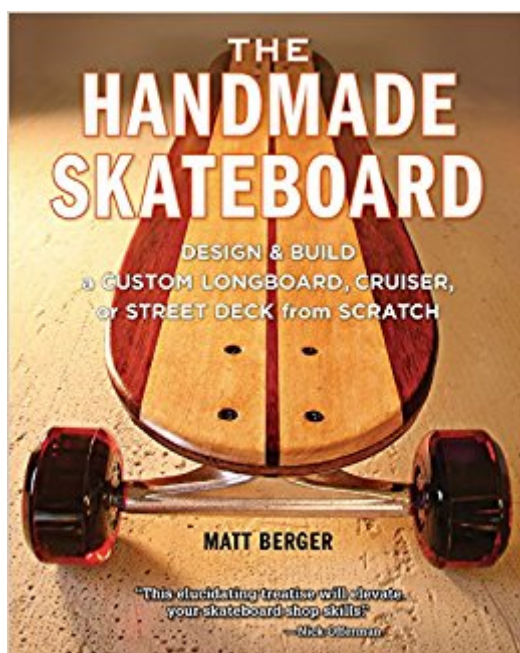


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# The Handmade Skateboard: Design & Build A Custom Longboard, Cruiser, Or Street Deck From Scratch



## Synopsis

The Handmade Skateboard is the definitive book on building custom skate decks of all shapes and sizes, from the high-performance street deck to the classic longboard to a vintage pinstripe cruisers that will turn heads everywhere you go. When you make your own skateboard from scratch you have the opportunity to create something that is perfectly tailored to you: a deck that matches your height, your weight, your center of balance, your skill level and your intended use. More importantly, making your own skate deck allows you to design a perfect deck to fit your personal style, making a statement about who you are. There's nothing wrong with choosing off-the-shelf and mass produced, but who doesn't prefer to stand out. Be different. Be one of a kind. That's what you get with a custom handmade skateboard. Whether you are an accomplished woodworker or an absolute beginner, The Handmade Skateboard guides you step-by-step through building five skateboard designs; from a simple Hack Board built in a few spare hours to a high-performance street deck pressed from seven layers of high-quality Maple veneers. A design guide covers everything you need to know about sizing and shaping your deck and choosing the right trucks and hardware. And detailed photos, illustrations and clear written instruction throughout provide all the information and motivation you need to make your own skateboard from scratch.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"When my dad, brothers and I opened Val Surf in 1962, we had decided to include skateboards in our product offering thus making us the world's first legitimate skateboard shop. The skateboard has

evolved so much since then, so it's great to see a new generation of skatemakers head back into the garage shop to build their own decks. A copy of The Handmade Skateboard would be a very helpful tool to guide them along." -- Mark "Wally" Richards, President and Co-Founder of Val Surf Boardshop and early skateboard pioneer "I know Matt Berger from the woodworking world so I expected this book to be an excellent resource for the "how-to" of deck building. What I didn't expect was the healthy dose of history and cultural perspective, leaving me much more informed and appreciative of the skateboard movement and the thought that goes into even the most modest skateboard design."- Marc Spagnuolo, aka "The Wood Whisperer" "Like a canoe-building manual for dry land, Matt Berger's elucidating treatise will elevate your skateboard shop skills from "ollie" to "goofy-foot kick-flip", with panache. Build yourself a stylish vehicle that requires no fuel beyond bacon, vanquishing the traffic and the claustrophobia of conventional conveyance."- Nick Offerman Actor, comedian, woodworker, and author of "Paddle Your Own Canoe"

The definitive book on building skateboards from scratch. When you make your own skateboard from scratch you have the opportunity to create something that is perfectly tailored to you, the perfect deck to fit your personal style. Beginner or advanced, this book teaches you to build custom handmade skateboards that turn eyes everywhere you go. There's nothing wrong with choosing off-the-shelf and mass produced, but who doesn't prefer to stand out? Be different. Be one of a kind. Build your own board. Inside The Handmade Skateboard, you'll find:

- A comprehensive history of the skateboard
- Expert tips and techniques for designing your own deck
- Step-by-step instructions for five custom boards
- Profiles of today's top skatemakers.

I've been doing some woodworking as a hobby for a couple of years and wanted to make a skateboard. I like the look of the old-school decks and was particularly interested in making a longboard. I got this book and read it cover to cover... and re-read it several times! It covers 4 main styles of construction ranging from a solid piece of wood, to vacuum compressing veneers. It can be overwhelming when shopping for the parts (trucks, bearings, wheels, spacers, pad, hardware) and this book along with some websites helped explain the differences. The book covers what type of finish to use on the board and how to make it grip without using grip-tape. It explains which tools are easiest to use and often provides alternatives in case you don't own the tools. The author has a

Facebook page for his line of boards and was very responsive when I had a question. Here are some pics of my first board. It's 40-inches long and 9-inches wide in a fishtail shape made from solid Padauk and Maple. I'd say that I spent more time reading the book and researching the project than I spent actually building the board. I think it came out nice and I'm a little wary of getting it banged up now. I guess I'll have to build another.

Fun book. Great for the coffee table even if I don't ever get around to building a board. Has a good deal of information if I do build a board. The history and pictures are appreciated.

Bought this to use as a reference for my High school woods class that I teach. I was able to follow it and make a few of the designs from what we have in the shop. Many more can also be made with basic tools and ability as well. I would recommend this to anyone interested in skateboard making or just learning about the industry.

My son and I just made our first board and cant wait to make many more, this book was not only a good read for me but he loves to read little parts of it and use the descriptive photos as reference and he is only 8!

Love the book! I like the background of skateboarding and how encouraging it is. I haven't made one yet, but I will. It's great to know that I don't need a huge shop of power tools. I'll share a picture of my first board when it's done.

This is a great book. It is well written and fun to read. More importantly, it has easy to follow instructions. You could just go straight for the instructions, but you'd miss out on the history of skateboards as well as spotlights on different companies making custom boards.

I really appreciated the book with all the information and technical aspects. Learned a lot yet (I must say) if you travel over the web you find identical or even more detailed information.

This book is really good, explain all history of the skateboards, shapers and evolution of the different types of the principal skateboards of the history.

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