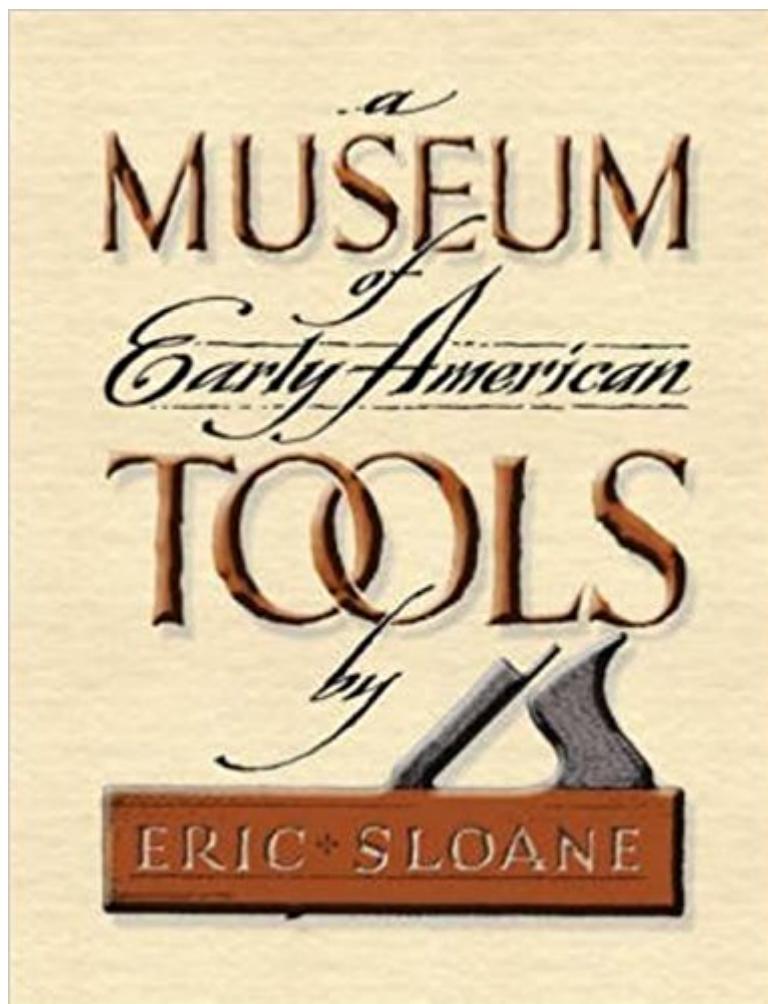


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# A Museum Of Early American Tools



## Synopsis

Venture back into the handmade world of apple butter paddles, hay forks, and other traditional implements with this fascinating and charmingly illustrated book. Its guided tour of folk tools and artifacts from the pre-industrial age examines farm and kitchen utensils as well as devices used by curriers, wheelwrights, coopers, blacksmiths, coachmakers, loggers, tanners, and other craftsmen. Written by a distinguished historian and collector of antiques, this absorbing survey offers informal but accurate depictions of "special tools for every job," from a holding dog and a hauling sledge to reaping hooks, splitting wedges, and felling axes. Scores of pen-and-ink sketches by the author portray simple tools and other items that are ingeniously devised and exquisitely constructed. A valuable textbook for historians, this volume is also a fascinating handbook for all those who love Americana.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

...".chock-full of informal lore about old tools and their uses ... superb pen-and-ink sketches."

Fresh, informal, direct, and expressive, A MUSEUM OF EARLY AMERICAN TOOLS covers early tools and the wooden and metal artifacts that our forefathers made with them. Including dozens of pen-and-ink sketches. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book. This book was a gift for my boyfriend for Christmas. Not only did he read it, he's now

read it many times. I've also read it. The book is extremely well written and goes through the history of American craftsmanship and tools. Different ways, in different regions, different woods, etc. This book is perfect for anyone who may have an interest in building their own tools one day, and even if you don't -- it's a beautifully written history of Americans and our evolution as farmers and hard work being done throughout the century. Full of discoveries and lost trades/ideas, I would give this book to anyone and know that I had made a solid choice. Even for someone who wouldn't normally read this kind of book, I found it to be enlightening and fun to read.

Very helpful for those curious about the past. Nice detailed drawings of the tools. Who knew that there were so many specific tools for so many different jobs.

An excellent reference for the range of historical tools. It is not an exhaustive reference of the range of tools or their variations but it provides a visual example of nearly every class of tool found in the colonial period. It has filled in a lot of gaps in my understanding of colonial industry.

It's fascinating to see all the clever tools that craftsmen used to use that we don't really see anymore, and it's a shame that many of these tools have been lost to antiquity because they're often superior to the mass-produced contemporary implements we use in modern times. This book contains a wealth of information that is extremely helpful to an aspiring woodworker, as well as someone interested in the historical values of such tools. The illustrations are very well done and the text does a good job explaining how each tool was used. I greatly recommend this.

Put on your homespuns and let's browse how Early Americans made things. You say you need a bowl for mixing bread ?, just a minute, I'll get a log. A rake for haying ?, I'll split tines from a board. How about cog gears powered by a waterwheel that turns the millstone that grinds your corn - that will take a little longer. This astonishing book of drawings explains the genius of our ancestors who turned to wood and forge to fashion utilitarian things that made life easier. Just admiring Eric Sloan's careful pen work puts you in awe of Old Timey Creativity.

Fascinating history of the evolution of the tools of our trades and how they shaped our Nation and our lives. A treasure for anyone who uses tools or collects them.

If you love old tools and the folklore that goes with them, get this book! Sloan is tops in his field of

both research and artwork. Not only do you get a wealth of information, but also a dose of humor that makes it a delight to read these tomes. There is an old fashioned charm in the country wisdom that Sloan wrote about so well. Something that is sorely missing in a lot of more recent books. I rely on this volume when doing historical artwork when I have to depict a hand tool.

The drawings and text in "An Early Museum of Early American Tools" match the excellent quality and beauty of Sloane's other works. I also have "A Reverence for Wood," and "An Age of Barns," by Sloane. As an amateur woodworker and toolmaker, I love drawings and descriptions of old tools. I've previously purchased "Mechanick Exercises or the Doctrine of Handy-Works" by Joseph Moxon (1703), and the 3-volume set of "Description des Arts et Metiers" by A.J. Roubo (1775). I knew I would enjoy this book.

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