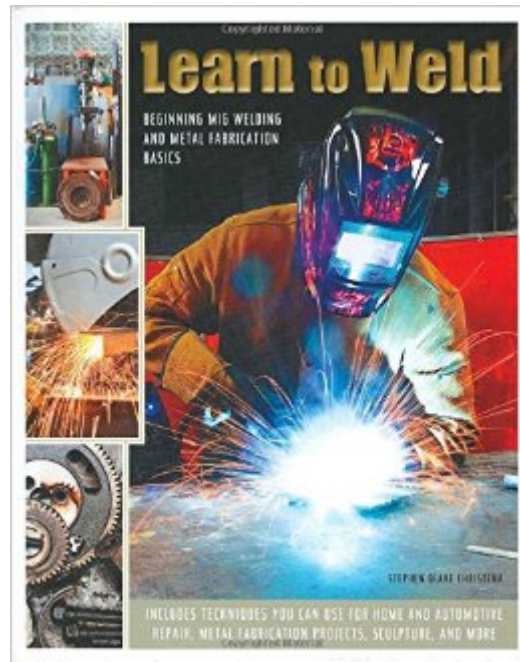


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# Learn To Weld: Beginning MIG Welding And Metal Fabrication Basics



## Synopsis

In *Learn to Weld*, teach yourself to be a master of the craft with the step-by-step instructions, learning tools and troubleshooting for your welding needs. This book has instructions on Master MIG (an abbreviation for Metal Inert Gas) welding, and the metal fabrication techniques you need to repair, create, and duplicate projects in your home welding studio. *Learn to Weld* starts with the basics: setting up your studio, the right safety gear and safety procedures, and the equipment and materials you will need to begin with welding. With the help of step-by-step metalworking photos and tutorials, you will learn detailed techniques for cutting and grinding, and for joinery using a MIG welder. The book also contains a complete index for easy troubleshooting and quick reference. Everything you need to get started welding is inside the thorough DIY book. Practice the techniques and projects and you'll soon be able to repair, create, and duplicate metal fabrication projects in your own welding studio. Best of all, you will have both the fundamental skills and the confidence you need to create whatever is in your imagination. With *Learn to Weld* you'll be equipped to conquer a world of welding projects, whether it's building something for your home, building a gift for a friend or expanding your list of skills for your career.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am lucky enough to live in Chicago and take classes with Stephen. For those of you who wish to know more about welding --how to do it, prepare for it, invest in equipment. From job related welding to creative fabrication and hobby welding, this book covers it. I looked for years for classes, videos and books, meeting Stephen has been an amazing experience and reading the book after I took the

classes I finally get what he means when he says, "here's how you do it, but it's all in my book." A funny, down-to-earth guy with a passion for perfection in the art of welding. This book is a do not miss. Glad to give it a deserved 5-star recommendation.

If you are unsure of which end of an angle grinder to hold this is the book for you. This book is a general overview of metal working equipment its purpose, a high level fly through of some very basic GMAW techniques, basic safety, and lots of common sense spelled out in painstaking detail. Two pages to tell you that if you are more comfortable and can see what you are doing, you will weld better. A whole page showing you how to change the disc on a grinder. Several pages showing you how to clean metal in case you didn't know not to weld through mill scale. If you already kind of know what you are doing and are looking to find answers to a specific but basic questions like: What does it look like if my WFS was too high, or my voltage is too low? How do you plug weld? When should I use DCEP and why, You won't find them in here. All that said, I did pick up a lot of little nuggets from this book. I would recommend this if you are contemplating which welding machine to buy as your first one. If you own a welding machine and have been through about a pound of filler metal, you are already past this one, look somewhere else.

Great book for beginners as I am. I bought many other books before this one... you know, the ones with black & white pictures of giant commercial welders from the 60's or 70's that you'll never use. Pro's: see all the pro's the other reviewers before me wrote, they are right on (I read them all before I bought the book) Con's : there were too many pictures of how to change blades on a chop saw, change blades on a grinder and way too many on a plasma cutter (come on, most of us beginners are never going to use/buy one). Save plasma's for more advanced books. But I still think its a great book for beginners. What I got out of it and what they never say in all those other books, was how important it is to clean your metal before starting and after each weld you produce, including after each spot weld. And to spot weld to alleviate warping and to aline joints. The author really drove those points home, which is what I was never doing all these years (cleaning and spot welding) and wondering why my welds looked like s@\$\$%t. Again, I am only a beginner! I gave 4 stars because too many pics on changing blades and plasma cutter were not needed for beginners, could have used pages to show more on common causes of poor/bad welds, and maybe show more techniques, upside down welding, etc.

If you're looking for a book that's going to teach you to become a professional welder, this is

probably not it. If you're a hobbyist/tinkerer looking to add another skill to the arsenal, it's perfect. It has a little bit of everything from an overview of the processes and history to safety, buying equipment/materials, and most importantly how to set up and use your machine. It even has a couple of projects at the end to hone your skills. The writing moves quickly enough to keep your attention span... the author provides enough information to do the job without getting too technical. He offers little anecdotes and uses terms and descriptions that make sense to people without a technical background in welding. Again, probably not the best for someone wanting to do this professionally, but that's not the intention. The pictures come across as a big advertisement for Miller at some points. I'm not sure if Miller actually sponsored the book or if the author just happens to prefer their products, but you'll see their name everywhere. Didn't really bother me much. My one HUGE issue was the fact that many of the pictures showed the author using an angle grinder without a guard. Having known people who have been injured by discs coming apart and seen what they can do, it made me cringe a bit to see. I do remember at one point however the author (perhaps an editor added it?) mentioned you should never remove the guard. Might be a little bit of "do what I say, not what I do" sort of thing. I say use it. All in all it's a great book.

I have read several books on welding. I chose this one because it focuses on MIG welding, which is what I am interested in learning. Great large, clear pictures. Heavy glossy paper. Takes you through the entire process of buying equipment, where to buy metal, and how to start welding. Has many great safety tips. I did notice the author says to never remove the blade guard on your grinder, but all pictures in the book show the blade guard removed. (maybe for clarity?) Excellent descriptions of the differences between using flux core wire or using plain wire with gas.

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