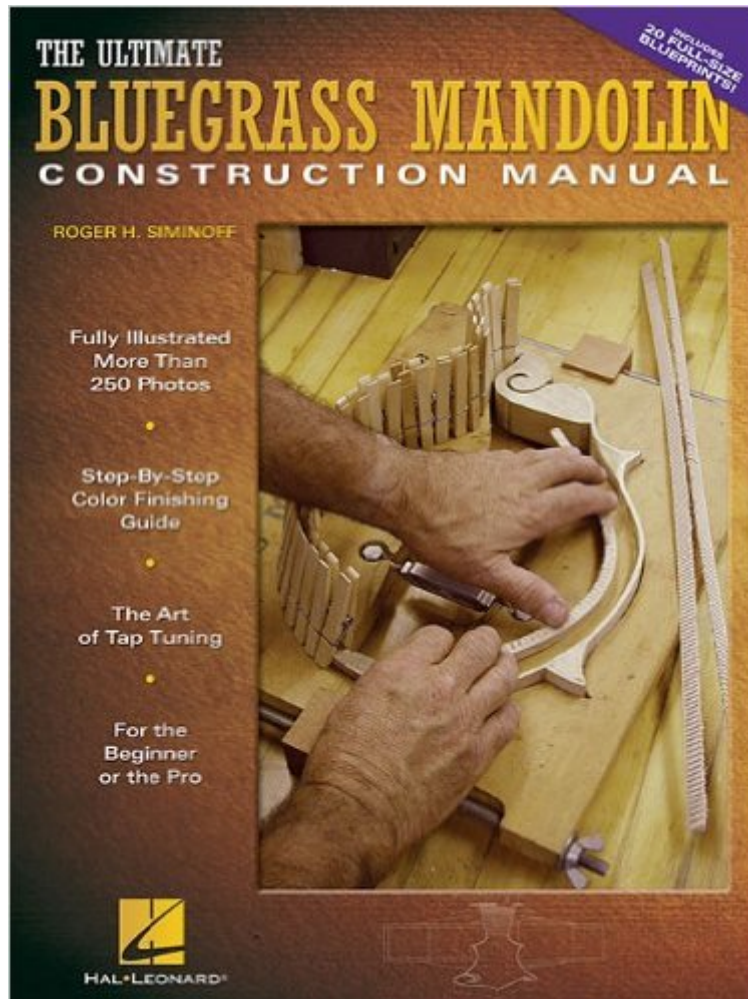


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# The Ultimate Bluegrass Mandolin Construction Manual



## Synopsis

(Book). The Ultimate Bluegrass Mandolin Construction Manual is the most complete step-by-step treatise ever written on building an acoustical string instrument. Siminoff, a renowned author and luthier, applies over four decades of experience to guide beginners to pros through detailed chapters on wood selection, cutting, carving, shaping, assembly, inlays, fretting, binding and assembly of an F-style mandolin. A special highlight is an in-depth chapter on the art of tap tuning. This fully-illustrated manual boasts more than 250 photos, a full-color section on the staining and finishing processes, numerous detailed illustrations, and a bonus set of 20 full-size blueprints. Spiral bound.

## Book Information

Plastic Comb: 160 pages

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Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

As a teen I became interested in "bluegrass" music. I learned to play guitar and bass but was eventually drawn to the mandolin - particularly the kind with a scroll and two points, like Bill Monroe played. Wanting one like it left me discouraged because I knew I couldn't afford one that was worth owning. In the late 1970's my Dad had become interested in building a violin and was well on his way to completing it. Then, after stumbling across the original, first edition of this book, I developed the notion that I would build one. Even with the book it was slow-go. Dad took pity on me and joined in on the task. As we worked we used Siminoff's book as a "guide" - just as the author had intended. Dad's earlier experience led him to do a few things differently - like using an "inside mold" versus the "outside mold" described in the book. I also made some minor modifications in the plans to

ensure symmetry apart from the scroll and points. Again, the manual serves mainly as a guide and anyone making a serious effort should learn as much as possible from any lutherie source at their disposal. Roger Siminoff's credentials as a luthier are outstanding. He's also a compelling author and he makes the reading of this work worthwhile - even if you only have a passing interest in the instrument rather than a desire to build. This book is billed as the "ultimate" manual. In the years since his original version, Siminoff has perfected his skills and has incorporated his experiences in this edition. He has expanded his discussions on "tap tuning" and "voicing." There's quite a bit of information on wood properties and their sound producing potential.

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