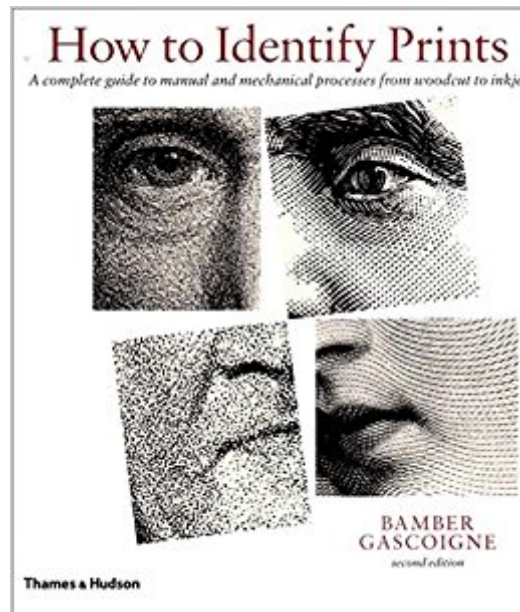




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How To Identify Prints, Second Edition



Synopsis

Since its first publication in 1986, this comprehensive guide has established itself as the essential reference book for print and book collectors, dealers in prints and illustrated books, art librarians, art professors and students, and everyone interested in graphic art. Is a particular print a woodcut, an etching, or a lithograph? Is it an original stipple engraving or a photogravure reproduction? Is the color printed or added by hand? Arranged in self-contained sections that can be consulted individually or as part of a larger research operation, this book helps identify accurately any printed image. Included are all the manual methods and also the mechanical processes that constitute the vast majority of printed images around us. In all, some ninety different techniques are described, both monochrome and color. Essential aspects of printing history and the printmaking craft receive full coverage, and examples are given of the features that reveal the type of print, such as varieties of line and tone. Of particular interest are the many illustrations of enlarged details showing the different appearance of various techniques under strong magnification. The one great change during the past twenty years has been the high-quality inkjet and laser prints that are now part of everyday life. How can one tell whether an attractive image is valuable in its own right or merely an appealing reproduction? As cheap printing becomes more sophisticated, it inevitably becomes harder to identify correctly an image of this kind. Bamber Gascoigne's new observations in this area, added for this revised edition, will prove invaluable. 275 illustrations, 40 in color.

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Customer Reviews

"An exceptional introduction to the field of printmaking as a whole. A must for any art collection."

Bamber Gascoigne is a widely known broadcaster, author, and publisher.

I've been a professional printer for over thirty years. I've been involved in quality and process engineering for fifteen years. I bought this book to fill in some gaps in my knowledge about the history of printing methods and processes. My interest is in process and system controls in the modern, digital printing workflow. This book provided wonderful scholarship and reliable information on print processes and methods. The author has done his homework. His descriptions of printing processes is accurate and reliable. I recommend this book without reservation for those interested in printing, in the history of printing, and, of course, in learning about how to identify the methods and processes used to produce the print under examination.

A good overview of the history of printmaking. It's just too much info to memorize and the section that is supposed to help you with that is sparse and lacking photos to help you out.

This was the book that clearly addressed any questions I had about any / all types of graphic art and its reproductive procedures . Takes all the guesswork out of what it is that your looking at !.

great information, lots of written detail and examples of different kinds of prints, but I remain oblivious (no fault of the book) in identifying prints and think in my case it's best I leave it to the experts

this is a great book for self-educating about prints, it's informative and has great visual, shame it's only b/w visuals, but it works for me. I have notes in it already.

Covers all eras and types of prints. Excellent general reference with lots of illustrations.

First of all, this is an EXCELLENT book...perhaps the best book I've ever read claiming to help with identifying "things." I help my wife with her antiques business, and try to learn as much as I can across a very broad range of subjects. I've read books on furniture, clocks, silversmithing, jewelry, porcelains, etc. etc., so I'm comparing this book to many others I have read. I love prints, hence I purchased this book and find it truly useful to narrow down what a particular print is, and how it was printed. Once read, I now look at some prints with awe at the technical prowess of the artists and

their amazing accomplishments. So why did I give this book 4 stars and not 5? It's missing one chapter in my opinion: and this chapter should provide a brief overview of other "drawn" forms of art. Others may disagree, saying this book is about prints, and adding watercolors, pencil drawings, india ink, oils, etc. is out of scope. But a chapter aimed at the novice to help quickly discriminate a true watercolor from a good print of that watercolor would be valuable (to me at least). A case in point...I purchased what I thought was a print (at auction, it was sold as a print), but on closer inspection I "think" it's a watercolor. The overlapping brush strokes and uneven distribution of color seemingly caused by a brush appear to distinguish it from a print. None of the illustrations in the book "look" like this. Having a couple of illustrations showing what to look for in a watercolor would help. I don't know anything about the author, but if there's ever a new edition, including such a chapter would prompt me to purchase the update. This one issue aside, I would totally recommend this book to anyone with any interest in the printed art form. Great book.

This book is a great reference book. It has helped me on more than one occasion in ascertaining the authenticity of a print. John P.

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