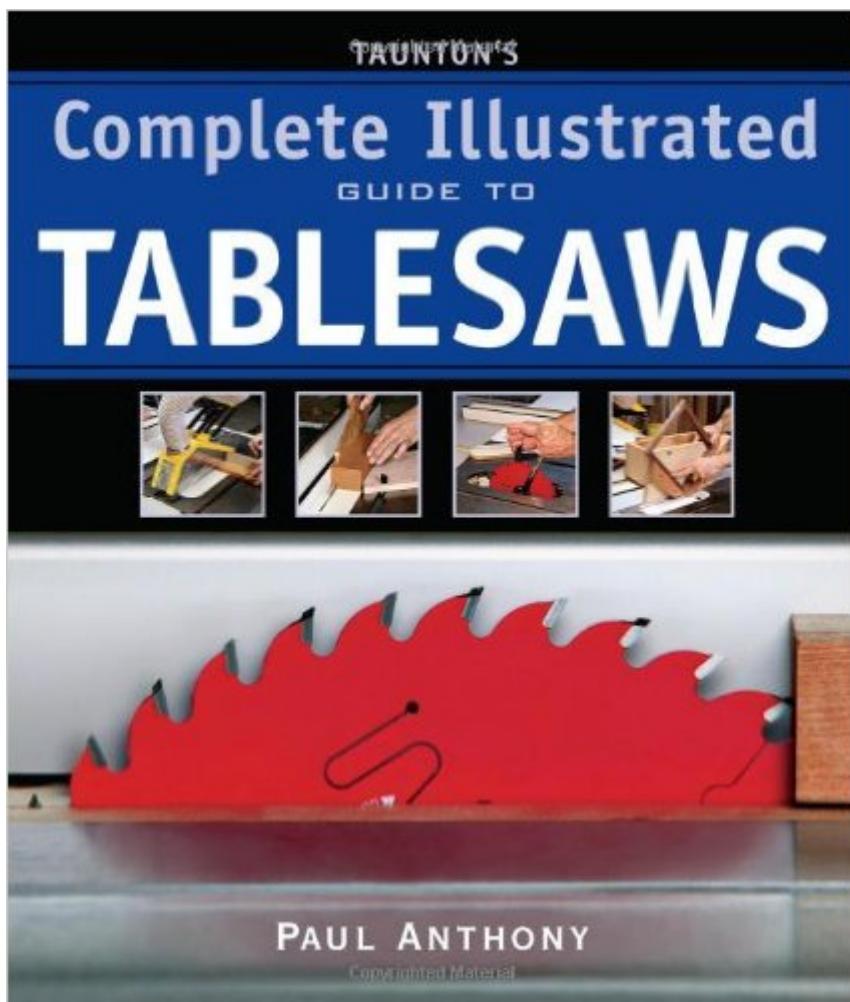


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# Taunton's Complete Illustrated Guide To Tablesaws (Complete Illustrated Guides (Taunton))



## **Synopsis**

From the most basic techniques to the most advanced procedures, here's the ultimate owner's manual for anyone who uses a tablesaw. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced user, you'll find all the valuable tips and step-by-step advice you need to master ripping, crosscutting, joint making, and shaping. All made so much easier to learn -- and put into action -- by over 600 useful photos and illustrations. With many years of experience as a professional woodworker, and as Tools Editor for a leading woodworking magazine, Paul Anthony delivers a wealth of practical information in the most user-friendly format you'll ever find. All the tricks of the trade are covered in clear, colorful detail. You'll learn how to: Choose the right tablesaw Select the proper blade for each procedure Cut wood down to size for length and width Cut miters for trim Create a wide range of joints and decorative effects Extend the use of your tablesaw with jigs and fixtures Guarantee consistent results with repetitive operations Maximize safety with proven tips and inside advice If you're looking for a single book that delivers everything you need to know about tablesaws, here's a virtual encyclopedia for your reference library -- put together by the consummate professional.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I am a professional woodworker,in my 20+ year career I have read many books and articles on

power tools. This book is by far the most complete, concise, most comprehensive doctrine on the table saw that I have ever read. Mr. Anthony covers all aspects of using the table saw from basic cuts, safety devices, jigs and fixtures, maintenance, speciality cuts, dadoes, coves, joinery, dust collection, the list goes on. Whether you are an experienced woodworker or just a beginner there is information in this book that everyone can benefit from. I would guess the only thing better than reading this book would be to spend a week or two with Mr. Anthony in a shop and attempt to glean this much knowledge in one sitting, regardless the book could still be used for reference when the tutelage has ended. The emphasis on safety is apparent throughout the book without becoming overbearing causing the reader to dismiss the message. The pictures and illustrations are well thought out and mesh very well with the text to give the reader the most information possible.

Being a professional woodworker (luthier) I have many, many reference books on shop tools. This is by far the best I have come across for any shop tool. In addition to expertly explaining and photographing the more common topics of table saws, fixtures and proper usage, the author has addressed topics not to be found in other guides. Beginning with the basics of choosing, proper usage and common fixtures for your table saw, he leads you into in-depth topics such as peripherals like out feed tables, dust collection systems, saw blades and creating very clever custom fixtures. The maintenance topics even include changing out an arbor on an old saw! All of this is accompanied by a ton of easy to follow pictures, leading you every step of the way. This book educates the beginner and challenges even the most advanced woodworker. If a bible on the table saw was ever made, this is it and should be the only one you need in your library!

The book is written to communicate usage and fixtures for working with most table saws. There is enough concern and warnings about unsafe operations for beginners to retain all their fingers and eyes. The book contains procedures, such as a tuneup, that can be used with most brands, and techniques for operation that are very helpful. It also shows how to construct some very useful, inexpensive jigs to save time and increase accuracy. All in all a very useful reference.

The book is very informative, well-organized, and the pictures are good, but it puts (in my opinion) too much emphasis on obsolete saws. By law, all new table saws in the US for the last few years have a riving knife, but he barely mentions them. HIS old saw doesn't have one, and so all the pictures and descriptions pretend that such things don't exist. Since the author's target audience is presumably people who have just bought their first tablesaw, he might assume they have modern

safety equipment -- riving knife and maybe Sawstop. He also blithely assumes that his readers have access to expensive wood when cheaper would do just as well. Most people don't have four-foot chunks of 5/4 mahogany laying around to make a crosscut sled fence, or have a 3x4x10" block of hardwood just to make a stop block (and then cut away all but 4 inches of it), and so on. In practice, 3/4" oak from the big box store would work just as well for the fence, and the stop block can be built of three glued pieces of 3/4" poplar or even pine. It's not like the stop block is load-bearing!

I bought this book primarily to learn effective methods of tuning/getting the most out of my JET 10" contractor's table saw. The material that the author covers is broad and thorough, as he covers saw-tuning methods for both cabinet-maker grade saws (motor mounted inside cabinet), contractor grade saws (motor mounted directly to table via heavy trunnions), bench-top models, and other incarnations of the table saw. The material is presented well for the most part, and the most ambiguous steps are often accompanied with pictures. Good instruction that leaves little to the imagination in the way of methods. Some of his advice left me scratching my head though. The inconsistencies that I found troubling were statements like "Don't trust a typical hardware store combination square or try-square to provide the kind of accuracy you need for a tune-up. Buy good squares. You need them for general woodworking anyway" (p.103), which were followed by demonstrative pictures of methods in which the 'tuning' was being performed with worn "hardware store" squares (p.107), completely contradictory to his own advice. Throughout the text, he emphasizes the importance of employing precise, high-quality tools when tuning a table saw. Example: "Don't buy cheap. The precision you pay for yields big dividends in the long run" (p.103). These words of advice are often followed by statements like "You don't need an expensive dial indicator to measure most woodworking equipment. You can get a 2 1/4-in.-dia. dial indicator with 1-in. of travel for about \$14 from Harbor Freight" (p.104), which leaves the reader to wonder which to believe. This would be more problematic to a less-experienced woodworker, e.g. a woodworker who is just starting out, but to one with a fair amount of experience, the effectiveness of most high-dollar metrology equipment is already known. Overall, the text is packed with useful information to woodworkers with any level of experience, but the presentation is lackluster and, at times poorly written. I do not regret buying this book, but I will be using it more as a loose guide than woodworking gospel.

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