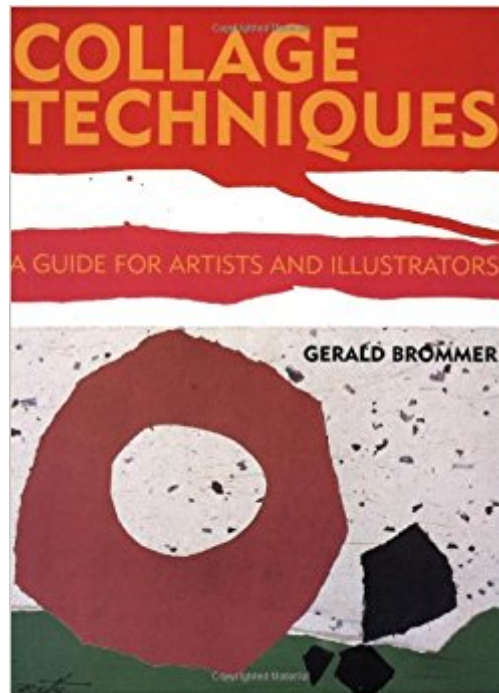


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# Collage Techniques: A Guide For Artists And Illustrators



## Synopsis

One of many exhilarating artistic developments that took place during the early twentieth century, the fine art medium of collage emerged from the cubist gluing and pasting explorations of Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso. As a result of its experimental genesis, collage has continued to serve not only as a primary form of expression for many prominent artists, but as a principal means of evaluating and developing new creative strategies. Conceived and written by renowned artist, author, and teacher Gerald Brommer, *Collage Techniques* first presents the medium within the context of a wide variety of materials, including washi (oriental and rice papers) and watermedia; stained, prepared, and found papers; photographs; and fabrics and fibers. Each category of material is examined through a step-by-step demonstration and works by artists who approach collage in original and refreshing ways. The latest trends in technologically enhanced collage, including such high-tech applications as multiple photocopying and digital scanning, are also discussed. The author then explores how the elements and principles of design are used in collage, and how they in turn are employed in all the major genre, including still life, landscape, the human figure, abstraction, and nonobjective imagery. Beautifully illustrated with the work of more than eighty noted artists, including Edward Betts, Jae Carmichael, Margo Hoff, Katherine Chang Liu, and Fred Otnes, *Collage Techniques* is an essential reference for all artists and illustrators, regardless of their creative focus or choice of medium.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a great book for any collage artist looking for inspiration and ideas. It is packed with a

wonderful variety of collage examples and techniques. The book starts out with some brief history and attitudes toward collage. Then the author explains materials and tools. This includes an overview of papers, adhesives, surface media and finishes. Basic collage techniques are also covered. In the next section you are shown numerous collage pieces using a wide variety of materials including washi, stained, prepared and found papers, photographs, fibers and fabric. Concepts are discussed from the point of view of both technique and subject matter. Although not a project book per se, there are a number of examples of artists working in a step by step sequence that can be followed. Design elements and principles including line, shape, color, texture, unity, variety, balance, emphasis, pattern, rhythm and contrast are covered. The book wraps up with sections discussing specific subject matters such as still lives, flowers, landscapes, people, social commentary, architecture, abstract and three-dimensional pieces. Paper suppliers are listed in the back. While suitable for a beginner, this is a great intermediate level book with much to offer for those with some collage experience as well.

This book gives encyclopedic information on collage and art principles, and other artists as well. There are step-by-step demonstrations, that are easy to understand, yet there is enough advanced techniques for the experienced artist. Well worth the price, and inspirational.

I had heard that Brommer was a highly respected collage author and teacher, so even though I am not an artist or illustrator, I figured that this book would be a good one for me to have. I was right! Brommer covers almost every facet of collage art, beginning with its history/background, progressing to the various collage techniques, and also elaborating on the materials used to create collages. These materials include painted papers, Japanese papers, found objects, photographs, etc. Rather than a how-to book, this is a book that presents many finished pieces in all their beauty, and explains how they were done by these very accomplished artists. It is a terrific resource and a lovely addition to any art library.

Being new to the area of collage, I have been searching out interesting and inspirational books from which to 'get the motor revving' so-to-speak. I've felt like Goldilocks in the Bear's house looking at some of the available materials. "This one is too short, this one is too weird, this one is too singular, this one has no background or wisdom to offer..." But, ah! this one, Collage Techniques, is just right. I found the educational and historical perspectives to be useful and interesting to read, as well as the lessons and explanations. The author uses many good examples that come from a variety of

sources, so it is possible to look through and say, "Yes, that's the skill or portrayal that I'm looking for." Collage Techniques doesn't get dry or repetitive, nor does it foist a single technique upon the reader. It is an older book, but in-my-opinion, a more comprehensive one than many of the newer collage books. I recommend it very highly.

This is a fabulous book on the collage medium. Everything is thoroughly covered from collage history, technique and guidance for design, etc. This book will also inspire you with its fine examples. I am very pleased with the book and highly recommend it to others.

As a collage artist, I own many books on collage techniques. This one is especially nice because it presents many established artists and their techniques vs. one artist showing all his or her own work. The materials lists and photos of a work-in-progress are also excellent. This is not a craft book, but for those serious about art making.

Brommer approaches collage from a fine art point of view. Most other books I have looked at tend more toward the scrapbook and/or kitschy altered art genre. He has an excellent section on art paper preparations and basic design.

I ordered this book after reading reviews of collage books. The praise of this book, I find, is well deserved. It comments on many techniques and provides examples with color photos. I feel I can take off on my own now, and don't need technical advice, even though the book is not a technical read. A good addition to anyone's bookshelf.

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