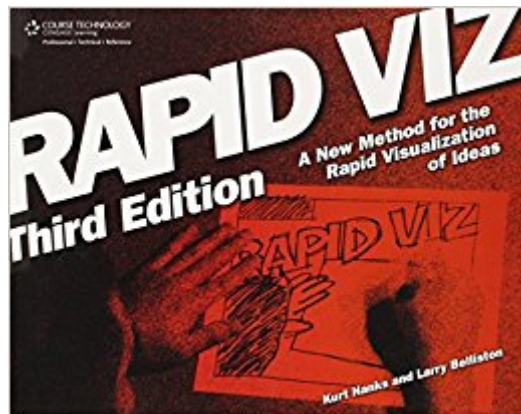




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Rapid Viz: A New Method For The Rapid Visualization Of Ideas



Synopsis

Rapid Viz, Third Edition: A New Method for the Rapid Visualization of Ideas provides hands-on instruction on quick sketching skills and techniques that allow you to picture your ideas mentally, and then quickly convert those thoughts into visual reality on a piece of paper. The method is not designed to help you become a master illustrator, but rather a visual thinker and communicator. Emphasizing speed and simplicity, the Rapid Viz method breaks down drawing to the essentials, teaching the fundamental techniques of graphic art and design using only the simplest of tools: felt-tip pens or pencils and paper. Using a minimum amount of time, trouble, and effort, Rapid Viz enables you to nail down your ideas onto paper, rapidly converting your thoughts while they are still fresh, and then polish them for clear visual communication with others.

Book Information

Paperback: 216 pages

Publisher: Cengage Learning PTR; 3 edition (March 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 159863268X

ISBN-13: 978-1598632682

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 7.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 35 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #74,186 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Visual Arts > Drawing](#) #27 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Mechanical > Drafting & Mechanical Drawing](#) #120 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Drafting & Presentation](#)

Customer Reviews

1. Perspective 2. Rapid Indication 3. The Visualization Process 4. Graphic Expression 5. Graphic Creation 6. Learning with Visuals Appendices: A. Additional Exercises B. Suggested Readings

The title's meaning is self-evident but the potential value of what can be learned from Kurt Hanks and Larry Belliston in this book is not. First published in 1980 and now available in a Third Edition (2006) that some view as inferior to its predecessor (1990), this book is based on the same core assumption that Dan Roam's three books are: the quality and clarity of ideas can be increased and improved by illustrating them. If you have no ideas, you need other sources of assistance. If you

have difficulty articulating your ideas with words, Hanks and Belliston can prepare you to express yourself visually and that, in turn, will strengthen your verbal skills. The techniques and skills that Rapid Viz approach requires are introduced in this book, and thoroughly explained, accompanied by exercises that can help you to develop them. In their Introduction, Hanks and Belliston explain the objectives and guidelines used to develop their book as well as the goals of the Rapid Viz method, once that was fine-tuned during several decades of application and modification. They also suggest what their reader ("student") needs to get started: a pencil and/or felt-tip pen ("Use whatever you want as long as it's simple, cheap, and you can carry it in your pocket or purse at all times"), perhaps multi-colored felt-tip pens and/or pencils, perhaps an eraser and/or ruler, sheets of some regular bond paper, a pad of 14" X 17" tracing paper. At this point, I presume to suggest that you consider a sketchbook with blank pages and have it nearby as you complete various exercises within the book. Why? Sooner and more often than you may now expect, completing the process of instruction that Hanks and Belliston follow will generate stimulate your thoughts and feelings as well as images associated with them. You need to record notes, comments, and illustrations (however simple). As you learn more about the process, and as you strengthen your skills, you will also develop an "eye" that will recognize your progress over time. My personal preference is for the Pro Art Sketch Book (5.5" X 8", 220 Pages) that I purchase through for \$5.94 plus shipping. With regard to the exercises within Chapters 1-6 and the additional exercises in Appendix A, most of them can be completed within the book. There may be a few that you wish to complete several times, hence the need for the sheets of paper and a blank-pages notebook, if you have one. Practice may not make perfect but it can certainly support improvement. However, practice with discipline and purpose. As Hanks and Belliston point out, "The exercises attempt to restrict your freedom temporarily. Tight restrictions as to what is drawn, how long to take, and so forth make drawing easier during the early stages of the learning process. Set you own tight goals. Too many choices breed confusion and non-performance. Decide specifically what to do and do it." Two final points. First, with regard to "rapid," make haste slowly. Rapid Viz really is a progressive process. Also, the value of this book will be determined almost entirely by the quality and extent of attention and effort you commit to the learning opportunities that Kurt Hanks and Larry Belliston offer.

This book is a true classic. It's written in just the style I like, in a "here's the straight dope" style, no pretense. The first edition was required reading when I was an undergrad studying product design, and I ordered this version for my kids to learn from. Doesn't disappoint!!

This is a very good book. I have no product design background at all. Trying to take some college extension lessons at night and it was soooo difficult for me. This book helped me greatly!

This is, without a doubt, the best "how to" book on this type of art (primarily architectural rendering) I've come across. Through a graded series of exercises, the book allows you to continually refine your skills; I was (and still am) amazed at the quality and visual interest of the drawings I was producing. As an amateur with no formal training, but with the desire (coupled with no access to formal training), this is exactly what I needed. I now have a large library of "arts books", but this one is the one from which I chose to learn! The best "bang for my buck" I've seen in a long time. - John

I found this book fairly helpful in understanding and applying perspective. I have taken many art classes that have covered the subject and have read books but none really helped me develop an intuitive understanding of perspective. The exercises in this book have helped me see my mistakes and given me more confidence in my sketching and illustrations. I really recommend this book for the student who knows the basic rules of perspective but could just never get past the mechanics of it all and apply it to their everyday drawing. I'm not sure if it's the best book for a raw beginner.

Been using this book for years as a training tool until I lent it to someone. Finally found it again on .Highly recommended!!!!

Not a bad book but not what I was looking for. I wish the product description had been more detailed, but I take responsibility for a bad purchase.

An excellent guide to drawing for beginners. Lots of easy-to-do introductory exercises to get you started. Provides a good foundation for anyone interested in learning to draw rapidly and realistically. Even experienced artists may find something useful in here. Recommended.

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