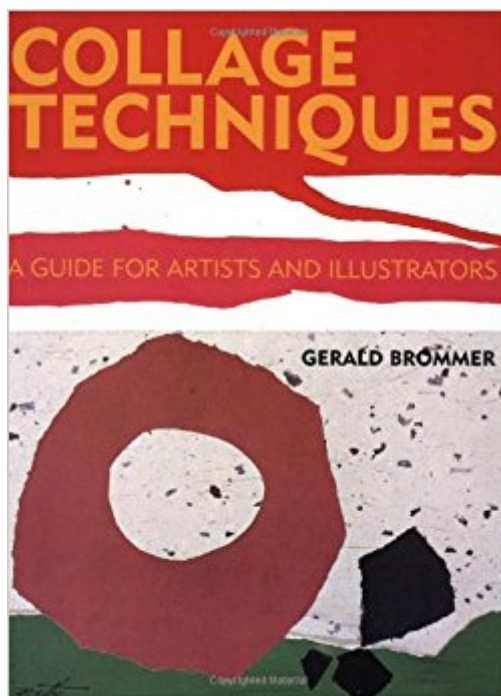


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# Collage Techniques: A Guide For Artists And Illustrators



## Synopsis

One of many exhilarating artistic developments that took place during the early twentieth century, the fine art medium of collage emerged from the cubist gluing and pasting explorations of Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso. As a result of its experimental genesis, collage has continued to serve not only as a primary form of expression for many prominent artists, but as a principal means of evaluating and developing new creative strategies. Conceived and written by renowned artist, author, and teacher Gerald Brommer, *Collage Techniques* first presents the medium within the context of a wide variety of materials, including washi (oriental and rice papers) and watermedia; stained, prepared, and found papers; photographs; and fabrics and fibers. Each category of material is examined through a step-by-step demonstration and works by artists who approach collage in original and refreshing ways. The latest trends in technologically enhanced collage, including such high-tech applications as multiple photocopying and digital scanning, are also discussed. The author then explores how the elements and principles of design are used in collage, and how they in turn are employed in all the major genre, including still life, landscape, the human figure, abstraction, and nonobjective imagery. Beautifully illustrated with the work of more than eighty noted artists, including Edward Betts, Jae Carmichael, Margo Hoff, Katherine Chang Liu, and Fred Otnes, *Collage Techniques* is an essential reference for all artists and illustrators, regardless of their creative focus or choice of medium.

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## Customer Reviews

Rather than a project-driven craft book, *Collage Techniques* is an exciting presentation of the

medium as a fine art. From the famous practitioners (Matisse, Picasso, Hockney) to the many accomplished artists represented throughout the book, the images are stunning, sometimes startling. A thorough coverage of materials, supplies, and basic methods lays the groundwork of the first section; chapters then focus on various types of papers, fibers, photographs, and technologically enhanced imagery that can be incorporated. The second section explores design considerations for various subjects (still lifes, landscapes, human figures, social commentary, abstract imagery, three-dimensional works). There are no step-by-step objects here, but instead an amazing collection of work that utilizes collage by bringing together painting and sculpture and provides colorful, inventive, thought-provoking inspiration for experimenting with the medium.

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Any collage artist or fan of the collage style will find LOADS to like about this book. The author has chosen a wonderfully wide selection of styles and artists within the collage community to show what can be accomplished with things as simple as found bits of paper and trash that can be picked up almost anywhere for free, as well as a wide variety of other materials, some of which are very unconventional. His writing style is very readable and informative, and I have really enjoyed

exploring the different artist's work and getting a glimpse into their creative process. All in all, I would recommend this book to any art student, collage artist, or art fancier, as each should get much more than their money's worth out of it!

Although to some, this book may be outdated, there are some amazing artists represented in this book. It is a great reference book to have in your library and I refer to it often. I would not be without it. Gerald Brommer is a very talented artist and you can view some short clips on Youtube of his work.

As others have said, this is not a "how to" book. You won't find detailed instructions on how to create a collage here. What you will find, however, is a thoughtfully written and illustrated book about collage as an art form, which will inspire serious artists to delve deeper into their own work. I have plenty of "how to" books; they serve their purpose, but after I've mastered their lessons, I seldom return to them. I know, however, that I will return to Brommer's book again and again as I continue to grow as a collage artist. Great book!

This is not the cutesy, craft-like collage- it's the real thing. This is for the serious artist who wants to learn techniques. I took a class and quite frankly, found this book more helpful. The instructions are clear, with excellent pictures. I only wish it would be spiral bound for easy reference.

Brommer's text is perfect for anyone interested in exploring collage as a fine art. He gives some history, hence context, for the work of collage. There are plenty of different techniques offered for exploration by the reader with lots of detail and materials lists. These are not "specific" projects, but rather show a project using the methods described and leave open-ended your own creation. The art of collage is also placed in current context when contemporary applications are examined in the end of the book. I rate this for anyone interested in collage as an art form. This is not a "craft" book, but rather almost an art course in collage in a book.

This book is by a respected artist/writer and it shows. Collage has been taken over by crafters (not dissing it, but it's not the same as fine art collage). It is very hard to find a book covering the professional artist and collage. This is it. The examples are excellent. If I had a complaint, it's that there is a strong stress on specific techniques - I'd love to have seen it integrated showing how different approaches can achieve similar results. Also, the end section should be in the front. But

those are very minor complaints... overall this book is fantastic and inspirational. I highly recommend it for any fine art collagist.

This is NOT another "art 'journal'/scrapbooking called art" book. This is artistic expression with true instructions. Well written and photographed to make me nearly drool on the pages. Well worth every penny I paid for this book. Clear instructions and great examples. Yay and thank you Gerald Brommer!

Being new to the area of collage, I have been searching out interesting and inspirational books from which to 'get the motor revving' so-to-speak. I've felt like Goldilocks in the Bear's house looking at some of the available materials. "This one is too short, this one is too weird, this one is too singular, this one has no background or wisdom to offer..." But, ah! this one, Collage Techniques, is just right. I found the educational and historical perspectives to be useful and interesting to read, as well as the lessons and explanations. The author uses many good examples that come from a variety of sources, so it is possible to look through and say, "Yes, that's the skill or portrayal that I'm looking for." Collage Techniques doesn't get dry or repetitive, nor does it foist a single technique upon the reader. It is an older book, but in-my-opinion, a more comprehensive one than many of the newer collage books. I recommend it very highly.

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