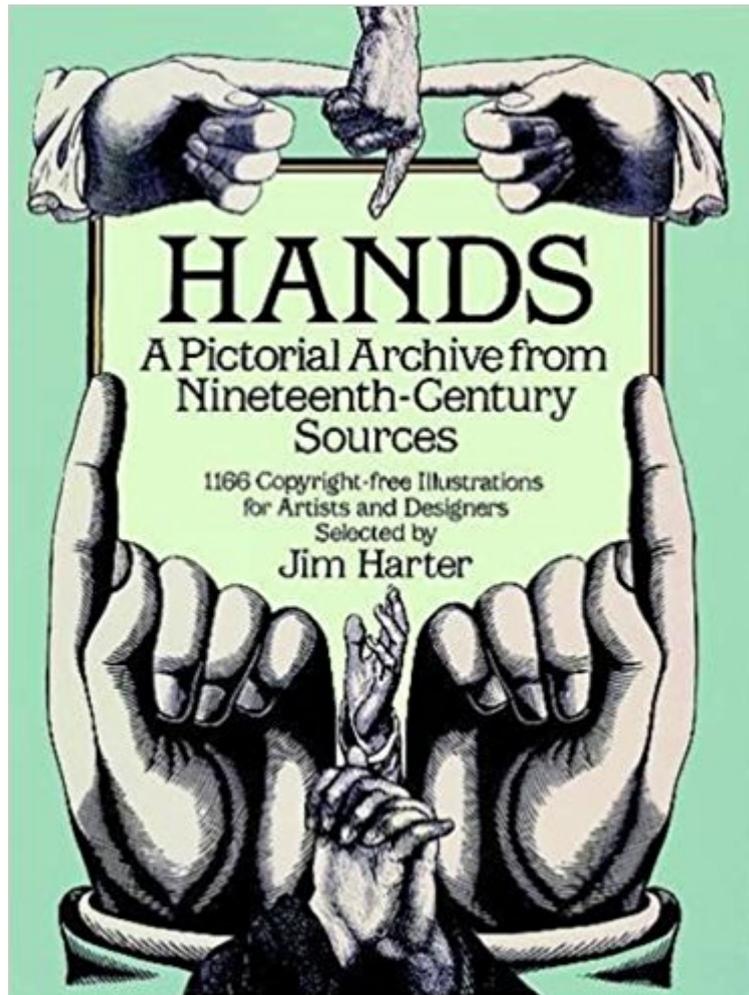


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# Hands: A Pictorial Archive From Nineteenth-Century Sources (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

More than just a five-digit grasping appendage, the extraordinary human hand is capable of a virtually infinite range of expression. Here are over 1,100 images of hands, specially assembled by a noted graphic designer in response to the growing demand for inexpensive and royalty-free art depicting hands. Chosen for diversity and style as well as usability, these images were carefully culled from thousands of pages of nineteenth-century European and American books and periodicals, some of them very rare. Many of the images represent the height of the wood engraver's art and as artists and designers know, for many purposes wood engravings are far superior to photographs. Here are large hands, small hands, lovely hands, and ugly hands. There are hands resting and active and hands writing, sewing, demonstrating scientific experiments, using tools, performing magic tricks, applying first aid, playing parlor games, and even casting hand shadows on the wall. Hands are displayed to demonstrate palmistry, anatomy, and sign language, or are simply poised to reveal superb form and dignity. In response to the enormous demand, hands with pointing fingers appear in an abundance of sizes, shapes, and shades, and are more or less stylized or realistic to suit every need. A glance through this magnificent collection will suggest a multitude of royalty-free uses to any artist, designer, or crafter, including collage, decoupage, and advertising art. Whenever the decorative, expressive, or symbolic potential of a hand is needed, you will want to turn to this inexpensive yet comprehensive treasury.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Pictorial Archive

Paperback: 96 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; First Edition edition (October 1, 1985)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 048624959X

ISBN-13: 978-0486249599

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9 x 11.8 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

An excellent sourcebook for illustrations of hands. Hands doing anything and everything. Keep in mind when the title says 19th century, it literally means 1800-1899, so there will be no modern subjects in the illustrations. No phones, computers, remote controls, etc., but there are hundreds of hands performing 19th century tasks. Also included are prosthetics, a sign language alphabet, palmistry illustrations, medical illustrations and even hands performing shadow puppets. All in all you get a lot of drawings of hands. I found this book better than most clip art books in the fact that the style of the illustrations varies more. There are pen and ink using crosshatching technique and solid, bold line art, so the feel of the illustrations varies more and you are more likely to find what you are looking for. Great Book.

This book must have taken a while to research as it has the most wonderful illustrations of hands. Being an artist I really appreciate this book. The illustrations are perfect for photo-copying and can be used for photo transfer.

I bought this book out of sheer curiosity. I was curious how an entire clip art book of hands was possible and, truthfully, I dreaded I made a mistake making this purchase. However, I was wonderfully surprised when this book arrived. Many of the hands featured are operating wonderfully bizarre 19th century machines and mechanisms and there are even some anatomical skeletal hands included. Also, noteworthy, was the sign language, both one-handed and two-handed alphabets. I am very impressed with this book and it is a definite keeper for my mixed media art!

Need reference for an "Ole Timey" sign saying "This Way!" this is the book you want. I mean it has a lot of other good reference for differently position hands and gestures. For the price, if you're a graphic designer this book will pay it self off after one job.

I love these pictures for use in all types of collage work. The "hands" come in a variety of sizes, shapes and actions.

hands, hands and more hands in all sorts of positions. if you're looking for hyper realistic hand reference, then this is not what you're looking for. i think it's an awesome reference book!!

This book is another wonderful Dover publication, full of tons of useful images of hands. I love having this book to incorporate the hands in my artwork.

A lovely book filled with wonderful (and some odd) illustrations of hands. the illustrations are nice and big. I would have loved to have a hardcover copy of this!

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