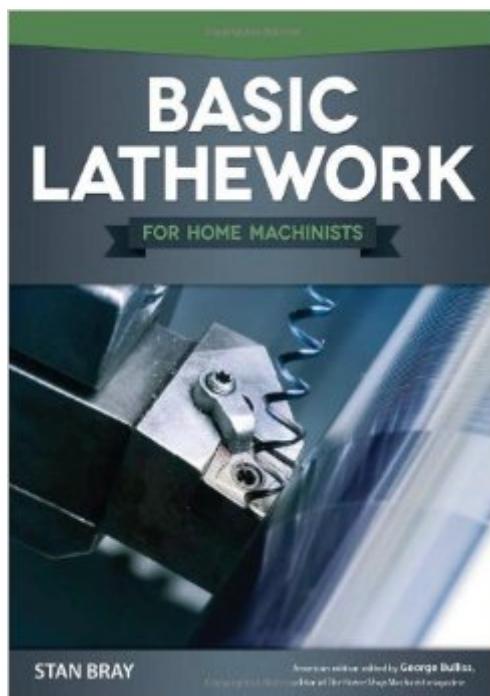


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# Basic Lathework For Home Machinists



## Synopsis

Perfect for any home machinist with a new lathe, this comprehensive guide is designed to expand your enjoyment of this versatile machine and take full advantage of its extensive capabilities. Profusely illustrated with hundreds of clear photographs and concise diagrams, it provides in-depth coverage of all aspects of tooling and machining operations.

## Book Information

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Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Woodworking

## Customer Reviews

I purchased this book to enhance my knowledge of working with a small lathe in my own shop sometime in the future. As the description of this book states, it does deal with all aspects of the lathe. Almost overwhelming the novice learner in comprehending what one must know to learn the essentials to select their own machine, but although there are several models now to choose from, I feel it will most likely be how much you want to spend and whether or not you will indeed go out and buy a lathe for your home shop and actually start doing your own home lathe work. Modelers and builders, and surely inventors, who want to make their own machined parts will benefit from owning and studying this book, as by studying it, is what you are going to have to do in the beginning to learn this craft. It does cover machine construction and goes even farther back into earlier models to explain why they are simpler and more basic than modern tools. The depth of the explanations concerning tooling will require additional information as lathe work and modern lathes are covered in depth. Many of the actual machining operations are covered, including general machining, taper turning, threading and boring. Mr Bray explains the modern conversion of power supplies from single to three phase which for someone in a home environment will find tedious as three phase

powered needs are few outside of industrial use of lathes and will require you to go to a large expense to provide this source of power. The use of digital equipment is explained to some degree and one will need to study their own machine's owners manual extensively to master this at home.

I don't know where to begin. This book is a mash-up of vague, antiquated illustrations which go perfectly with the archaic and unintelligible writing. Yes, the author is British, and yes, the book is written in the Queen's English. That said, it also seems to have been written in the 1800s, in a parallel universe where punctuation was still in the process of being discovered:"He called it the Gibraltar Tool Post and the design certainly had an appearance similar to the Rock of Gibraltar but more importantly it works particularly well and work done when using it is far better than that done from the top slide."The entire book reads like the example above. In fact, that sentence was the first that I happened to read upon cracking the book open to look for an example quotation. As I look at the book now, I notice that this is the American edition, edited by George Bulliss. There is nothing American about any part of this book, which is fine, and it has clearly never been edited by anyone.The photos and illustrations are not much better. The photos are very dated, and often taken from a poor angle. Frequently, a single photo or illustration will be used to document a multi-step process. It is painfully clear that the photographs were taken decades earlier, and the book written later. The result is that there is a lot of inconsistency between the setups and perspectives in the photos. The subjects being discussed are clearly being driven by whatever stock photography was available, rather than photographs having been taken afterward to support the natural flow of the book.As rough and disjointed as the book is, it cannot help but convey some useful information about the metal lathe.

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