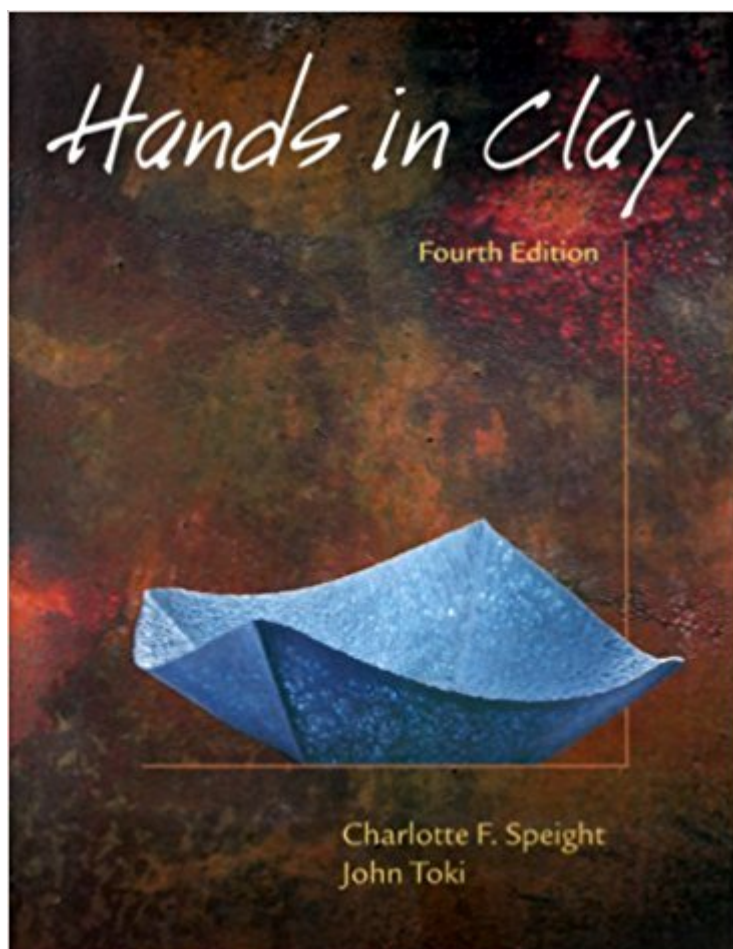


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# Hands In Clay



## Synopsis

This is the only introductory ceramics text available that combines a thorough appreciation of the aesthetics of ceramic art with extensive discussions of the history of ceramics as well as techniques for working in clay.

## Book Information

Paperback: 500 pages

Publisher: Mayfield; 4 edition (January 8, 1999)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.1 x 10.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #252,229 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Pottery & Ceramics](#) #3168 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism](#) #66811 in [Books > Textbooks](#)

## Customer Reviews

I rented this for my class. Please keep in mind that my professor made us take notes from this book out of context- i.e. read page x-x, x, x-x, etc. without much explanation. So, my experience with this book is reading a bunch of excerpts on the history of clay. The editing and organization of this book, in excerpts, is not great. There is a lack of flow and coherency. Their heading organization isn't superb. There are bolded words that may have been bolded before. They are bolded again, or for the first time. Sometimes you don't know why they are bolded. Nevertheless I believe that this touches on various cultures (not just western or the popular eastern). I like to believe that this book is useful for everyone else. I am hoping that I never have to read this book again.

At first glance you'd think there are enough pages to cover the topic (it's a pretty good sized book!) but unfortunately it comes up short. The first half is devoted to the history of ceramics and artistic headspace, the second half tries to cover the technical material. Unfortunately the former sucks the oxygen from the room leaving the practical section somewhat anemic. When you are beginning a subject, it's all new and coming at you very fast. The simplest things are still arcane mysteries and in a collegiate-level text it is not going too far to really dig in and explain things in depth. Teachers

may be available a couple of times a week, but there is a lot of technical information that would benefit from being presented in an organized written form. I don't think it's enough to simply hit the high points of functional subjects like scoring and slipping, rolling slabs, wedging, etc in a book designed for students who will likely become professionals some day. Right at the start is the place to get down and dirty with good solid technical explanations of what's happening in the pot-building process with no stone left unturned. That said, the book is pretty good overall, just not everything is could be. I'm not sorry I bought it (used.)

I'm excited to read this book! It has a lot of pictures, timelines, etc. I like visuals! The book starts off with an in depth look at ceramics in many cultures. In depth as much as a book can allow on the extensiveness of ceramic history anyhow. Sheesh, we're talking 10's of thousands of years wrapped up in an in high book. Anyway, it looks to be very thorough if you want history, techniques, etc. My book was ordered as used and its in excellent shape. I'm very pleased.

supposedly its discontinued, which hopefully means it will no longer be used as a torture device in the form of a textbook.

Very informative historically and technically. Also a pleasure to read.

Excellent text used in my ceramics course. This is a text I kept after the course and didn't sell back.

I am really not a fine arts potter .... I am a product potter this book work for what I need

Used for a class, its just a book that was needed. Can't say I used it more then a few times.

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