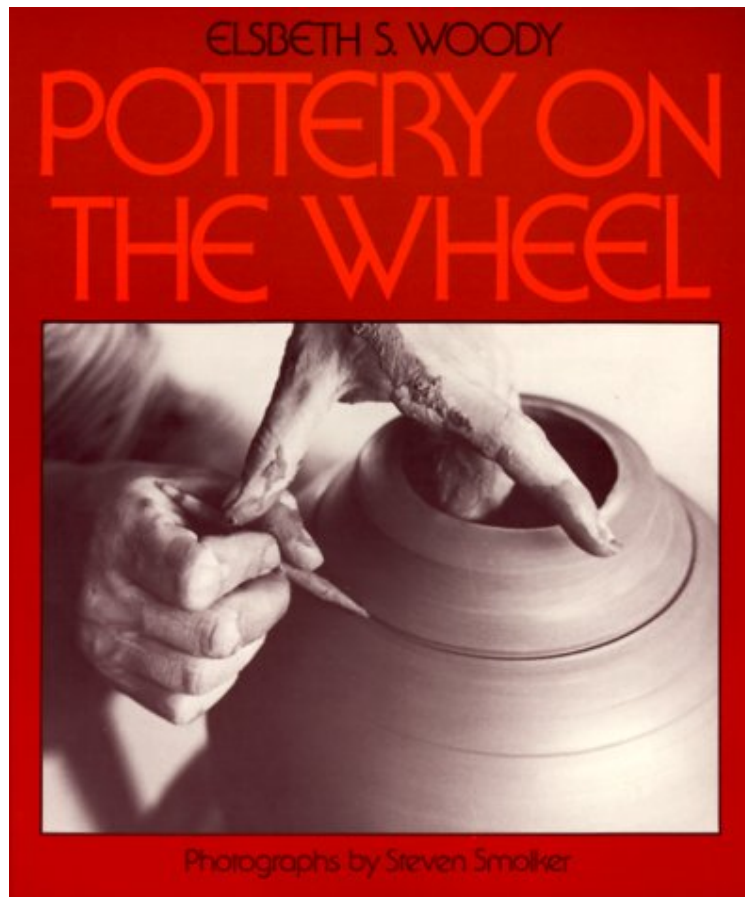


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Pottery on the Wheel

Elsbeth S. Woody

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Elsbeth S. Woody : Pottery on the Wheel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pottery on the Wheel:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful bookBy Linda T. PiercePottery on the Wheel - Elizabeth S. WoodyThis is a wonderful book for all potters who love the wheel; and especially for beginners through advanced intermediates. I suspect, however, that even the most advanced craftsman could pick up more than a few technical pointers due to the extensive coverage of the multitude of ways to form beautiful objects using one's hands and the spinning surface of the potter's wheel,Pottery on the Wheel is especially useful for people like me, who learn by watching; but also need the reinforcement of the printed word to set new concepts firmly in their minds. This book does just that through the exceptionally well explained topics and the multitude of large photographs that accompany each step she addresses.I am fortunate in having a wonderful instructor, Linda Dalton, a well known potter who carefully explains and demonstrates each new step. But no matter how carefully she explains things my aging brain isn't able to take all of it in, or worse yet, store it in its proper "box" for retention when I need it. Using this book to supplement my lessons provides me with the joy of seeing Linda's words jump out from the text enabling me to enjoy

the "Aha, so that's what she means" experience. Although this puts the topic halfway in the box, I have to remind myself of Linda's constant words of "practice, practice, practice" and follow them before I can be assured that the topic slides all the way into its container and is properly stored for instant automatic retrieval when I need it. The layout of this text is excellent. The wealth of information is introduced by a table of contents and ends with an appendix, a glossary, and a complete index making any subject easily accessible. The information itself is presented sequentially and logically and often with alternative methods. I can not imagine any way that the subject material and the depth in which it is covered could possibly be presented in a better or more understandable manner; and imagine it must be a required text for any institution offering pottery courses. Between the patient instructions of my teacher supplemented by Woody's book I feel excited about mastering the art of the wheel and I thank them both for making the endless hour of practice so worthwhile in attempting the journey from making bowls for Thumbelina to something I can place on my mantle with pride.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is wonderful for throwing pottery. By Diane Moore It clearly explains and illustrates just where to place your hands and fingers for shaping thrown pottery. It is easy to understand and very helpful for hand placement and what part of your hand should do the "pushing" and "forming".

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Clarity in writing used to elucidate basic concepts. By Masood Mortazavi I sometimes wonder how the beautiful conversational style used in this book came about. Woody has built creativity into its simple, yet very effective composition, design and production. I imagine whether Elisabeth S. Woody was just stating her instructions as she threw on her own wheel before the photographer who took all the photographs. The photographs of pottery cross sections provide a great touch in the teaching technique used in this book. I'm a beginner and having read and applied (albeit partially and to the best of my abilities) only the first couple of chapters so far, I look forward to owning a copy as a lasting reference, and a great read. (My current copy is from the library.)

Photographs by Steven Smolker In plain language and over 250 clear, instructive photographs, *Pottery on the Wheel* demonstrates to the novice potter every step in throwing the basic clay pottery shapes on the wheel. The student is told and shown how to wedge clay, what tools to use, how to throw cylindrical and open shapes, and how to trim the shapes. There are sections on the more specialized and advanced throwing techniques, such as throwing large pots, and coil and section throwing; and there are instructions for throwing specific forms such as teapots and pitchers. There is a chapter on pottery wheels, and appendices on clays, glazes, and kilns and firing.

About the Author Elisabeth S. Woody studied ceramics at Long Beach State College, Long Beach, California and at Columbia University Teachers College. She has exhibited her work at the Los Angeles County Museum, Boston City Hall, the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York, and elsewhere.