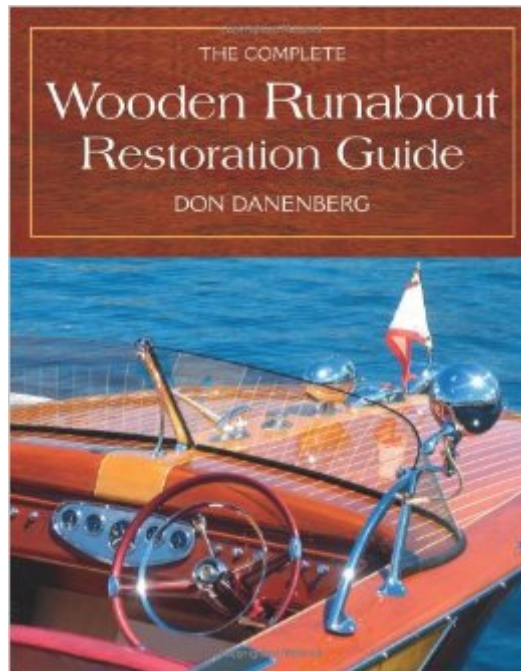


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# The Complete Wooden Runabout Restoration Guide



## Synopsis

Now MBI Publishing Company's two top-selling boating titles "written by one of the world's top authorities on the subject of antique wooden boat restoration" are available in one volume. In this comprehensive restoration guide for owners and enthusiasts of wooden powerboats of all makes and models built from the early 1920s through the 1960s, author Don Dannenberg covers all major woodworking aspects of restoration: surveying, disassembly, repair, reconstruction, and varnishing. But when it comes to restoring a classic wooden powerboat, getting the frame, planking, and deck right is just one part of the story. Danenberg also walks enthusiasts through the topics of hardware, running gear, electrical wiring, plumbing, instruments, upholstery, trailers, and maintenance. Fully illustrated with step-by-step color photos and written in an entertaining style in which the author stresses sound reconstruction techniques over preservation of original components, this comprehensive volume also includes resource listings, glossaries, and School of Hard Knocks sidebars.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Having restored and rebuilt classic wooden boats for the better part of 40 years now, I found this book to be a very nice addition to the practical library of folks that are involved with 1940's-1950's runabouts. Pros: Don gives a very good and wide overview of not just the classic Chris Crafts, but also the "everyman boats" like the Century runabouts and even a good nod to Lyman lapstrakes. This is a very welcome development as the "lesser boats" get so little coverage in restoration

publications. Don's writing and book layout with clear photos is excellent in all respects and very clear to understand by veteran and novice boat owners alike. Chris Craft, Century, Gar and Lyman owners will all benefit from having this book on their shelf. Cons: This book is a compilation of two volumes that span a few decades and it really reflects the author as he matures as a boat yard man. The "con" is the first half, written by the young Don, where he frequently proclaims himself a savior of classic wooden boats, names a "system" after himself, and proceeds to remind the reader at least every 14 pages of how many classic wooden boats he has restored against all odds. Fortunately, the author matures in the following part and divests his earlier massive ego from the project and provides a clear and valuable guide to the finer points of what was not covered in volume #1. Summary: "The Complete Wooden Boat Restoration Guide" is a very valuable addition to the library of anyone taking on the daunting and often mysterious process of bringing back to life a runabout built 50-60 years ago. These boats were, at the time, built to last just 8-10 years and Don lays out a good set of background information and step-by-step guides on how to bring them up to the standard that classic wooden sailboats were built on for the past 100 years. And, now that he is a little older, he is a little more like all of us.

This book is my bible for wood boat restoration. It is helping me restore a 1948 Chris Craft that I stumbled upon and I would be completely lost without it. It has very thorough and detailed step-by-step instructions all the way from surveying a boat before purchase to restoring every final touch. Danenberg does favor specific techniques which some may say are debatable. For instance he all but dismisses most bottom restoration techniques outside of a brand new "5200" bottom. I personally agree with him on this matter but some do not. That said it still an excellent book but just research some restoration forums and talk to many restorers to get a range of opinions. Danenberg has his own website and he is very active in responding to the message boards and helpful with questions. It is clear he is passionate about his craft and helping others do it right. He points out common mistakes and short-cuts that a restorer may do and the potential disastrous results. Only minus is the e-book's images are not very high resolution, so some of the labels in the diagrams are not legible. I wish this book was still in print, but the kindle version does just fine if you don't want to pay for the inflated used paperback price (due to no supply). I've checked and the iTunes version is no better (although more spendy)

This is a good book on boat restoration for the Kindle. The biggest drawback is the illustrations do not enlarge well when you scale them up to the point they would be readable the image is pixelated

and not useable. As there a lot of illustrations this is a major drawback to the Kindle version. Get the book in dead tree form if you need the pictures and illustrations.

A comprehensive resource for all aspects of restoring wooden boats. Easy to understand and good additional resource citations.

If you are planning to restore an old wooden boat this book is a must have. Well written, large font and good content.

Exhaustive in its detail and too technical for an amateur like me, who just loves the old wooden speedboats. It convinced me the trying to replace the bottom on my 1940 Chris Craft is probably way beyond my knowledge and ability.

We have a 1959 wooden Chris Craft that we are restoring. This has been a valuable resource in evaluating and working on the restoration. It is a detailed book with rough schematics/drawings, material and other resources sources and has served us well so far.

A comprehensive review of woodenboat construction and repair. Author concentrates on practical repair and re-construction. Not designed for restoration of show boats, but for serious amateurs looking to re-build and use a wooden boat classic. Plenty of photographs and drawings to help you along. Covers just about every topic from keels and frames to finish and upholstery.

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