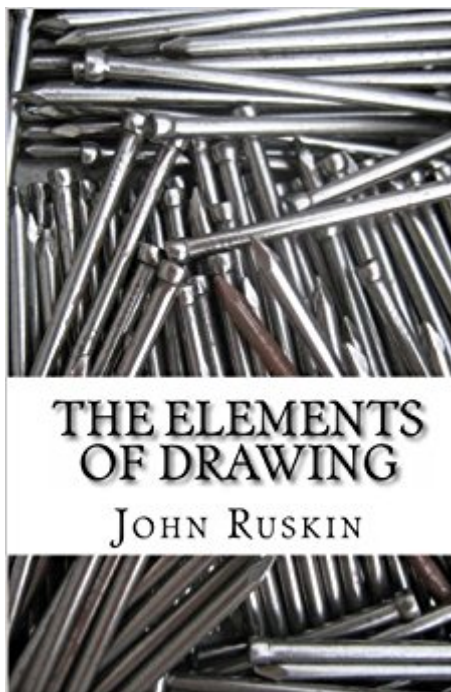


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# The Elements Of Drawing



## Synopsis

John Ruskin shaped generations of artists, art critics and historians' understanding of how art works. He was the preeminent critic of his time, and a fine artist in his own right. In *The Elements of Drawing*, Ruskin explains how to draw and how to look at the drawings of others, in a wonderful primer on line, tone, weight, color, and composition. Generations have been taught how to draw and how to paint by Ruskin in this book and his others. Fully illustrated by the author, to demonstrate the techniques he describes, *The Elements of Drawing* is one of the all-time classics in art and art history, and an essential guide for those who want to learn how to draw. This edition is a facsimile reproduction of the original 1857 work, with all Ruskin's original art included, as well as his comprehensive list of resources and works any young artist should study.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

'Contains new illustrations and interesting notes and explanations to help students through the process of drawing. This classic retains its relevance some 150 years after its first appearance and should be on every artist's bookshelf.' *Leisure Painter* (June 2007) 'The book is an absolute delight and proves that traditional teaching methods by a good artist and tutor should never be overlooked in our age of digital technology and instant results.' Editor, *Leisure Painter* (July 2007) --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Can drawing be a sound, honest representation of the world as the eye sees it, not tricks with

the pencil or a few "effects" – to be learned from a book? One of the most gifted draftsmen, who is also one of the greatest art critics and theorists of all time, answers that question with a decided "Yes." He is John Ruskin, the author of this book, a classic in art education as well as a highly effective text for the student and amateur today. The work is in three parts, cast in the form of letters to a student, successively covering "First Practice," "Sketching from Nature," and "Colour and Composition." Starting with the bare fundamentals (what kind of drawing pen to buy; shading a square evenly), and using the extremely practical method of exercises which the student performs from the very first, Ruskin instructs, advises, guides, counsels, and anticipates problems with sensitivity. The exercises become more difficult, developing greater and greater skills until Ruskin feels his reader is ready for watercolors and finally composition, which he treats in detail as to the laws of principality, repetition, continuity, curvature, radiation, contrast, interchange, consistency, and harmony. All along the way, Ruskin explains, in plain, clear language, the artistic and craftsmanlike reasons behind his practical advice – underlying which, of course, is Ruskin's brilliant philosophy of honest, naturally observed art which has so much affected our aesthetic. Three full-page plates and 48 woodcuts and diagrams (the latter from drawings by the author) show the student what the text describes. An appendix devotes many pages to the art works which may be studied with profit. Unabridged republication of the text from the Library edition of *The Works of John Ruskin*, 1904. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Excellent this is the man. To bad all critiques aren't as integrity driven as Ruskin. He really has a way of putting into words what art and the artistic eye is without all the bolder dash that now plagues most critics. And a damn good teacher as well.

The entire book is great. For anyone who draws or wants a better understanding of why viewing art is such a rich experience read this book. For the artist, invaluable. I read it and reread this book and it always reveals more. Especially illuminating are his writings on JMW Turner's watercolors.

I'm really enjoying this annotated version of this classic on drawing. Glad I got this one with so many to chose from.

classic advise for all ages. Open it at any page, it give you something to contemplate

The type is difficult to read making the book useless to me.

Average

Excellent intro to art. Of course very 19th century but still illuminating . Stones of Venice even better.  
John Ruskin

Great THANK YOU

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