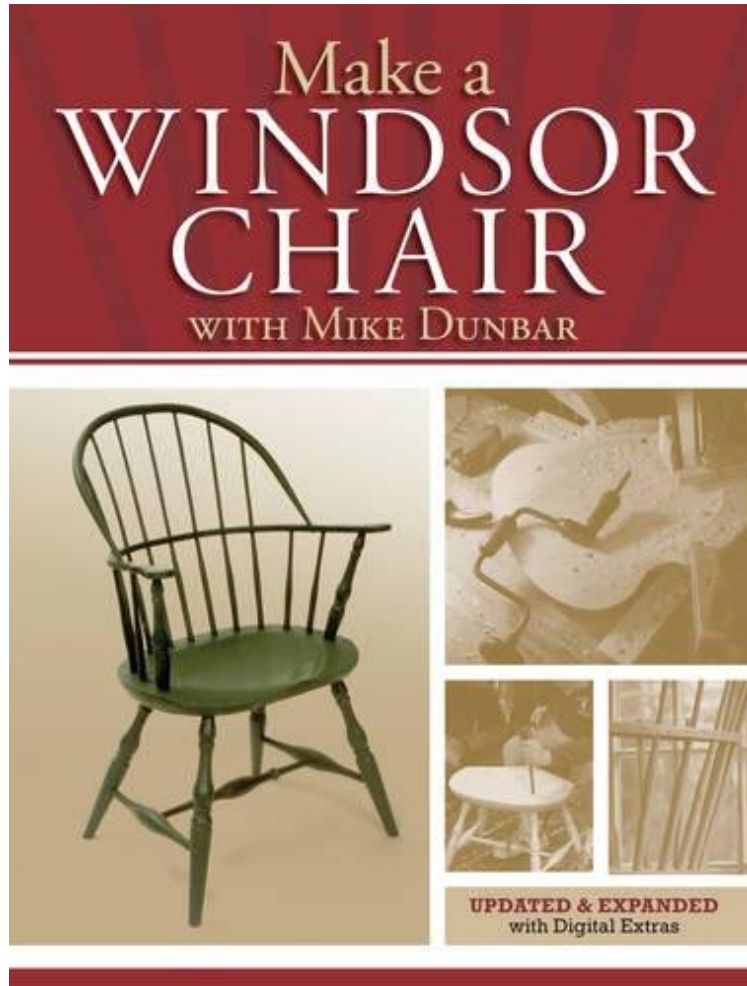


(Download pdf ebook) Make a Windsor Chair: The Updated and Expanded Classic

## Make a Windsor Chair: The Updated and Expanded Classic

*Mike Dunbar*

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**Mike Dunbar : Make a Windsor Chair: The Updated and Expanded Classic** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Make a Windsor Chair: The Updated and Expanded Classic:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Worth Owning By T. jefferson This is an important and useful update of Dunbar's original 1984 edition. It includes many of the improved techniques that Michael and his students have worked out during the past thirty years. I have the impression, perhaps from reading some of the reviews of the older book, that people have actually built Windsors using the 84 edition as a guide, so this book should be helpful if you contemplate building one of these beauties using this book as your only guide. It would also be a welcome addition to the library of anyone who has built a Windsor chair either on their own or in one of Dunbar's classes. Good as this book is, it does have some deficiencies. The main one consists of some gaping holes in the section dealing with the Continuing Arm Windsor. Dunbar has left the working drawing of the C-Arm, that appeared on page 139 of the 1984

edition, out of the new edition. However, he does give boring angles on page 55 of the new edition. Other important information contained in this drawing is absent, though you can probably figure out the missing spindle spacing in the bow simply by eye. In the section on assembling the upper part of the C-Arm (chapter 9 in the old book and chapter 11 in the new one) all of the pictures of Mike marking, drilling and wedging are in the new edition, but the running commentary, that represents 90% of the chapter's text has been left out. Finally, in the chapter on making spindles he dutifully gives the dimensions for the new Sack Back Windsor but does not do the same for the C-Arm. If you use the uncorrected lengths you will end up with eleven spindles that are an inch or two too short to fit in the new chair, a wasted effort, to say nothing of time and materials. I know the correct dimensions only because I made one in one of his classes in 1996 and have the chair as well as his class printout to guide me. Conclusion: I built my first Windsor in one of Michael's classes so I cannot honestly say how easy it would be to build one using this book alone; experienced wood workers: yes, probably; others: probably not. Even experienced woodworkers might, at best, find it would be difficult to build a C-arm just from the information in this book, but, more likely, impossible. I have a few other quibbles with the new edition. Mike has left most of the original book intact followed by information in bold print explaining new techniques developed over the years since the original edition was published. This is a nice feature if you are interested in the evolution of his approach to building a Windsor but it could lead to some disastrous results in actually building a chair if you are not careful. It would also be nice to see a chapter on the specialized sets of tools required to build a Windsor. Dunbar's expert knowledge in this area would be invaluable. Most of the vintage ones are gone or long forgotten and the newer versions are sometimes difficult to find and range from excellent to awful. You can find a few of them on his website, available for purchase, but some; such as spoon bits that can be used, with a bit of touching up, right out of the box; are absent from his catalogue. Despite these reservations, I recommend this book wholeheartedly. Put quite simply, there is no book on building Windsors that contains so much useful information. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I will probably never make a Windsor chair, but ...By Jonah 1:31 will probably never make a Windsor chair, but this book will nevertheless have been money well spent because of the information on hand tools, hand tool techniques, milk paint finishing and aesthetics. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must have book! By chairmaker This is the best book on Windsor chair making I've ever read. It's great even for first time chair makers. It has excellent explanations of every step in the process. Finally, the photos are terrific in showing the set-ups needed in virtually every phase. Keep it handy near your workbench.

The ultimate guide to chairmaking! Making a Windsor chair is one of the purest forms of woodworking--and one of the most fulfilling. With a few specialized tools, greenwood straight from the forest and some expert instruction, even beginners can craft an heirloom. In this book, chairmaking expert Mike Dunbar will show you exactly how. Dunbar, who has personally taught more than 3,000 students over the last 30 years, details every step in building sackback and continuous-arm Windsors. You'll learn how to: Choose and use the tools you need for efficient work. Carve a comfortable seat. Make well-proportioned legs, stretchers and spindles. Rive and steam-bend a chair back. Assemble joints for a perfect fit the first time. Plus, this expanded edition (with 32 additional pages) includes a chapter on fixing chairmaking mistakes, one of the most common issues Mike's students ask about. Follow the professional tricks, tips, and techniques in this updated and expanded edition and you'll have a chair that will stay tight and true for generations.

About the Author For more than 40 years Mike Dunbar has worked tirelessly to advance the craft of Windsor chairmaking and to promote handmade Windsor chairs. Since 1994 he has taught at his school, The Windsor Institute. Mike is the author of seven woodworking books and has written more magazine articles than he can count.