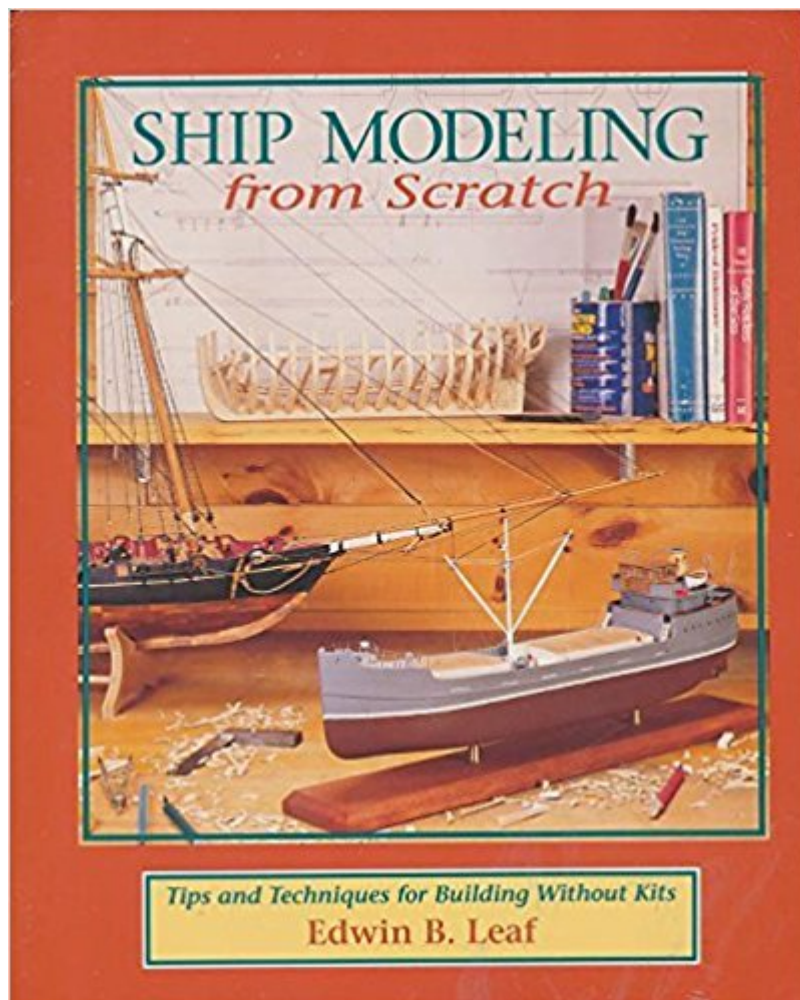




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# Ship Modeling From Scratch : Tips And Techniques For Building Without Kits



## Synopsis

Building a model from a kit is an excellent way to develop your modeling skills. But once you've mastered the basics, where do you go? If you're looking for a challenge, you move on to scratchbuilding. And that can be imposing: With a kit, you worked with someone else's plans, materials, and building instructions. Scratchbuilding makes you master of your own fate. You do the research, choose the subject, the scale, the material. The choices are limited only by your enthusiasm. Edwin B. Leaf scratchbuilt his first model--a Baltimore clipper--nearly fifty years ago, and he's been refining and building on his skills ever since. In *Ship Modeling from Scratch* he lays out the principles--from concept to construction to display--on which scratchbuilding is based. In clear, concise language complemented by detailed illustrations he tells how to interpret existing drawings or create your own, what materials to choose, what tools to buy, and what techniques to use to build everything from plank-on-frame, plank-on-bulkhead, or modern steel hulls to creating sharp and properly scaled details--paint to portholes. Building a model from scratch is a singular pursuit that requires patience, confidence, and ingenuity. With *Ship Modeling from Scratch* open on your workbench, you have your own private tutor guiding you through the troublespots. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

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## Customer Reviews

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Edwin B. Leaf began building models at the age of six, and by fifteen he had successfully scratchbuilt his first ship, a Baltimore clipper. He continued his modeling while traveling the world as a U.S. Army officer. Now retired from army service, Leaf pursues his craft as a member of the Philadelphia Ship Model Society, where he served as president. Often approached for advice on modeling problems, he began compiling tips, techniques, and drawings to help novice scratchbuilders, a move that led to frequent lectures before modeling groups--and to this book. A resident of southern New Jersey, Mr. Leaf serves as commodore of the Red Dragon Canoe Club when he's not at his workbench. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

The book deals with various types of ship models and imparts useful tips one can use for the different types of ship model building such as solid wood hulled ship models, lift method, planking on solid hulls, plank on frame models, and plank on bulkhead models. Edwin Leaf's writing explains the ship model building art and has acquainted me with building tips I may have missed, had I not secured the book The fact that his book concerns "scratch building" of model ships was important to me.

Very fast order, less the 24 hours. Book came in great shape. Information is displayed in line drawings no photographs. This is a minor issue but it is rather complete in descriptions. Building from scratch is like building from kits with you drawing and coming up with the design features and any customizing that needs done. Writer includes a good section of reference materials, sources of planes, tool sources and a very good glossary so your talking the same language when ordering parts or looking for something specific. All in all a well laid out and interesting book good to have as reference material in any builders library.

I have to admit I wasn't going to buy this book until I met Mr. Leaf at the monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Model Ship Society. He is a quiet approving man who is quick to offer advice that has clearly been attained through a lifetime of doing his craft. If you are taking the next step in ship modeling (from scratch) or even seeking to be a better ship modeler with kits, this book fills in a lot of gaps that may be left by other ship modeling books. His wisdom comes through with every page, and he even throws in funny, witty or anecdotal quotes by modelers and other at the beginning of every chapter. While the book is slightly dated and doesn't reference a lot of internet sources, the sources that are mentioned are still valid. There are very few you-tube videos, and tutorials on line for this subject. Books are still a very valid "go to" information source. If your looking for a hobby especially in modeling, building wooden ships or even ships in general, there will never be a 3-D printer that can make a model out of wood that looks as good as one done by a skilled craftsman. It is a future proof hobby, that has waned in recent years, but is slowly coming back (Pirates of the Caribbean movies?). Good luck, and you can do no worse than try. Everyone starts out rough, and Mr. Leaf talks you through it with this book!

I bought it. I wanted it

I love the book except I am a beginner and I am looking for a book to walk me through step by step not terms by terms. what wood to buy how to make the hule not a math problem in making a hule, but for people who have been doing this for years its a great book.

Great help while working on the Bounty...new hobby for me and this greatly aids understanding and the subtle methology.

Pretty good book; best part is on scaling models from photos.

This book is an excellent guide for scratch building model boats for beginners.

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