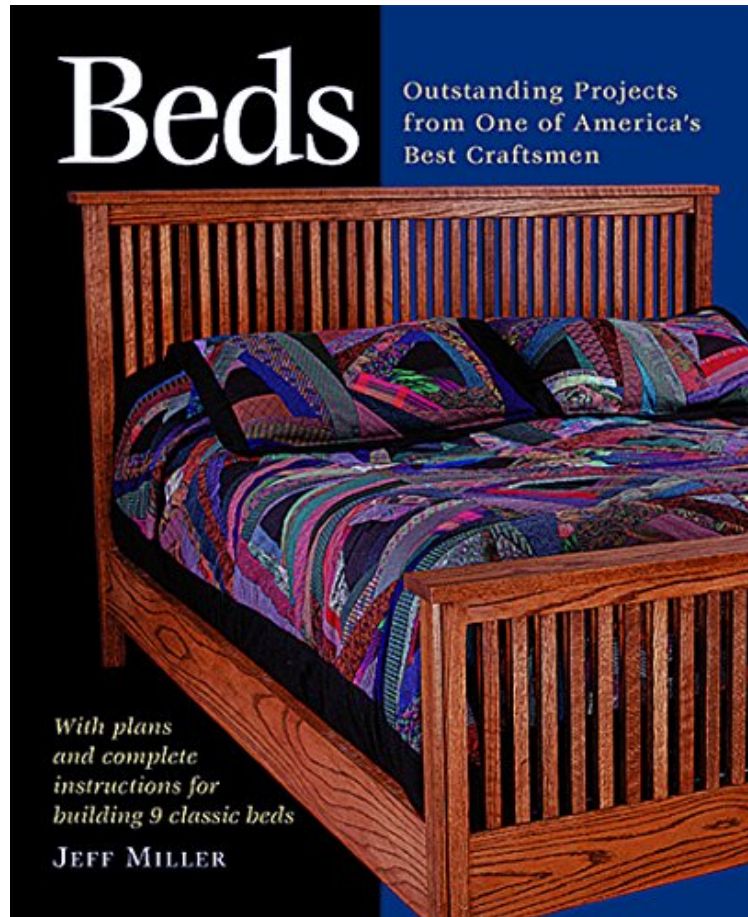


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## Beds: Outstanding Projects from One of America's Best Craftsmen (Step-By-Step Furniture)

*Jeff Miller*

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**Jeff Miller : Beds: Outstanding Projects from One of America's Best Craftsmen (Step-By-Step Furniture)**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beds: Outstanding Projects from One of America's Best Craftsmen (Step-By-Step Furniture):

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Great book (beginners will need others too)By Oregon SkierI bought this a few weeks ago and am working on building one of the designs in it. If terms and tools like router table, stacked dado blade, rabbit, mortise, tenon, "mill up a board," or "glue up a plank" are already in your shop and lexicon, then you need no other book but this to make some really outstanding beds. If not, do what I did and buy some basic woodworking books as well. I have done a lot of basic carpentry such as building sheds, decks, railings and whatnot for decades, but, other than some refinishing now and then, not indoor furniture-class work. With that background I found I was stumped at a fair number of terms or bits of advice that, I assume, experienced furniture makers are

entirely familiar with. That said, I am hard at work on one of the more unique designs in the book and thrilled at the quality of design and instruction (though in my case supplemented with other, more basic books). However, even with the above caveat unaddressed, I would still give the book a fifth star if it had the following: 1) More specific suggestion for how to scale up dimensions for the thicker mattresses and box springs on the market today (the bed design I am working with assumes a 6 to 8 inch thick mattress, which is very thin for the mattresses, much less even a low profile box spring as well, of the type one might be inclined to buy for such a nice bed in the first place). So I am left with guessing how best to hide more than 10 inches of additional mattress and box spring height in an appealing manner (e.g., how much should I attempt to gain by making taller posts, versus lowering the rails, versus gluing up a wider headboard plank, versus higher placement of a same-size plank -- I'd love an expert's suggestion rather than my own poor guess at what solutions will still be pleasing to eye). 2) With all the author's expertise, I'd love some basic suggestions on types of wood beyond the observation that maple is good for slats on wider beds. 3) Include a list of basic shop tools one will need (or prefer to have). 4) Give a few references for neophytes about good books on where one can learn some basic skills that are assumed. If you already have a full shop set up, you can make a beautiful bed very inexpensively with this book. If you are missing some of the more expensive tools needed, as I was, you can still make a bed for about the cost of buying a quality one already made, but yours will likely be better made and, when you are done, you'll have more shop machinery and skills for future projects as well. Overall, if you are already skilled in furniture making, or simply ready to take the next step to developing that skill, this seems like a great set of instructions with a range of elegant designs to choose from. 53 of 53 people found the following review helpful. A very good book for first time bed maker By C. Tang I am in the process of finishing up the bed shown on the cover of this book. It is the first bed and biggest project I have ever made since I have a small shop and limited tools. It turns out beautifully that even surprises myself. Jeff Miller gives detailed instructions, design and material list that makes the project a easy task. I happen to have a mortise machine that makes the mortises for the slats much easier and nicer. Also, after I visited a local store, I easily changed dimensions of the bed to suit personal taste. I really enjoyed making this bed. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A good sample of beds with lots of details By Phillip J. Klein For anyone who is planning to make a bed frame, this book is a must. It's an old edition, but beds have not changed much. I'm sure when I get around to making a queen sized frame for my son's guest room (we'll be visiting often) this book will be a real timesaver and I'll end up with a sturdy frame that will (hopefully) become a family heirloom.

A bed is one of the most significant pieces of furniture in most homes, ranking with the dining table as a major purchase or project. Jeff Miller, winner of the 1998 Stanley Award for best woodworking book (*Chairmaking Design*, now out of print), offers nine attractive bed projects accessible to woodworkers of any skill level. In *Beds*, you'll find step-by-step projects for a small bed, a Shaker-style bed, a Craftsman-style bed, a pencil-post bed, a plywood platform bed, a Windsor chair-inspired bed, a modern 'city' bed, a sleigh bed, and a bunk bed. You're sure to find more than one project that will inspire you. Miller provides you with: Clear step-by-step instructions to build each bed Cut lists that make it easy to get each bed started Exploded and measured drawings that show every detail A chapter on general construction strategies for building any bed design A wide range of jigs for mortising, tenoning, and other common tasks Four-color photography throughout, with photos of completed projects

From Library Journal These are the first two volumes of a "Step-by-Step" furniture project series intended to number "more than ten." Each finely constructed volume is an in-depth exploration by a woodworking expert of the title project. Miller's *Beds* delineates nine projects; Barrett's *Bookcases*, 11. Both authors explain the basics of woodworking, safety issues, materials lists, cut lists, and measured drawings. And both emphasize process as much as result; the authors each weigh the advantages and disadvantages of the use of certain joints and joinery techniques, for example, and they explain a variety of different designs. Each volume is lavishly illustrated with photographs, line drawings, charts, and the like. The depth of this series makes it more useful than the recent "HomeTime" series. Highly recommended. A Alexander Hartmann, Bloomsburg Univ. Lib., PA Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Niall Barrett, a professional woodworker for over twenty-five years, is the author of "Bookcases," "Classic Kitchen Projects," and "Building the Custom Home Office." Paul Anthony, author of "Home Storage Projects" and "Smart Workshop Solutions" is a freelance author and writer. Jeff Miller, who operates a professional woodworking studio in Chicago, IL, is the author of "Designing and Building Chairs," "Beds," and "Children's Furniture Projects"