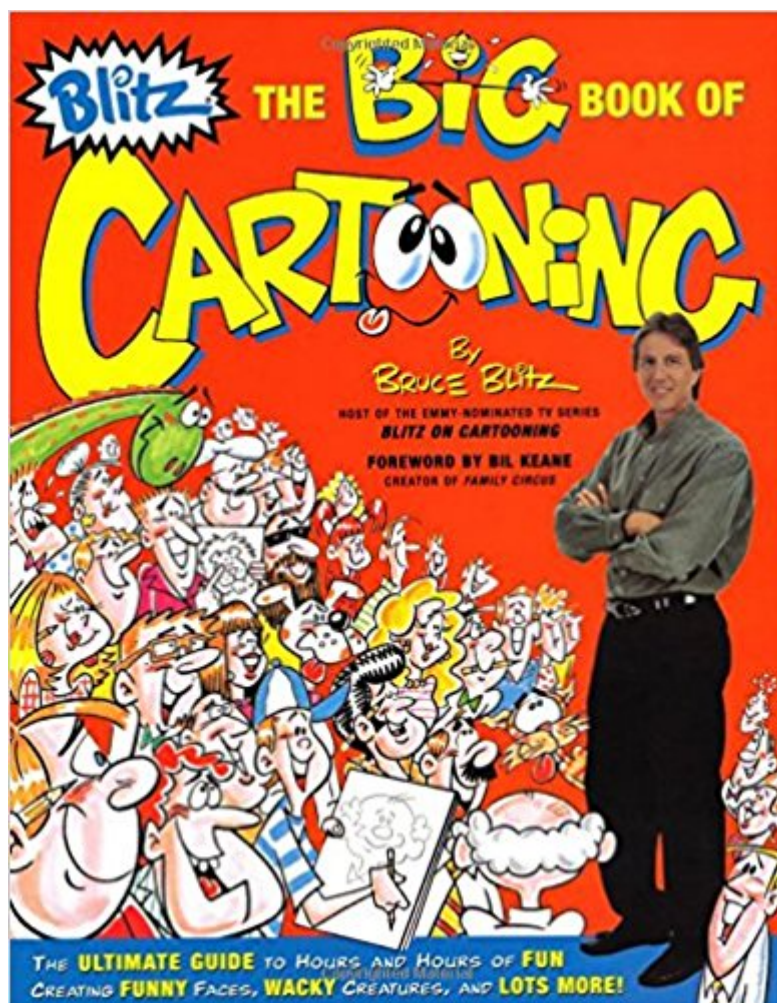


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# Big Book Of Cartooning



## Synopsis

Discover the tricks of the cartooning trade with help from Bruce Blitz, host of the Emmy-nominated PBS program *Cartooning with Blitz*. Transform the simplest doodles into elaborate illustrations of a policeman, a lion, or even a unique, original comic strip!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Get out your number 2 pencils! Bruce Blitz, professional cartoonist, television personality, and all-around enthusiastic guy, is going to teach you how to draw! *The Big Book of Cartooning* is a fun, comprehensive, easy-to-use guide to the basic techniques of cartooning. In his Big Book, Blitz explains the process of drawing cartoons with detailed chapters that cover everything from the selection of paper and pencils to sketching animals and portraits. And don't worry if it doesn't turn out right the first time--Blitz's optimistic style and encouraging words will help smooth over the rough spots. In the forward, Bil Keane, syndicated cartoonist and creator of "The Family Circus," writes, "It is a brilliant compilation of the many basic aspects of drawing, simplified and presented in a breezy, entertaining style." Whether you're a budding young artist or an old dog still scratching out stick people, *The Big Book of Cartooning* can help you sketch more interesting and expressive pictures. Reading this book won't necessarily turn you into the next Gary Larson, but with a little guidance from Bruce Blitz and a lot of practice, you could be drawing better cartoons in no time! --George Laney --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Blitz has the honor of having been nominated for four Emmy Awards for his PBS television series *Blitz on Cartooning*. Having already written eight cartooning books, he now turns out a rather

uninspired effort. He covers the basic drawing of faces, animals, action, and so on and offers tips on producing caricatures, greeting cards, business cards, and advertisements. A more amusing and insightful book is Christopher Hart's *Drawing on the Funny Side of the Brain* Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The author is a long time cartooning instructor who really knows his stuff. When it comes to actually using the cartoons you draw, not so much. All instruction is on drawing the "old-school" way with pen and ink rather than today's digital formats. The advice on putting the cartoons you draw to work is equally "old school," with suggestions on submitting to print newspapers and other "dead tree" media and nothing on online opportunities. This book is great for learning cartooning, but you'll have to figure out what to do with your cartoons on your own.

I've been trying to learn cartooning for several years. Now I won't claim to be a great cartoonist and never will be because I don't have that great natural talent. But thanks to this book, I've drawn quite a bit and have gotten many compliments on my cartoons. The best way to learn cartooning is to study examples, sometimes trace over the examples. This book is \*filled\* with examples. Hundreds of pages, many per page. It also covers many subjects. I love the faces section, especially how to convey different emotions, but my favorite is the objects section. Bruce Blitz shows you how to break down any object into a few basic shapes (cylinder, cone, etc.). Basically you need to do is practice drawing the shapes, but once you can draw them decently, you can draw basically any object. You don't need to learn how to draw objects individually. You just need to learn how to "see" objects as a combination of a few basic shapes. A few tips: \*Blitz says, rightly, that you shouldn't go overboard with art supplies. All you need to start with is a pencil, some regular paper, and a nice eraser. Yet he describes many fancy art supplies, which may confuse some readers. I suggest starting with the following: Pencils of a few different hardnesses. A good eraser; Blitz recommends a kneaded eraser, but I think *Staedtler(R) Mars(R) Plastic Erasers* are better. A small lightbox proved a great investment. Don't bother with the fancy screens and colors that he discusses. \*If you don't have great natural talent, begin by tracing over his drawings. It helps a lot to first imitate. \*Prepare to spend time than you think. Great cartoonists can churn them out in a few minutes, but for us non-cartoonists, it takes tons of time. I was surprised how long it took for me to produce a great cartoon, but it's been worth it, as I've gotten many compliments on my cartoons. I can't believe how much you get from this book for the price. It could cost three or even four times as much, and it would still be well worth it. Happy cartooning!

This book covers "everything" one would want to know about how to cartoon. Blitz starts the reader off with easy to accomplish impressive studies. These lay the foundation for drawing detailed toons, backgrounds, and just about everything else. He covers creating cartoon strips and how to make a living cartooning. The best part is that the beginner (me) can learn this interesting art form and have lots of fun in the process! After giving the reader the basics the book shifts more into an encyclopedia reference book. If one were to do all the studies presented in the book, it would take a very long time and, I would guess, lead to a comprehensive understanding of basic cartooning. It does not cover anime or magna style, but once the basics are learn, figuring out other forms of cartooning was not that difficult (for me).

That is Bruce Blitz book for sure so much content and you get such a good education from him when you apply yourself to learn you can tell he is there to teach.

This book is excellent. I owned a copy in my childhood life, and I have been reading and recommending it since. Unfortunately the copy Thrift books sent me was not in the condition promised, the first half of the book was clean of all but one defacement. The second half was riddled with defacement, and particularly vulgar graffiti at that. I would give a lower score, but the book itself needs all the publicity it can get. I'll probably be ordering more than one copy, but I might have to look elsewhere.

While having dabbled in art for a number of years, this is one area in which I had no experience. Curiosity caused me to buy this book and others similar to it. I was totally satisfied that my concerns were addressed to the point where they exceeded expectations. For anyone interested and even with great desire and minimum talent you can train yourself to become competent in cartooning. The method is step- by-step and easy to follow. It will be a valuable research source for my own efforts. The book is clear and well written. Good value for the price paid.

I read through this entire book. I like the way it explains the steps to draw and cartoon easier. Now I have been drawing for many many years in the pas , .I got away from doing it so and I thought I would get these books for my child and to brush up on the technics I once knew. With age the memory and ease that once was that easy are not as well mantianed as I would like. I have found things difficult, one because of hands ache, but simply because I have not done it in many years. It

is not like riding a bike, sure the basics are there, but without constant practice and doing it, one forgets and loses some ability and talent they had gained. So Buy this book it contains everything you will need to successfully learn to draw and cartoon like a pro, BUT one thing everyone, including myself needs to do and that is to practice and practice and practice, then you will become very acquainted to the technics you need and the skill you learn by doing so. I wish I had continued with doing so instead of laying it down, but life happens sometimes, but one if they are going to be a serious cartoonist or anything for that matter you have to hone your skills and stay at it and practice, practice, practice. Great Book, Highly recommend it for everyone, from children to adult, Bruce Blitz does an outstanding job with his explanations and technics . Buy it ,you will not be sorry.

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