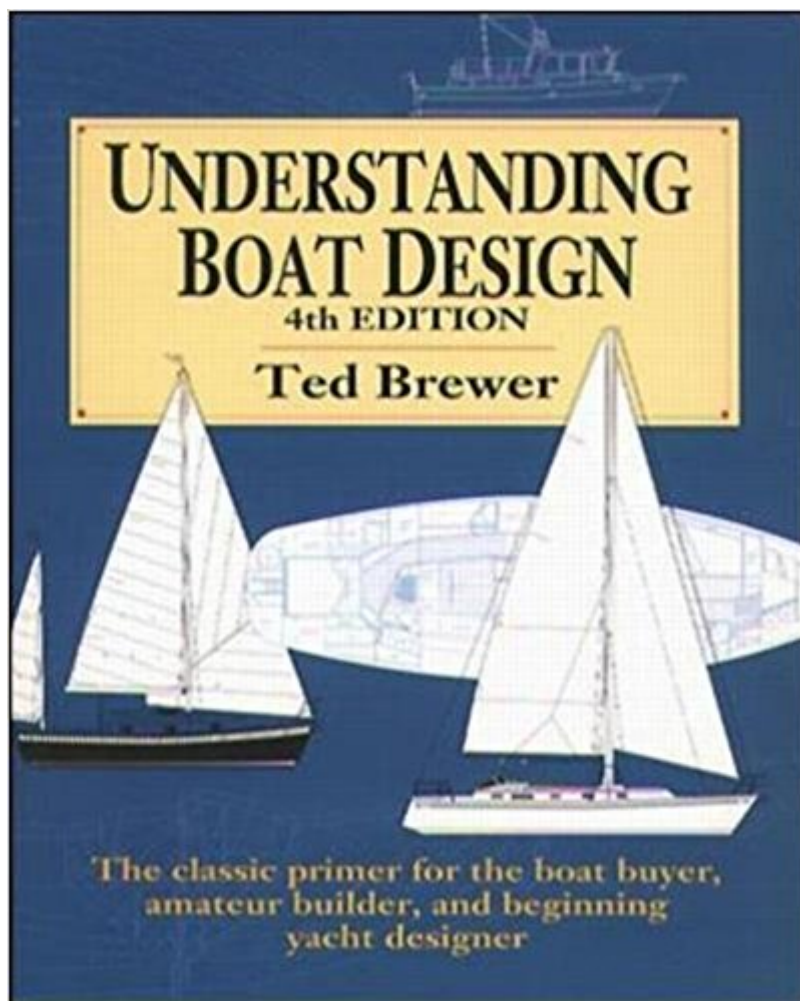


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# Understanding Boat Design (International Marine-RMP)



## Synopsis

For new boating enthusiasts--even if they've been at it awhile--there are scores of burning questions. If one boat has a round bottom and another's is veed, what difference does it make in the way they perform? What are the advantages of a cutter rig over a sloop? Why does one sailor swear by a full keel, while others won't have anything but a fin keel? Why does one powerboat have more flare in its topsides than another? And what is flare? Why do some hull shapes look "right"? How big an engine and propeller will it take to move that powerboat? What elements make a boat safe, or comfortable? Understanding Boat Design has been the place to look for quick, uncomplicated answers since 1971. Founder of the Yacht Design Institute, a highly respected designer for more than 30 years, and a frequent contributor to SAIL, Cruising World, and other magazines, Ted Brewer has again revised his classic primer. This new volume has been greatly expanded and contains information on many aspects of design that were not even thought of twenty years ago. Understanding Boat Design has eased tens of thousands of readers into the complex world of small-craft design. It is the ideal introduction for backyard boatbuilders, students of boat design, or someone looking to buy a first boat. "This tight little book should be required reading."--Soundings "A natural for those embarking on a first purchase, or the amateur builder."--Sailing "One of the cleanest and clearest expositions on the elements of yacht design ever published . . . by a naval architect who knows what he is talking about."--WoodenBoat

## Book Information

Series: International Marine-RMP

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press; 4th edition (November 1, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0070076944

ISBN-13: 978-0070076945

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #50,874 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking > Sea Kayaking](#) #33 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Boating](#) #41 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships](#)

## Customer Reviews

Brewer provides as good a basic introduction to small craft design as you could ever hope to find. If more people read this book before buying a boat, they'd likely make a much better choice and be a lot happier."This tight little book should be required reading."The clear, non-technical language, logical development of the subject, and the scope of the publication make Understanding Boat Design a success."One of the cleanest and clearest expositions on the elements of yacht design ever published.--By a naval architect who knows what he is talking about."

Ted Brewer, a lifelong sailor with more than 230 yacht designs to his credit, has worked on Gold Cup and Olympic medal - winning 5.5-meter designs, on the America's Cup defender Weatherly, and on numerous successful motor yachts, ocean racers, and production boats. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, with Bob Wallstrom, he produced more than 100 custom and production designs, from 21-foot catboats to the exquisite 62-foot charter ketch Traveller III. His better-known production designs include the Whitby 42, the Aloha 28 and 34, the Cabot 36, and the Morgan 38. In the early 1970s he originated the much copied radius-bilge method of building metal yachts. Brewer's more recent designs include a sailing dinghy, a 45-foot Boston pilot schooner, the 68-foot schooner Tree of Life (named by SAIL magazine as one of the "100 Greatest Yachts in America"), and the 60-foot BOC around-the-world racer Wild Thing. He is author of two other books, Cruising Yacht Design and Ted Brewer Explains Sailboat Design (International Marine, 1985), and a contributor to SAIL, Cruising World, Motor Boating & Sailing, and Great Lakes Sailor, among other magazines. When not at the drafting table, Brewer cruises the waters of the Pacific Northwest aboard his Nimble 25 Arctic yawl from his home port of Anacortes, Washington.

orty years ago I stupidly sold my last boat. I have missed it every day since. It was my sixth and best boat, a Chrysler Lonestar. Three of these six boats I built myself, one I shared the work with my father. Building a plywood boat is a bagatelle particularly using the stitch and glue method. The seventh boat is built by this method. In the process I have bought six books from though all of the information that I needed was free on the internet. The books are "Go Build Your Own Boat" and Build The New Instant Boat by Harold Payson, "Boats with an open Mind" by Philip Bolger, "Boat Building For Beginners" by Jim Michalak, "Ultra Simple Boat Building" by Gavin Atkin and "Understanding Boat Design" by Ted Brewer There are separate reviews for each of these

books. "Understanding Boat Design" by Ted Brewer was a something of a disappointment. I give it three stars. I found it unhelpful, as the cover stated, for the "amateur builder." A suitable amateur project boat apparently does not interest the author. Brewer is a big boat guy. If I am wrong then he should read, for inspiration, the other five books mentioned above. I have seen an example of his Cape Cod Cat and it is a wonderful boat. I wish I had one but I would not attempt to build it myself. It is not, as stated, a boat for the amateur builder unless that builder is equipped to handle 1800 pounds of ballast, a hell of a lot of construction, has many devoted helpful friends and a lot of heavy equipment. I seriously doubt that it could be sailed safely single handed. If he is serious about a boat for the amateur he should bend his mind to a smaller, lighter Cat with a much smaller sail. He could have included information about his sailing dinghy in this book. Brewer is obviously a very knowledgeable person and if he had tried a little harder this could be a great book. It is very thin (144 pages) and at least one third is filler material including a reproduction of a Coast Guard document and brochure write ups about Brewer's designs. There are three pages for the amateur boat builder which are nearly worthless. The remainder is very general information. Amazingly my copy was a 4th edition. I wish I could get my money back.

The book was ordered to help me to design a simple one-design sailboat. I wanted to be sure that I was using the appropriate portions of power to size, sizing & design of rudders & keels and lots of other appropriate design elements. The book does contain a lot of design related definitions and some very useful formulas. However the book did not cover all that I was personally looking for. The book is just a primer to boat design definitions and if you are like me, you will need more than just this book alone to get required design formulas.

This is a survey of high level hull shape and a description of construction of sail and powerboats. It describes how different profiles affect performance. Great for someone like me that's curious, but not looking to learn naval architecture.

Excellent overview of design from an excellent designer. Takes concepts and goes from simple to a detailed level.

the content of this book is fantastic, with clear explanations of the fundamentals of boat design. However, the 4th edition copy that I've ordered twice was missing the same pages in both copies. At

the end of a critical chapter on interpreting line drawings, two pages are omitted.

real good,saved me money & time already

Easy to follow book for beginners. Has many different types of boats as well as descriptions. I am new to the idea of boat building and this was very easy to follow and learn all the different types/parts.

Fun to read, pretty straight forward explication of some design principles. I was most interested in learning more about sailboats.

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