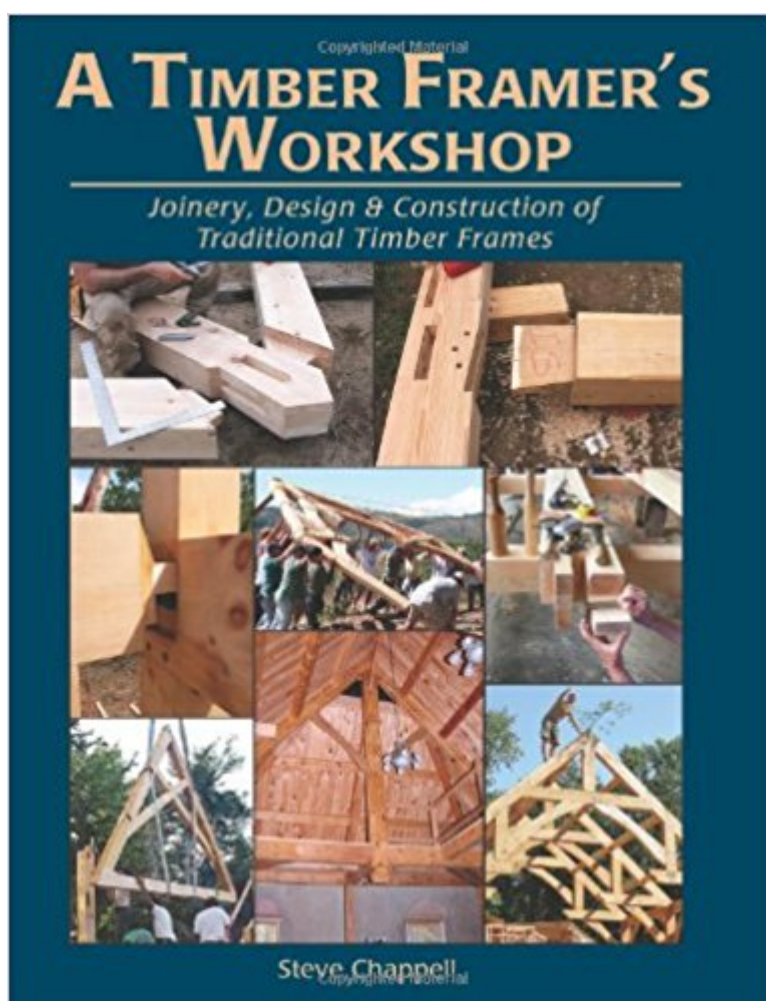


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# A Timber Framer's Workshop: Joinery, Design & Construction Of Traditional Timber Frames



## Synopsis

This revised edition of *A Timber Framers Workshop* has over 150 new photos and includes updated engineering specifications for pegged joinery, along with expanded in-depth technical information on the joinery, design and construction of Traditional Timber Frames. The major portion of *A Timber Framers Workshop* was first written back in 1983. Over a period of a number of years several revisions and additions took place, as it was used as the handout workshop manual for Fox Maple Timber Framing Workshops. At last, it was published for general distribution in 1998. When this book was first published in 1998, scientific testing results for pegged mortise and tenon joinery simply did not exist. The corollaries that could be made at that time were drawn from testing results for bolted connections. This is common in engineering as the essential physical laws concerning force and motion, primarily Newtonian physics, are symmetrical. However, nothing ever beats a direct test for a specific condition as the results end with an emphatic exclamation point. In the past five or six years testing has at last been carried out for a number of the most common pegged joinery conditions and the results have been published. The impetus for this revision was in large part to update and to include these new testing results so that the readers would be privy to the latest engineering results available for timber frame joinery. Along the way, over 150 new photos and drawings were added and editorial additions were made to clarify specific conditions, or to more fully explain a critical aspect of timber framing. While the essential book is the same, virtually every element is expanded in some way to paint a more vibrant picture of the technical aspects of how to build a traditional timber frame. In addition, there is an expanded element of color and nuance to help the reader more fully understand the magic of timber framing... and that timber framing really is the Jazz of building. Illustrated with over 500 photos and CAD drawings.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Among owner-builders, the traditional timber frame has been held as a pinnacle of achievement--for its rich history, unsurpassed beauty, and the sense of accomplishment it can offer. As founder and director of Fox Maple School of Traditional Building, Steve Chappell--author of *A Timber Framer's Workshop*--is in a unique position to share the knowledge he's aquired over the past 30 years. The title page says this book has been a work in progress for 15 years. The detail offered in illustrations and explanations supports that completely. Design and engineering make up a good part of this bookbut it also includes an essential introduction, a section on tools, wood characteristics, and joint details, among many other subjects. The point is, Chappell's 256-page book should not be overlooked if you are serious about timber framing. -- Back Home Magazine, Sept/Oct 1999Thank you for *A Timber Framer's Workshop*. I have been wanting to add a book like this to Earthwood's Book Catalog for years. Other books in the field are either glossy coffee table fare (pretty to look at, but lacking in hard-core info) or they are not particularly user-friendly. It's great to see a timber framing book which is logically organized for easy extraction of the essential information. We are pleased to add your crisply written textbook to our list. --Rob Roy, Director, Earthwood Building School, October 1999Throughout the book, Chappell shares an infectious love of the art of timber framing. A journeyman carpenter would be able to cut a timber frame with the information presented in this book...His comprehensive 'Joinery Design', 'Tension Joinery', and 'Roof Framing & Truss Design' sections are technical enough to hand to your engineer, but also comprehensible by the layman --Fine Homebuilding

Steve Chappell began his timber framing career in 1970 and has been building, teaching and writing about the craft ever since. As the editor & publisher of *Joiners Quarterly*, *The Journal of Timber Framing & Traditional Building*, Chappell was an early and prominent advocate of timber framing and traditional building during the early days of the revival. The Journal represented the most comprehensive source for timber framing and traditional building information available at that time. Through his calls to unite in JQ, the seeds of a guild were laid, and in 1984 co-founded the Timber Framers Guild. As a way of bringing the written information into more tangible use, Chappell

founded Fox Maple School of Traditional Building in 1983. The school's campus, in West Brownfield, Maine, currently conducts courses in timber framing and traditional building methods, including traditional clay infill, thatching and progressive natural building systems.

Fantastic book that overviews and covers the majority of the primary issues and aspects of timber framing (including most critically joinery and structural engineering), and also provides some practical instruction, but you won't be able to go build a timber frame structure after reading this book. It lacks discussion on several critical elements, namely joining a timber frame to foundations, costing, sourcing quality timbers, types of finishes for timbers, skinning and infilling the frame, and frame maintenance. Nonetheless, it's a great primer and highly recommended.

I have quite a few timber framing books. Most of them have pretty much all the same stuff. This one has quite a few extra bits or a bit more detail in areas I had more questions in. If I had to only use 2 of the books I have on the subject this would be one and the other would be *The Timber-Frame Home: Design, Construction, Finishing* by Ted Benson which does the best of talking about the required details other than just the timber shaping and assembling.

Every other timber frame book teaches you how to frame. This one teaches you how to teach timber framing.

This book goes into a lot of detail - which is good. I ordered a basics book to go along with it. Recommended for its detail.

This book is solid. You have to study the drawings, because Chappell seems to assume you know some things. Probably he's just forgotten more than I'll ever know about this. But the details of each joint are in there, if you look carefully at the drawings. Also, he rather overstates how difficult basic trig and geometry can be. But overall I think this is an excellent purchase.

Wow . I could spend months absorbing information from this book. it is a masterpiece . A Must have for anyone with a serious interest in Timber framing. The only book I've found that talks in depth about timber frame joinery. Makes me want to sign up at Fox-Maple workshop right away. The only complaint I have is the book could be re edited so the pictures fit the ideas on the pages better. still think it's a great book though.

I am just getting started in this book. I'm finding a lot of details that I was not aware needed to be considered.

A thoroughly enjoyable and compelling read for anyone interested in the design, building and engineering science of basic traditional Timber Frame construction. I especially liked that the book felt personal; one can sense the author's passion and knowledge for the old craft of hewing and joining timbers into beautiful and timeless buildings. How practical it is to build Timber Frame structures using the techniques described in the book in a world more focused on expediency and economics is, as they say, in the eye of the beholder. Reading about it in the way that the author presents, however, gives you the opportunity to make informed decisions of whether to use a parallam or a Tie Beam or a hammerbeam truss for a particular application. Very enjoyable reading style. Only regret: no Kindle version.

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