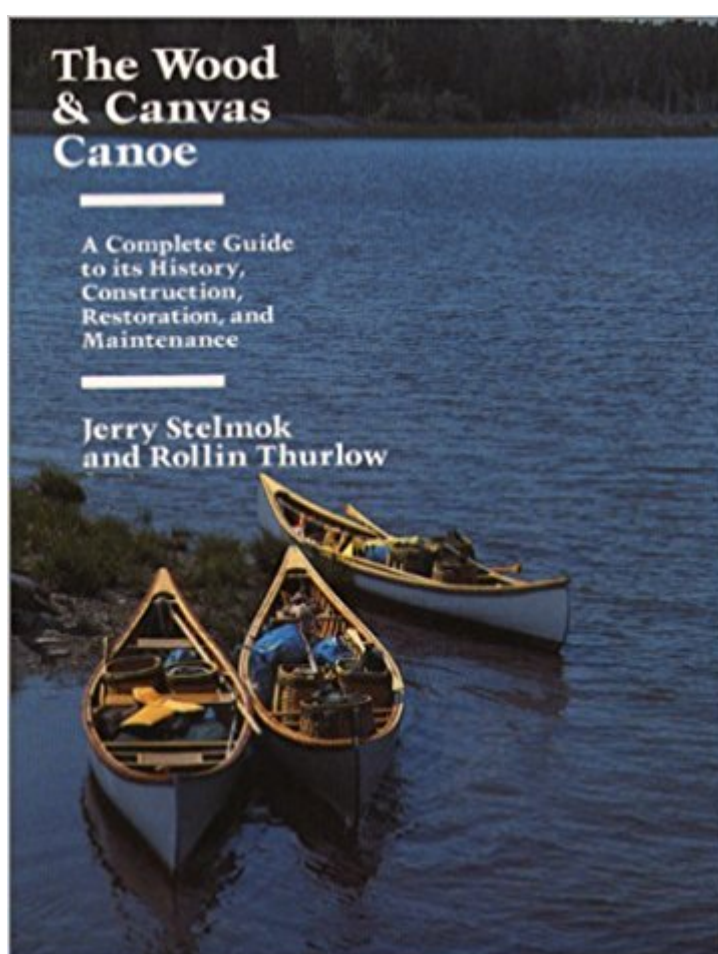


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# The Wood And Canvas Canoe: A Complete Guide To Its History, Construction, Restoration And Maintenance



## Synopsis

This rich history begins with the birchbark canoe, follows the turn-of-the-century canoe craze when builders such as Eve Gerrish, E. M. White, B. N. Morris, and others perfected the art of the wood-and-canvas canoe, then takes us step by step through the construction of an E. M. White-designed 18-footer. Fold-out plans are included. Detailed information is also provided on canoe repair, restoration, and maintenance. Jerry Stelmok builds new E. M. White designs and adaptations at Island Falls Canoe, and Rollin Thurlow builds, repairs, and restores canoes at his Northwoods Canoe Shop.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Authors of both books are traditional wooden boat builders in Maine. Alvord describes well-made small wooden hunting and fishing craft that have a permanent place in Eastern boating. Focusing on historical preservation and identification of trends rather than on boatbuilding, he begins with a good chapter on "Boat Basics," which includes a concise glossary and a few good clear diagrams illustrating the terms. He surveys the Native American birch-bark canoe, Eastern fishing guideboats, Maine lobster boats, duck boats, and Chesapeake Bay watercraft. For most craft, there are a detailed line drawing and an interesting anecdote. This will not supplant Howard Chapelle's *American Small Sailing Craft* (1951), but it is enjoyable and has a nice recommended reading list. Stelmok and Thurlow are boatbuilders writing for boatbuilders. They offer some good history and a fine description of canoe building, but there is a great deal of technical talk. The first part is a third-person narrative describing how a modern-day canoe maker builds a traditional birch-bark

canoe. It details a trip to the forest, selecting and gathering materials, and what tools to use. The rest of the book is a step-by-step guide by Stelmok to the repair and restoration of a turn-of-the-century wood and canvas canoe. We get a good idea of the rhythm of boatbuilding as it was in the early 1900s. This thorough, well-written book should be highly prized by canoe builders, but it is not for every library. John Kenny, San Francisco P.L. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"...must read for anyone interested in restoring, building, or just learning about wood/canvas canoes." -- Small Boat Journal, Dec/Jan 1989

I had an old canvas canoe I used for duck hunting that was in desperate need of repair. My hunting buddy and I decided to tackle the job of replacing broken ribs, rotten planking and re-canvassing the old girl. We literally had no idea of what we were getting into, and without the help of this book we would still be lost. It provided us with some great ideas and great step by step instructions.

Very informative book. Will be a BIG help in our Old Town wood canoe restoration project. It's loaded with photos and detailed info.

Given to a friend for his birthday because he is restoring a 1937 Old Town Canvas Canoe. He absolutely loved the book.

100%satisfied

Helpful. Came fast and is what I needed.

I purchased this book as a gift - but read it myself before giving it to them. The most informative book with very good illustrations. It helped me make decisions on the purchase of a wood & canvas canoe. I highly recommend it for anyone interested in canoes. Famos Montana

As advertised.

After reading the book twice, I understand much of what was written. However, it does require a second read. It is not a book full of diagrams on how to do every task and does probably require

some experience in boat building. Great history section.... one of the best parts. Would recommend it to anyone interested in reproducing the history of this great art. The section on building the forms was well written and probably the most important part of the book. All in all, a good read and well worth the purchase.

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