.

Drawings of a woodworking shop are excellent, as is all the art work rendered in pencil. A treasure for colonial history interests and those who like working with wood.

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