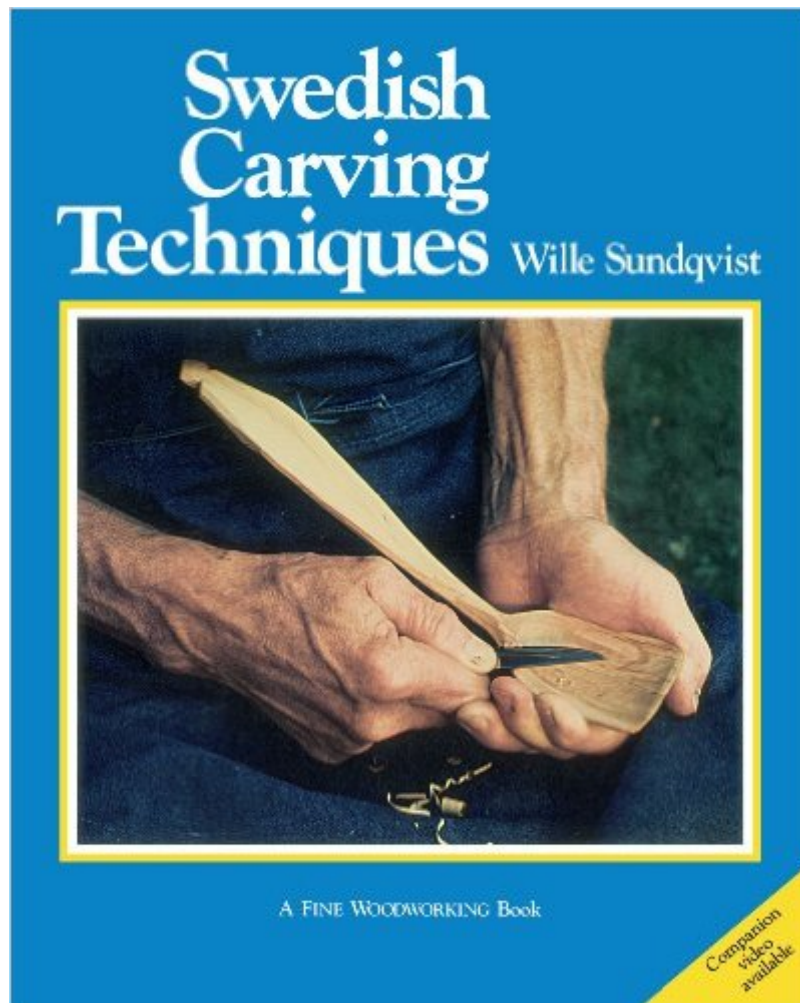


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# Swedish Carving Techniques (Fine Woodworking)



## Synopsis

Sharpened axes and knives are the oldest hand tools known to man. As the author says, "I have come to recognize that there is an enormous lack of understanding and skill in using hand tools....This, along with a realization of the close relationship between hand tools and the keen sense of design that was our forefathers'™, has prompted me to write this book." • Swedish Carving Techniques brings a new appreciation of this age-old craft and how working with knives and axes fits into today's high-tech world.

## Book Information

Series: Fine Woodworking

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Taunton Press (December 17, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1627106731

ISBN-13: 978-1627106733

Product Dimensions: 8.1 x 0.3 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (48 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,387 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Woodworking > Projects](#) #29 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Do-It-Yourself](#) #664 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book takes you through traditional folk woodcarving, with an emphasis on sloyd (handcraft) knives and some discussion of axe, adze, and gouge work. The author shows you the tools and how to sharpen them. Then he gets into carving techniques and different kinds of strokes. He discusses in detail control, power and safety. He starts off showing you how to sharpen a pencil, and gets into dough bowls, butter paddles, spoons and ladles. There is a good discussion of how to design spoons so that the strength is maximized by the shape of the spoon and choice of wood. If you are interested in carving boots or ducks, this book is probably not for you. But if the sensuous appeal of a spoon carved from a tree branch appeals to you, you will find it fascinating. Favorite quote: "A knifeless man is a lifeless man."

Very in-depth study of sharpening techniques and knife grips. Book contains a few projects to get one started in carving, which require certain grips (which are again explained with photos). I purchased book after I had started carving - not really knowing how. After too many close calls of having to visit ER, I decided to break down and get a book - why reinvent the wheel? These techniques are centuries old and teach one to safely use the right tool for the right job. Grain direction, wood selection, finishing etc are laid out with photos to help explain each subject. This is one of those books where I can quickly review a certain topic as needed, but I feel it's best to read from start to finish before ever picking up a knife - save yourself the trouble of developing bad habits as well as a lot on band-aids and get the book. While some of the grips seem awkward at first, SAFETY is at the root of each and foremost in the books overall theme. This book will not guide you step by step on how to say "make a spoon", but will give you guidelines and the info needed to do so, while leaving room for your particular style to grow from the base knowledge supplied. Highly recommended for anyone considering hand carving greenwood. Mr Sundqvist is a true master at his art and a very good teacher - I know there is at least one video DVD and possibly a 2nd, which would likely compliment this book very well.

I never thought I would be able to get a copy of this book. Way back in 1992 I bought Jogge (Wille's son) VHS tape: Carving Swedish Woodenware. I have watched it dozens of times. I did not buy this, the companion book by Wille Sundqvist... what a fool was I. Last year (2013), I was looking to get the video on DVD - without much luck. This book was available, USED, at several sites.... for close to a THOUSAND BUCKS !!! Then I read on a couple sites Taunton Press was considering reprinting this book, and reissuing the video on DVD. Man, did I jump on them both when they had them on their site! Woo-Hoot.... I got lucky and got them both! If you have any interest in Carving, Woodenware, techniques, tool construction - do not hesitate to purchase these (the book and the video on DVD) while they are still available. You too will refer to them often - because they are Masterwork!

This book was out of print for the longest time and was selling for really expensive prices used. Now that they are printing new copies again I decided to pick up a copy to learn Swedish carving techniques. It covers everything from choosing and maintaining your carving tools, sharpening your tools, axe work, knife grips and talking about different carving projects as well as carving wood selection. Overall I learned new things in every chapter of this book but the two I found most useful was the knife grips section and the carving techniques section. I would recommend this book for anyone looking to get into traditional wood carving.

This book sits next to my bench when I'm carving. The companion video by Wille's son Jogge is also wonderful. Even though I have a copy, I wish it were available so others could find the same joy from it that I do.

The quintessential book on spoon carving since its first edition. It goes from log to spoon. My favorite project is actually the butter spreader. His use of ornamentation superbly highlights the figure and grain of the wood being used. Function and form makes this a classic on the subject. I recommend it to all my carving friends and BSA scout groups.

Really great source for all things carving with knife and axe. It changed my carving and made things a lot easier on my hands. Love it, highly recommended!!!

Very well written with lots of helpful information. I have just started carving at 58 years old, very relaxing hobby. This book helped me to improve my technique and now my spoons actually look like spoons instead of spoon shaped firewood. With very good explanations and pictures of methods it will help guide you to better carving. Happy Carving and try not to mark every piece with red DNA.

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