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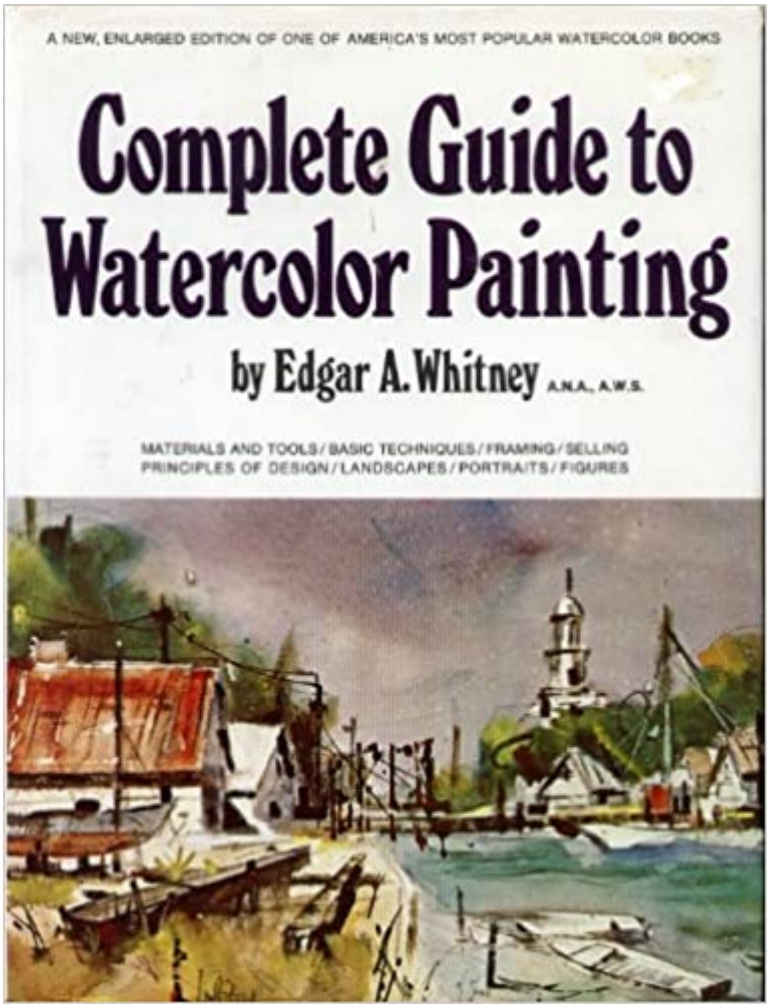
Complete Guide To Watercolor Painting



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Synopsis

The author of this superb guide was not only a renowned watercolor painter but also a brilliant teacher with an unmatched talent for conveying to his students the techniques and aesthetic philosophy underlying great paintings. Years after becoming award-winning painters themselves, his students still quote his "Whitneyisms" to remind themselves of all that is most important in creating art. This fine guide, the distillation of Edgar Whitney's teaching, is one of the most useful, comprehensive, and popular watercolor painting books every published Ã¢â ¬â • almost a cult classic.Starting with the nuts-and-bolts basics Ã¢â ¬â • including choice of paper, colors, palette, and brushes Ã¢â ¬â • and with exercises to give the beginner experience in using washes onÃ Â both dry and wet paper, the book presents a full course of watercolor painting. The author gives specific, detailed instructions for creating landscapes and for painting portraits and figures Ã¢â ¬â • instructions that come vividly to life in two 16-page full-color sections showing the steps involved in creatiang seven of his own watercolors. Other chapters focus on drawing; the principles and elements of design; and matting, framing, and selling completed works of art. Beautifully designed and illustrated, this invaluable book will be treasured by all watercolorists Ã¢â ¬â • from complete beginners to experienced painters looking for ways to improve their own paintings. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

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I have heard so much about Edgar Whitney through the years, I thought I'd better get the book for a reference. And it is full of wisdom, however I was disappointed that there were very few color illustrations, mostly black and white. So when he refers to color and value, its hard to see what he means when its black and white. I think its still good as a reference book, but I guess I am a "color" artist and I relate so much better to color illustrations.

Everybody loves this book and certainly Whitney is mentioned by many good artists as having been their instructor or inspiration. But I found it average. Okay. Some good information and artwork. Good foundation sort of stuff. But I didn't read the instruction or see the work and get wowed into suddenly learning something that would turn me into a watercolor wizard. Yet this book was around when so many others were not even in the planning. Whitney was there years ago teaching and inspiring and what he said then was new. For me, it is just that others....maybe his disciples, have since said the same thing. Maybe a good book for beginners.

I am a knowledgeable, competent artist with over 50 years experience. This book has given me a whole new look at design. Just excellent. Any artist will gain insight and skills from this book.

This is a wonderful book. I have a Master of Fine Arts Degree with an emphasis on oils. Recently,I've begun to work in watercolor and located this book. It beautifully clarifies some to the more technical aspects of painting as well as some of the finer points on watercolors.A must have for any serious painter

The instruction and information was good. But beginners should beware this is not aimed at the inexperienced watercolor artist. The author assumes his reader understands the basics (he does rush through some fundamentals with a tone of " let's get this over with"). The biggest disappointment was that my Kindle version shows only black and white photos. I can't imagine this is the way it was intended to be viewed.

I am an oil painter and bought this book because I wanted an intro to watercolor; Edgar Whitney's name kept coming up in my searches and now I know why. Whitney was a fine painter (I wouldn't have read the book otherwise) but a great art teacher. His forcefully argued, but well reasoned and well informed principles of design are concepts every artist must address whatever the medium. it's an old book so one laments the abundance of black and white illustrations, but the desire to teach and to have students learn something useful is there on every page. Beneath the seeming arrogance is a man who loves life, art and anyone who wants to learn about making art.

edgar whitney was perhaps the most influential american watercolor instructor of the 20th century, and this book (first published in the 1960's) is the popular and definitive statement of his painting principles. be warned: this is actually a book on visual design, with emphasis on the "six pattern schemes," the "rule of good form," the seven principles and eight elements of design, and so forth; technical advice is limited to wet in wet and texturing methods, and a fine chapter on drawing, the "foundation of all visual art." whitney's paintings -- which strike me as crass and histrionic -- may warn you about the level that "art" can sink to when it's based on simple formulas. but whitney is inspiring as a teacher, not as an artist, and his teaching is animated by a belief in the high purposes of art, the importance of craft, practice and scholarship, and by a disarming attitude of honesty and earnestness in everything he says. personally, i think the watercolor volume by skip lawrence (a whitney student) provides a better design introduction, but whitney's book is a classic -- fun to read, invaluable to refer to, and it may even improve your painting style.

I bought this because it was recommended, but I found slow reading and didn't like the black and

white photos. How can you talk about color and pigments without any? I thought that he didn't seem very excited about what he was talking about, but it was technical. Perhaps it is because I have been painting for awhile, and someone else with less experience would be very interested in his experiences with paint and paper.

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