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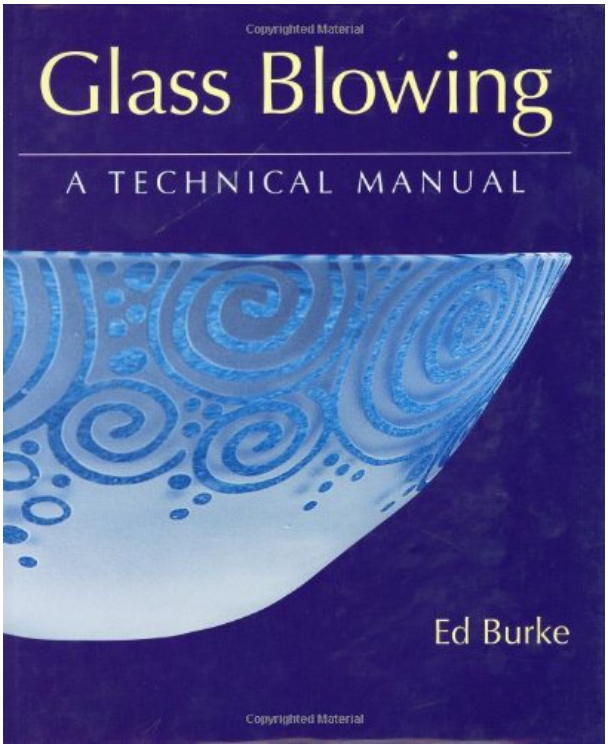

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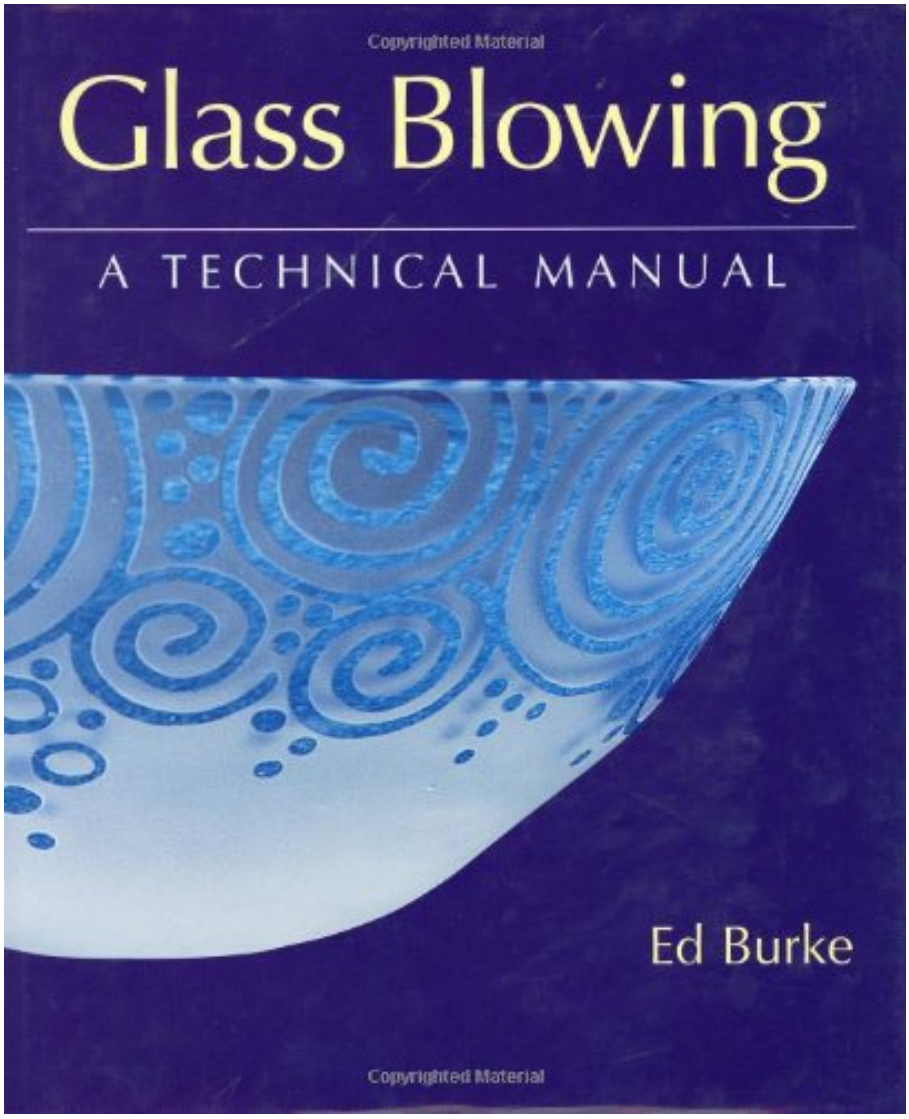

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Review

Aimed at novices, students, and enthusiasts, and featuring 200 color photos and drawings, this stunning work reveals the secrets of the glass blower’s art.

About the Author

Ed Burke founded E+M Glass with his wife Margaret in 1988 in the northern borders of Wales and England. Their work is characterized by Ed's bold use of bright colours and Margaret's exciting, deeply etched designs. They travel around the world holding courses, attending trade shows and selling their work.

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GLASS BLOWING: A TECHNICAL MANUAL BY ED BURKE PDF

This lavish volume celebrates the art of glass blowing by explaining the processes and illustrating the techniques with a dazzling array of finished pieces. Beginning with tools and equipment, it offers a practical overview of the basic techniques—how to gather molten glass from the furnace, shape glass, and use jacks—while making a variety of solid glass objects. Glass Blowing goes on to explain the importance of the punty iron and instructs on how to blow a tumbler, vase, bowl, and plate before advancing to the techniques needed to make stemware and handles. The use of color is one of the defining qualities of studio glass, and the author encourages the artist to experiment with a range of techniques to introduce color and originality to their work.

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Features

- Used Book in Good Condition

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.
Five Stars
By Amazon Customer
My sister-in-law loves it. It was a gift to her.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful.
Five Stars
By Sue

Great book

51 of 52 people found the following review helpful.
A disappointment for me.
By T. Trower
The sub-title on this book is "a technical manual" which is just not accurate. This book is an excellent overview of some of the techniques and tools used in furnace type glass blowing. It is not a technical or instructional manual, or a least not a good one. Anyone who wants to learn how to blow glass should go buy a copy of Edward T. Schmid's books and work from them.

This book is written in a narrative style as if it were a complete set of instructions as to the glass blowing process but it tends to make some big assumptions as to the students pre-existing knowledge and glosses over the details of the process. Worst of all it give some very bad advice as to eye protection, instructing beginning glassblowers to utilize didymium eyeglasses for safety. Didymium's are intended to protect the lampworkers eyes from the sodium flare created when working soft glass at the torch. They offer little or no protection from infra-red radiation which is the greatest danger to the eyes of the furnace glassblower. The false sense of security is worse than no protection at all since the dark tint of didymiums will open the pupil and allow even greater amounts infra-red to reach the retina than would if the didymiums were not there. At least the person without any eye protection will not stare into the glory hole for prolonged periods.

I also find the sequence of instruction to be very inappropriate. Immediately after the author introduces the student to the basic use of color rod and powdered color he jumps ahead to one of the most difficult techniques to master, incalmo (encalmo), the joining of two separately blown vessels in to a single vessel while still hot on the blowpipe.

My last complaint is less important but bothersome to me. The author assumes that all students working out of the book will have an assistant at all times. This may be the case in the UK but certainly is not the case here in North America.

Overall a fair overview of glassblowing for the glass collector or the curious but not a textbook, nor a "technical manual".

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