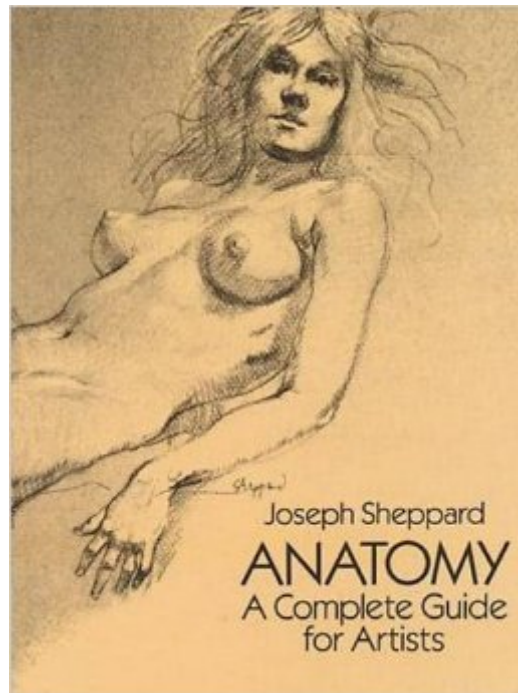


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# Anatomy: A Complete Guide For Artists (Dover Anatomy For Artists)



## Synopsis

In this superb guidebook, a skilled practitioner of figure drawing demonstrates how to achieve mastery of anatomy through careful, knowledgeable articulation of the muscles and bones lying beneath the skin. Joseph Sheppard's concise instructions have been carefully integrated with over 250 halftone illustrations and over 180 line drawings to lead artists one step at a time through the techniques required in rendering human anatomy convincingly. The opening chapter of the book presents the special techniques involved in mastering human proportion. The chapters that follow each deal with a separate part of the body: the arm, hand, leg, foot, torso, head, and neck (with special coverage of facial features and expressions) and the complete figure. Each of these chapters follows a basic format that combines drawings of the featured body portion from many different angles, coverage of the specific bones and muscles involved, a table of muscle origins and insertions, and coverage of surface anatomy and depictions of the body part in a variety of positions. Joseph Sheppard taught drawing, anatomy, and painting for many years at the Maryland Institute of Art. He is the author of several books of art instruction, and the recipient of a number of distinguished prizes and awards for his sculptures and other works of art, many of which are in the collections of art museums across America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you find Bridgeman a little too loose, Peck not fully clear, and others a little too medically oriented ... this might be the anatomy book for you. I have either bought or borrowed EVERY drawing book there is, and for anatomy this is the best thing out there for me. The companion text - "Drawing The

Living Figure" - is also indispensable for the different views of exterior appearance built by the interior structure. Though there is always the possibility they're not your cup of tea, for most students these two are perfect and will teach you everything you need to know about artistic anatomy without costing an arm and a leg.

A very useful, and easy to understand book. The individual areas of the body, such as arm, hand, torso, head, etc... are given their own chapter. Each chapter will start with the drawings of the bones and many different views of them, excellent and accurate pictures. Under each example picture is a good amount of information about the picture. After the bones have been explained and drawn, from several angles, the muscles are drawn onto the bones, usually one muscle or muscle group at a time, with the same amount of detail as the bones. Then at the end of each chapter there are drawings of the area of the body complete. This shows the reader/artist what, and how the body looks like it looks with the muscles movement, and the bones they are attached to. There are also examples of the facial areas, and emotions. Again this is a very useful, detailed, and informative book for the artist, on how the body works, and how to draw accurate anatomy.

I found that the range of poses and angles for noses, eyes and the mouth were very useful. I also thought that it was a lot less like a medical book than some, which from my point of view was good. The charcoal/chalk images are fine for gaining an idea of where you want to go, but they do lack detail. I think this book is an ideal reference book but should be used in conjunction with others.

If you are interested in drawing the human form this book, in my humble opinion, is not only a wonderful place to start, but also an excellent reference and workbook to practice drawing from. It covers Arm, hand, leg, foot, torso, neck, head, and builds up each part from bone to full surface anatomy from several views and several positions (flexed, relaxed, turned in or out, etc.). The complete figure is covered in the last chapter. A bargain at twice the price!

First of all you can't beat the price of the figure drawing book. All around it shows examples of the figure, bone structure, and even muscle and vein structure. Some of the drawings are not the best but they are simple and easy to draw and get a feel for the figure. One thing I really like about this book is that it has a great deal of drawing of different mouth poses for different emotions it also has different types of ears and noses which is really good to refer to if you don't have someone standing in front of you. It has all of your typical figure drawing stuff like the torso, the head, hands and feet

and so on. It has great drawings of bones and the skeleton. I would recommend buying a second book with more body poses and use this more for a reference. But for the price it's worth it.

I've been collecting anatomy for artists books for awhile and this is the best one in my collection to date. I like it because it shows each body part's bones, tendons/connective tissues and muscles from several different angles. It also includes drawings of the body parts' external views in several orientations. The drawings are done with scientific detail but are clearly meant for artists to use in rendering the human form with understanding of its structural underpinnings. I've copied illustrations from this book in my sketch book as observational practice and this has improved my life drawing. A worthy addition to your art practice library!

Great detailed drawings. A useful guide for those who want to learn the layers of anatomy, rather than just seeing what's on the surface. I love how this book shows sequential drawings of the body that add more and more muscles each time. That way, I can learn what's behind what, and really have a solid understanding of the human figure. However, I wouldn't say this is a be-all-end-all anatomy book. Rather, it's a great supplement to the wonderful beginner anatomy books that focus more on basic forms and proportion. It bridges the gap between a book like Hampton's *Figure Drawing Design and Invention* and a fairly complex (for artists) anatomy book like Stephen Rogers Peck.

One of the reasons I enjoyed this book is that the author was able to demonstrate more clarity over the muscle and skeletal books. I have several other anatomy books where it becomes too medical. I think the problem is that people are looking for a beautiful style in anatomy books. I think that is the **WRONG** approach. You're supposed to learn how to draw anatomy, not look for pretty illustrations. Get a coffee table book if that's what you're looking for. The book demonstrates with enough clarity if you find Bridgman too sketchy and others too boring. There are some drawbacks to the book if you're looking to understand how different joints move, but there will never be that **ONE** anatomy book that makes you able to draw. The illustrations do matter, but rather how you can understand and **PRACTICE**. Many artists just give up expecting a book will be the end all. I've received many books and I'd recommend this book to an intermediate that gets beyond understanding the blocks and cylinders construction and want to push their artwork further. Just an editing note. Someone had asked for reference of the Pelvis, and I had scanned various anatomy books such as Peck's, Jack Hamm's and Sheppard's. They found Sheppard's illustrations to have the most clarity and

understanding.

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