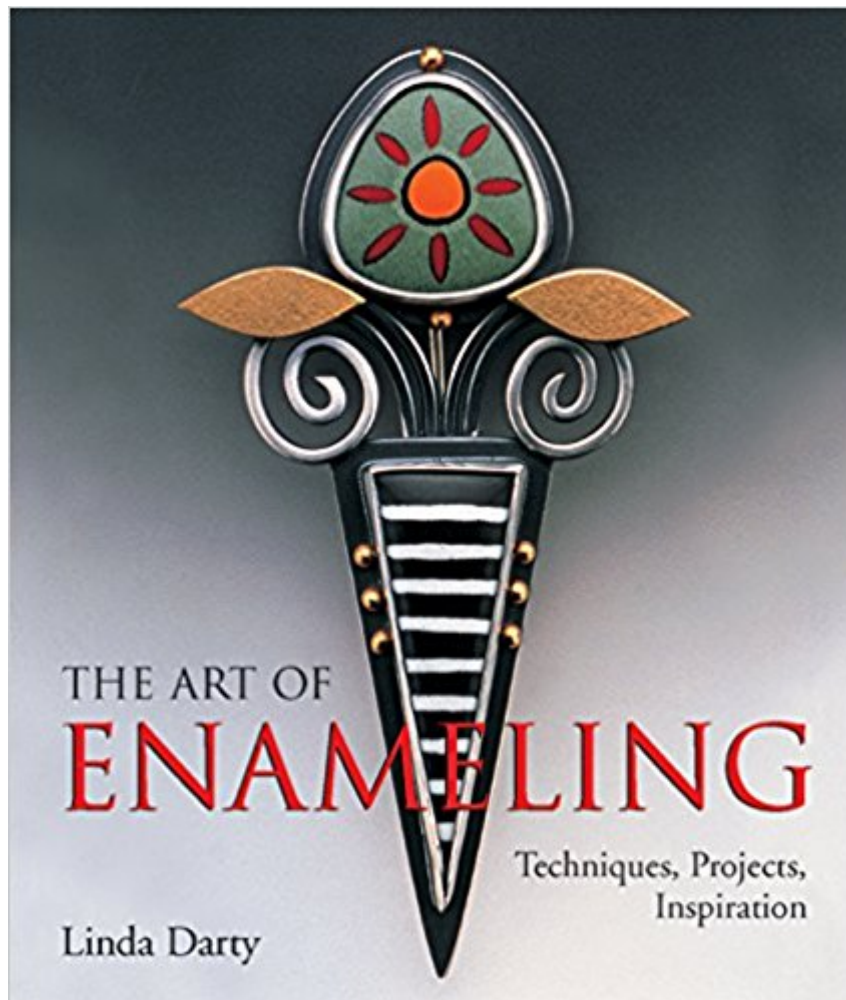




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The Art Of Enameling: Techniques, Projects, Inspiration



Synopsis

With this lavish introduction to the centuries-old art of enameling, even beginners can effortlessly create imaginative designs. Written with clarity and passion by a leader in the field, it covers all the popular techniques, the fundamentals of setting up a studio, and 14 fabulous projects. The various styles range from traditional cloisonné, champlevé, and plique-à-jour to experimental techniques such as firing enamel onto mesh forms. Even more creative possibilities await in the firing: use copper oxide to create cool color variations or try raku firing for unique effects. All the well-photographed projects, from a vibrantly toned flower ring to an elegant set of buttons with a delicate leaf pattern, encourage novices to use their skills and imagination.

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Customer Reviews

Just mention the Penland School of Crafts in any author's biography--and the quality is sure to be outstanding. North Carolina professor Darty pleases the eye, if only through the vast gallery of enamel art. The real issue--and one faced by previous authors--is how to best explain very complicated techniques. That is not her forte, quite frankly; the how-tos feature photographs that are too small and layouts that are way too crowded. But the visuals far outweigh the detriments, as do the dozen projects, ranging from stencil and sgraffito-gifted earrings to a fold-formed vessel; each features techniques, safety rules, what you need, and what you do. A great coffee-table wish book. Appended is the Brown & Sharpe (B&S) gauge for sheet metal, a select bibliography, and contributing artists. Barbara Jacobs

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--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

For over ten years, Linda Darty has been a leader in the field of contemporary enameling. Her own enamel/metal work has been included in highly regarded publications such as American Craft and Metalsmith around the world.

This book arrived a few days ago. It's comprehensive approach is just what I was hoping for in this technical oriented volume. (I've already read most of it and learned so, so much!) I've perused other enameling books and thought they were very nice and helpful but this book by Linda Darty is so well laid out in how to get started, materials and tools needed, to proposed lovely projects. But don't be fooled as I have by so many books that are simply a gloss over to the craft and going straight to projects. Those are nice if you have a foundation of skills to build on and need some inspiration. This book really does give you much needed skills to be an enameling artisan. I also love the 'Hot Tips' & 'Fast Facts & Helpful Hints' placed here and there because they really do contain much needed tips she's found useful in her personal work. I also love the 'Historical Highlight(s)'. Knowing a German monk named Theophilus the Presbyter was writing about and creating enameled pieces back in the 12th Century blew me away! I give this book highest marks for essential information for the beginner or as an important volume for the enamel artist who knows there's always a little more to learn!

Lark books can be kind of hit or miss on useful information sometimes, but this one is solid gold. I should note that I'm a beginning enamelist with a background in glass, so I have some basic understanding how how enamel (ground glass) works. However, there's a lot I don't know, and this book lays it out wonderfully, with good illustrations and wonderful artist examples. I'd highly recommend it.

"The Art of Enameling" is a great resource of those wanting to learn about the enameling process. We have been thinking about expanding our small business to include custom made jewelry and higher-end crafts, so an artist friend of ours recommended this book to use as a starting point in enameling. The book covers all aspects of enameling, include equipment, supplies, techniques, and projects. Each section contains useful and beautiful pictures of enameled pieces to illustrate the techniques being highlighted. My only minor issue is that the book does not contain a supplier list, however the publisher maintains an excellent list on it's web page and includes the address on page

175 of the book. This is one of the best "craft" books I have ever seen on any subject, so if you have any interest in enameling this is the book to get! Highly Recommended! CFH

Great book, Can't say that I am a better enameling person for it, but the steps and methods are very well put forth. A better student than I would get a lot more out of it.

Without a doubt, this is the single best book I have ever bought! It is filled with page after page of clear instructions for techniques I never imagined to exist. After just a few hours of reading it, I would not sell it back for 3 X the cover price. It is so comprehensive, I don't anticipate ever needing another book on enameling. BUY IT! You will be ecstatic with it!

I've been looking for a good book about enameling for quite some time. This book proves to be the "bible" for a learning enamelist such as myself. Linda Darty has outlined the process for a variety of methods, and the book is a treasure trove of how-tos as well as good tips. I find this to be the book I keep going back to as I learn how to enamel. I definitely think it's a must-have!

I bought this book with the assumption that it would be a typical crafts book. Wow, I was really wrong! To start with, Linda Darty spent seven years working at Penland School of Crafts - see (The Nature of Craft and the Penland Experience: Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Penland School of Crafts). So nothing in her book is at all mundane, typical or trivial. This book, although only 176 pages, is easily on par with Oppi Untracht's artisan technique books both in its knowledge base and its writing style. For those who've never heard of Oppi these are his two essential books: *Jewelry: Concepts And Technology* *Metal Techniques for Craftsmen: A Basic Manual on the Methods of Forming and Decorating Metals* The book itself is divided into three sections: "Enameling Fundamentals", "Enameling Techniques" and "Projects". It will lead the enameler through all the steps needed to learn theory and practice of studio setup, materials preparation, surface preparation, application, firing, finishing and setting technique. Then it will lead the reader through a series of projects of increasing technical and artistic complexity which demonstrate the art in its finest form. I was particularly impressed in the fact that the book just didn't limit itself to telling how to grind, sift and apply enamel powders. It went into good detail for the myriad metalworking tasks needed to actually make enameled objects. So the end result is a textbook for a professional course in enameling. Thanks Linda for taking the time to write this masterpiece!

No question that this is a must-have for any enamel artist.

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