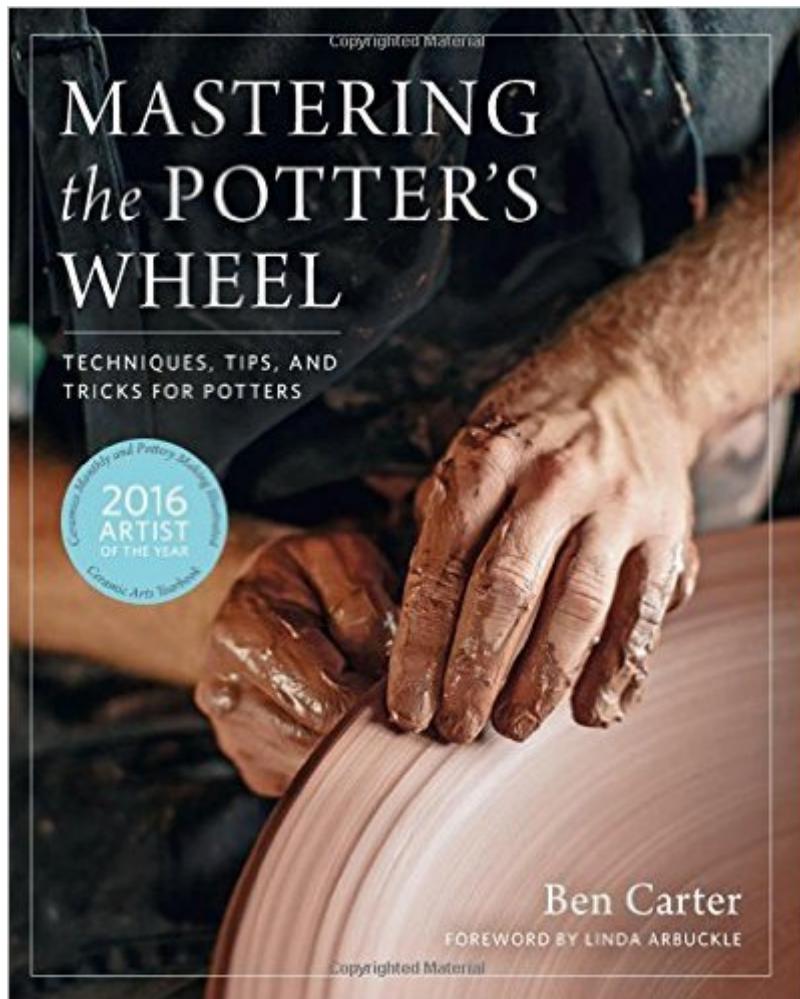


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# Mastering The Potter's Wheel: Techniques, Tips, And Tricks For Potters



## Synopsis

Take your skills - and your work - to the next level. Mastering the Potter's Wheel starts with an introduction to wheel-throwing, from centering to creating the basic forms. What pushes this book beyond the competition, however, are the techniques offered in the chapters that follow. From a variety of methods for throwing large objects such as pitchers and platters, to alterations, darting, and paddling, this book offers potters a world of possibilities. With galleries featuring today's top working artists, including Kyle Carpenter, Sam Chung, Chandra DeBuse, Julia Galloway, Martha Grover, Ayumie Horie, Forrest Lesch-Middleton, Kristen Kieffer, Kathy King, Matt Long, Alex Matisse, Lorna Meaden, Doug Peltzman, Mackenzie Smith, Shawn Spangler, and many more, you'll also find page after page of inspiration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My copy of Ben Carter's Mastering the Potter's Wheel book showed up today. I was planning to flip through the book, check out a little of what he covered in the book, then set it aside to look at more thoroughly tonight or this weekend... An hour later, I realized my quick flip through wasn't nearly so quick after all! I am thoroughly impressed at the amount of helpful knowledge he included in one book. Each topic flows effortlessly into the next in a sensible order. My very first pleasant surprise was the fact that Ben tackled studio safety immediately instead of as an afterthought at the back of the book. In addition to the standard parts about material safety, he also discusses how to prevent aches and strain on the artist's body through posture choices as well as exercises. The text was easy to understand without being simple. The book reads like he is talking directly to the reader. He

shows exactly how to achieve a variety of forms using photos and illustrations coupled with smart descriptions about why you need to take those steps. He provides important tips and tricks that many experienced potters take for granted and he tackles philosophical topics like the implied curve of the form and the positive-negative space correlation. From the foot of a pot to the knob of a lid and all of the shapes of thrown forms in between, he's got it covered. Sketched profile examples, pictures of pots cut in half to reveal a cross-section, and tons of step-by-step photos fill the book from cover to cover. It's been quite a while since such a comprehensive and well-considered book on wheel throwing has been written. Thank you, Ben!

This is yet another great potter's book that I've come across. I teach ceramics at a community college, and I am a potter with a studio in my garage in my spare time. I like to find books that are useful for me, but I know will also be useful for my students. It's always great when I can read a book and find new information after being a potter for nearly 15 years. I hope to continue finding new, informative books and continue expanding my knowledge in the field, even after I've been doing it for 30, 50 or more years. I found some great wheel throwing tips in this book. It prompted me to rearrange my studio and get a better set up for me wheel. I now have a wheel that I stand at with a built-in water bucket and plenty of space to set things on around it. I'm really happy with it, and I've been getting ramped up for some serious studio time. The techniques shown in the book are wonderful, and I would highly recommend it to any potter, beginning, intermediate or advanced. It never hurts to keep reading, learning, and expanding your knowledge of the field.

Ben Carter's book covers all the basics of throwing on the potter's wheel and so much more! Ben gives great tips on studio safety, maintaining good posture, and clear descriptions of the entire process. With hundreds of pictures to guide you through and images of work by some of the best potters working today, you'll want to keep this book handy. I'll be sharing this with all of my students, but they're going to have to get their own copy!

Beautiful book that is thoughtfully compiled and constructed - sewn binding instead of glued. In terms of content to actually help one "master" the wheel, I feel it's lacking and many books cover the subject more extensively with most of the same content. Troubleshooting common errors or problems seems to be non-existent. There are lots of beautiful photographs of other potter's gorgeous work which is where this book seems to miss the mark living up to its title. At times it feels more like a 500 (insert form here) book with a little bit of instruction thrown in here and there. I own

over 40 pottery/ceramics books and if I was lending one to someone wanting to "master the wheel" this would be near the bottom of the list of the books I have that address the wheel. Again, beautiful book. More for a coffee table than propped up next to a wheel to work on your skills.

Being a pottery teacher and potter, I have tons of pottery technique books, but I have to say this is one of the best I have in my collection. It is clearly understandable for the beginner and more advance potter. My absolute favorite features in this book are the skill builders. When you are starting out you are overwhelmed by all the different issue involved in throwing, this breaks it down and gives you things to work on to improve. The photos used for the book are really nice, clear and easy to see what is being discussed. The tips of starting weights to work with are so important for the beginner and intermediate thrower, and not found in most other texts. Ben has done an excellent job in breaking down a complex process. The chapter on being physically fit and stretching exercises is great information for all potters, from novice to pro. I love the look and feel of this book, the paper is not shiny so you can easily read the text and see the details in the images, so important when you are talking about specifics. My only wish is that the pages were water safe so that my students could keep the book next to them as they learn to throw! I have recommended this book to our school librarian as a must have in our pottery section.

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