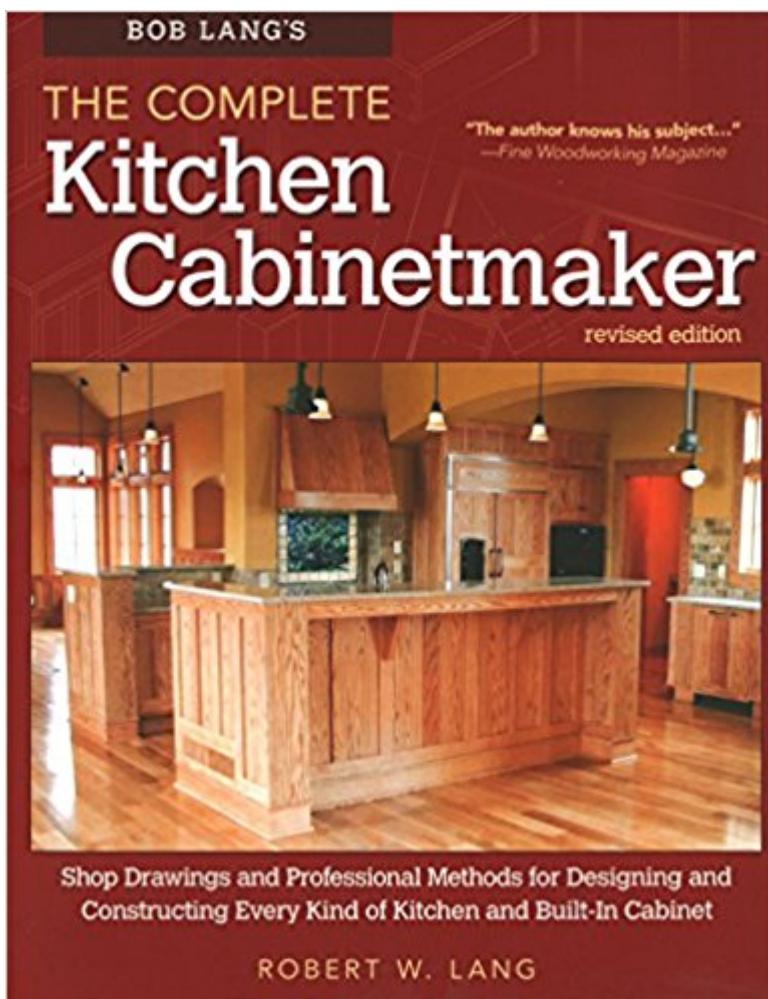


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# **Bob Lang's The Complete Kitchen Cabinetmaker, Revised Edition: Shop Drawings And Professional Methods For Designing And Constructing Every Kind Of Kitchen And Built-In Cabinet**





## Synopsis

Demonstrating how woodworkers can approach the complex job of designing and making built-in cabinets for kitchens, family rooms, and home offices, this technical handbook provides meticulously detailed shop drawings, instructions, and hundreds of professional tips for saving time, materials, unnecessary aggravation, and money. Bob Lang offers practical, hands-on guidance for building traditional face-frame cabinets as well as constructing contemporary frameless Euro-style cabinets. Woodworkers will learn how to measure rooms and design fitting cabinetry that considers both function and aesthetics, how to develop working shop drawings and cutting lists, and how to work with materials as varied as solid wood and plastic laminate. Technical instructions for cutting and joining the basic box, as well as for fitting it to drawer stacks, sinks, corners, appliances, and islands, are also included, as are detailed steps for sanding, finishing, and installing each piece. This second edition also offers a colorful new 16-page idea gallery with photographs of finished cabinets.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“The author knows his subject...” (Fine Woodworking Magazine) “You won’t find a more jam-packed “how-to” manual...” (WoodCentral)

Hands-On Advice from a Master Woodworker Whether it’s kitchen, home office, family

room, or any other kind of built-in cabinet work, this classic technical handbook shows you exactly how to approach the complex job of designing and making custom cabinets. Robert W. Lang takes the mystery out of the job with clearly written text, meticulously detailed shop drawings, and sharp photographs that show how cabinets go together in the real world. From the planning stage all the way through installation, Bob Lang's *The Complete Kitchen Cabinet Maker, Revised Edition* gives you a firm foundation for designing and building kitchen cabinets from scratch. This comprehensive handbook gives you the choice of building either traditional face-frame cabinets or contemporary frameless Euro-style cabinets. You'll benefit from practical and shop-tested methods and time-savers on every page. Take the confusion out of cabinetmaking by learning:

- How to measure a room and design cabinetry.
- How to develop working shop drawings and cutting lists.
- How to work with solid wood, veneered plywood, MDF, and plastic laminates.
- How to build traditional face-frame cabinets and Euro-style frameless cabinets.
- How to cut and join the basic box for any project.
- How to construct wall-hung cabinets, units with lighting, and floor-to-ceiling styles.
- How to make doors, drawer faces, drawer boxes, and countertops.

Revised?! Not really. I have the original edition of this book, which is pretty good, so I eagerly ordered the new Revised Edition. Big disappointment and total waste of money. The only changes in the "revised" edition: new Forward by the author; eight pages of color photos of kitchen cabinets (not great photos, and nothing special about the cabinetry, you can easily find hundreds of better kitchen cabinet photos on the web); and I found one correction on one construction detail drawing (figure 35). Otherwise the Revised Edition is word-for-word, drawing-for-drawing identical to the original.

I really like this book. I have two other books on kitchen cabinets, and while both of those books provide good information (I have no regrets buying them), I like this one the best. The author does a very, very good job of explaining the building process and devotes a lot of time to the organization process. He tells you why it should be done, why it's important, and what can happen if you don't do it. The other books by Udo Schmidt and Randy Johnson don't really delve too much into this. What the other books lack is real information on European or frameless style cabinets. This book has far more information on that subject, which is of particular interest to me. Yes, this book is a bit dated in some aspects (like using biscuit joinery instead of pocket screws or Dominos) but the illustrations

are well done. I wish the photographs were color, but this is a small thing and doesn't really impact the book. I really suggest this book for anyone wanting to build cabinets but honestly would say that it would be good to get the ones from the authors mentioned above as well (Building Kitchen Cabinets -Schmidt and How To Make Kitchen Cabinets -Johnson). One can never have too much information and each book is a valuable resource.

I'm relatively new to wood working (I have a distant background in metal working), and I've been working through a pile of books over the past few years. I decided to take on building a set of kitchen cabinets this year and this book is by far the most helpful, actionable guide with real-world tips, deep-enough explanations and great general advice. I really appreciate how the author explains both sides of a given issue (e.g., attached or separate kick plate) and then gives good reasons for why he leans one way or another.

This book is exactly what I needed. I'm planning to build kitchen cabinets for a HUD house that I am refurbishing and though I thought I already owned most of the tools that I'd need, I found Lang's book gave me a few more I'd do best to acquire. His complete discussion of face-frame vs Euro-style and hinge selection was extremely helpful. There are chapters I don't need since I'll buy counter-tops rather than make them but for the most part, I really needed to learn what Lang has to teach. His cabinet drawings (with exact dimensions) including drawer design are going to be translated into wood when I get started. It's one of the best "how-to" books I've purchased.

Excellent detail, well laid out, and an easy read.

Easy to read and good instructions.

THIS WAS ACTUALLY A GIFT. I LOOKED IT OVER VERY CAREFULLY AFTER IT ARRIVED. IT IS A GOOD BOOK WITH GUIDANCE AND PRETTY CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS. (YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN UNTIL YOU HAVE THE FIRST PIECE OF CUT WOOD IN YOUR HAND.) IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE CHALLENGE OF WOODWORKING THIS IS A GOOD BOOK TO SPEND TIME WITH PRIOR TO GETTING THE TAPE MEASURE OUT OF THE DRAWER AND CERTAINLY BEFORE GETTING THE SAW.

I haven't finished studying the book yet, but Lang's small shop production perspective has brought

me to re-consider my one-off methods for greater efficiency. Lacking the knowledge of one who has apprenticed, i.e., autodidactic, I appreciate the good sense, experiential wisdom Bob Lang offers up.

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