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The Art Of Rigging



Synopsis

2012 Reprint of 1925 Edition. Exact facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. Although mastery of the art of rigging is no longer required on board ships today, serious model builders need to learn this art in miniature. The book is widely considered the best manual every produced on rigging the sail ship. This edition is based on the 1925 revision of the original work first published in 1848. Biddlecombe, a Master in the Royal Navy and former merchant seaman, was the author of the first edition. Biddlecombe divides his work into five parts: (1) Alphabetical Explanation of the Terms and Phrases used in Rigging. (2) Directions for the Performing of Operations Incidental to Rigging, and for Preparing It on Shore. (3) Progressive Method of Rigging Ships. (4) Description of Reeving the Running Rigging and Bending the Sails. (5) Tables of the Quantities and Dimensions of the Standing and Running Rigging of Ships, Brigs, Fore-and-Aft Schooners, and Cutters, etc.

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Customer Reviews

George Biddlecombe wrote his manual on ship rigging in 1848, and the current edition is a reprint of the 1925 edition published by The Marine Research Society, in Salem, Massachusetts. By then, the era of sailing ships, whether as a merchant man or men o' war were fading memories of long-retired sailors and ship captains. Those who wish to understand how those ships operated, whether pursuing their history or engaging in historically accurate model making will want to have a copy of Capt. Biddlecombe's book is a desk reference because it is a good and accurate dictionary and

encyclopedia of how sailing ships were actually rigged and why they were rigged that way. We often hear the expression, "learning the ropes", meaning that the novice sailor was required to learn how each cable, rope, and line was to be used and handled; the same applies to those who wish to learn about these ships and the men who sailed them the world over, and of course, those wanting to re-create those sailing ships in miniature. "Learning the ropes" today means learning the names that sailors used to identify particular types of cordage and the purposes for which each type was used. This book does not replace manual is intended to guide ship modelers in replicating rigging on their ship models; there are quite a few of those around, and they emphasize the technique of making static models, as distinct from understanding what is actually being modeled. Understanding the purpose and functionality of the ropework that Capt. Biddlecombe describes goes a long way toward informing both neophyte and experienced model builders about how a ship's rigging should appear in scale miniature.

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