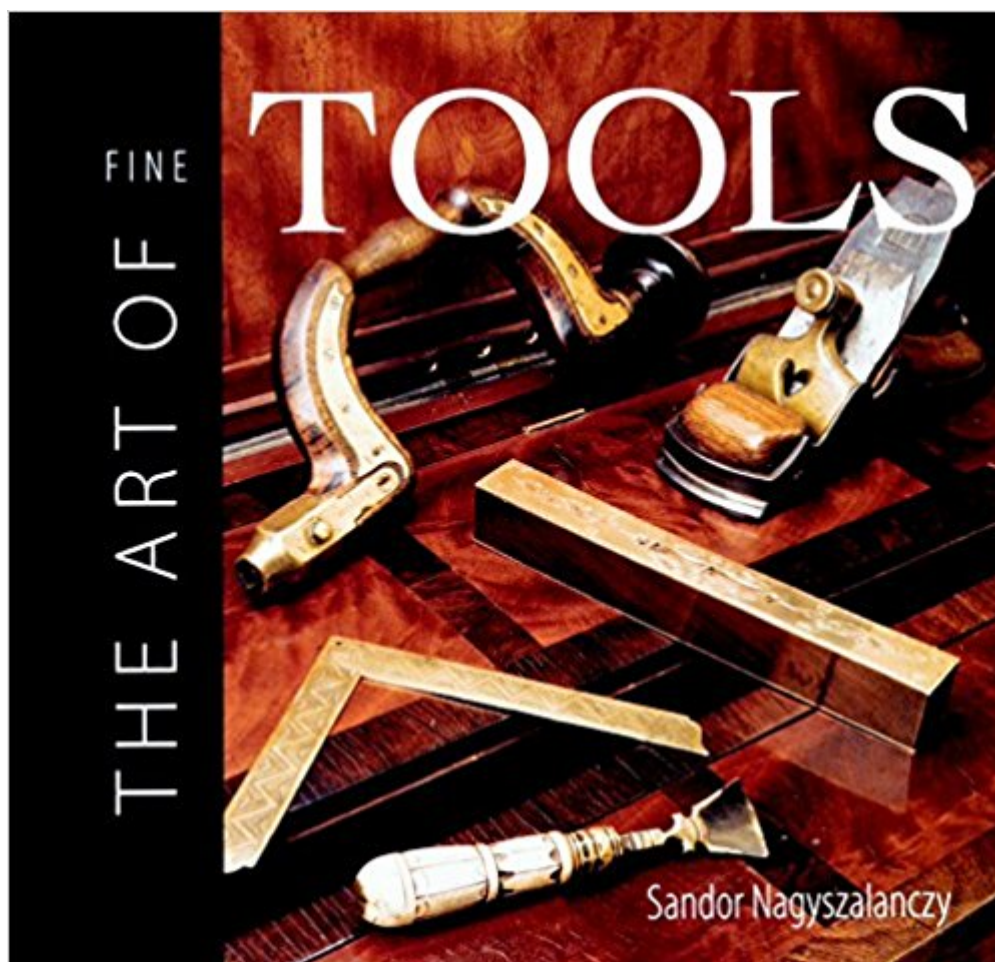


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# The Art Of Fine Tools



## Synopsis

This collection features more than 250 unique tools built with beautiful materials, lavished with artistic decoration, and crafted with remarkable precision. Privately owned, many of these tools have never been photographed or shown in publications before. Included are measuring instruments, handplanes, saws and other cutting tools, striking and drilling tools, Asian treasures, miniatures, ingenious foot-powered machines from the 19th century, and improbable combination tools. Each photo is accompanied by detailed notes that provide historical and technical background. This handsome volume will appeal to collectors, those who use tools, and anyone who appreciates finely crafted utilitarian objects.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Nagyszalanczy begins his book with this simple, declarative statement: "A well made tool is a thing of beauty that's as much a pleasure to look at as it is to use." Then, in nine chapters, 231 pages, and 300 color photographs, he backs it up beyond any possible argument. Never before has such a lavish and comprehensive exploration of stunningly elegant, exotic, plain but ingenious, and just flat-out gorgeous hand tools been assembled in one book. Making use of scores of private tool collections generously made available by private collectors and museums around the United States, the author doesn't merely write evocatively about a breathtaking variety of inventive and finely crafted tools, he also photographed them individually and in groupings that evoke nothing less than

classic still lifes, as objects of art and craft. And that they are, without a doubt: silver measuring tools, ivory and gilt rulers, forged-iron double-calipers, cast-iron and brass levels, and jewelry-like plumb bobs made of exquisite materials like scrimshaw, brass, and fine steel. Hand planes of dizzying variety and configurations, designed for dozens of particular and exacting tasks, and made of rosewood, brass, steel, and ivory; cast-iron hammers with heads shaped like fish; drills and augers, axes and saws, and chisels; a bone-handled gouge; quirky and unusual combination tools; human-powered scroll saws and many more are described and pictured in delightful detail. This is truly a tool-lover's dream book. --Mark A. Hetts

Sandor Nagyszalanczy of Bonny Doon, California is a professional furniture designer and freelance writer, photographer and consultant. With nearly 25 years of experience building custom furniture, he is a former senior editor of Fine Woodworking magazine and has appeared on The History Channel's "Modern Marvels" and ABC Television's "World News Tonight with Peter Jennings." Sandor has authored and photographed nine books published by the Taunton Press, including: Woodshop Jigs and Fixtures, Fixing and Avoiding Woodworking Mistakes, Woodshop Dust Control, The Wood Sanding Book, The Art of Fine Tools, Setting Up Shop and Power Tools: An Electric Celebration and Grounded Guide, The Homeowner's Ultimate Tool Guide, and Tools Rare and Ingenious.

When you get to a certain age, sex is no longer the dominant motivator. Some tend to notice the trouble, pain, grief and financial cost of chasing women, so we feel a need to chase something else expensive and dangerous. For some of us, that affliction is tools. On the journey to your brand of madness, you might need some photographic stimulation to help your imagination. Even though you can proudly place it on a coffee table, my wife still looks at me funny when I take this into the shop and lock the door. This is some of the best tool porn I've seen.

The "Art of Fine Tools" is a must have for anyone interested in the Artisans of the past and present. The author has done a fine job on the photography and compilation. I would also recommend the sequel "Tools Rare and Ingenious". For a Tool Collector it is great eye candy to drool over. It might be the only time one can see some of these Unique items. It also preserves part of the great collections of those whom have passed on. It is a remembrance of their acquaintance. I muse over it often. Dan Miller

A great coffee table book for the tool collector, or anyone who loves antiques. The tools shown are lovingly photographed and nicely described - it reminds me of how I photograph my own collection, which you can see on Instagram @markhrobinson

An excellent experience. Thanks

Nice negotiate with you

Great condition.

Great book

This is an art book, a coffee table book with beautiful pictures and little text. It's a survey of some of the antique pieces owned by certain collectors. It is not a collector guide, price guide or guide to using woodworking tools. It has great pictures of primarily old, American made woodworking hand tools. So, if you appreciate this kind of rare beauty, this is a book for you.

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