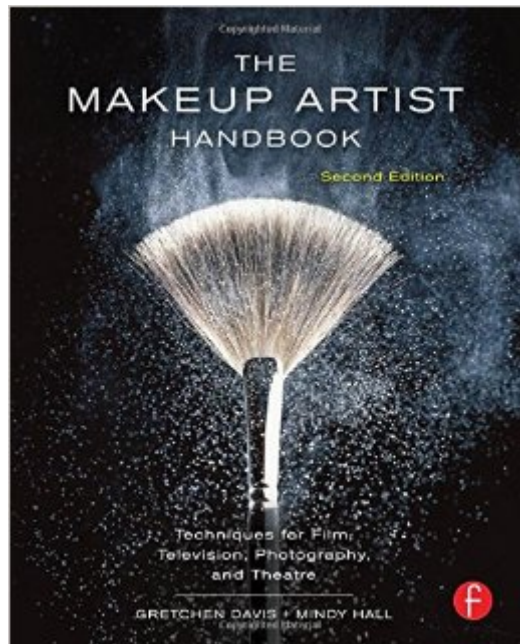


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# The Makeup Artist Handbook: Techniques For Film, Television, Photography, And Theatre



## Synopsis

Get professional techniques—usually known—only by Hollywood makeup artists in this full-color, comprehensive book from accomplished makeup—pros Gretchen Davis and Mindy Hall. The two come to you with impressive backgrounds in film and television industries—their projects have included Pearl Harbor, Rent, Stuart Little, and The Nanny Diaries, and Mindy Hall is fresh off her—Academy Award win for her work on—2009's Star—Trek. This new edition of The Makeup Artist Handbook offers even more illustrations to demonstrate techniques visually; fundamentals on topics such as beauty, time periods, black and white film; and up-to-date information on cutting-edge techniques like air brushing makeup for computer-generated movies, makeup effects, mold-making, lighting, and lots of information on how to work effectively in HD. Learn from the pros and hone your craft with this comprehensive book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Full disclosure: I am not a makeup artist. I ordered this book because I just really like makeup, and I thought it might help me create some new looks for myself (especially themed looks for my retro wardrobe). I also love drawing faces, and thought it might help me a bit with that hobby too. Well, on the subject of art, this book is actually fantastic - much more detailed than I ever thought possible! It goes into not only facial structure and design, but body structure/design, color theory and mixing, lighting, just everything. Makeup artistry is truly a fine art, using a human being as the canvas. The one thing that the book really doesn't go into, is basic makeup application, the kind I would do on a

daily basis, which I suppose is well beneath the scope of what they're trying to cover. This is for aspiring or current professional makeup artists, not for people who just want a fun eyeliner technique to wear to a party. So for the most part, it's well over my head, but it's still pretty fascinating stuff. It does a great job of explaining the steps that go into creating a specific look, from "beauty makeup" to extreme costume techniques. It gives you the name brands for industry standards, so you would know what to look for when starting out. It has detailed step-by-step instructions for creating various looks, as well as tips from the pros and excellent photos of the phases of makeup application. Unfortunately I don't know a lot about the business, other than what I learned in this book, so I don't know specifically how helpful each section might be for your profession, but it seems to be a very serious reference book that any makeup artist would do well to have in their collection. If you're like me and just dabble in makeup & art, with an interest in what goes into making photographs, film, TV and theater look the way they do, it's a fascinating book but most of it won't be very useful in your daily life.

A lot of this book addresses special-effects-type makeup, such as wounds or doing a bald-cap. A great start for someone just beginning to work with theatrical makeup. It also gives a foundation in the principles of makeup, such as color palettes and lens color filters. It is not a bible for makeup artists, but a starting point for the beginner. It is also not for the lay person wanting some makeup pointers for everyday use. The chapters are logical and well-planned. The wording is clear and easy to understand. Step by step photos are a helpful touch.

As a photographer who only knows that makeup looks good when done right, this book is proving to be very helpful when working with other MUA's (makeup artists). I event plan for many different photography events, and in the past I would wonder why the makeup work took so long. After talking with other MUA's, and now in using this book, I can better plan for the time needed in order to have makeup done on set. Understanding the many nuances of what an MUA does has been very enlightening for me, and I have grown to appreciate with much more depth what they go through. You can't rush good makeup. That is an axiom that will always be present. Just as a good image takes some time to pre-visualize and execute, the same goes for makeup. It is truly an art that will make or break a photo shoot. There are many amazing MUA's out there who probably go uncredited for their work, and anyone who reads this book will keep them in the forefront of their photo projects. This book will help photographers, supporting artists, and other MUA's to have a better understanding of the skill set needed to do the job right. Another hit from Focal Press, as they

are leading the pack with selections that are of high value.

I was looking for a quick reference on makeup techniques, sanitation with actors, and general contouring tips. This book has a lot of information but none of it is particularly in depth enough to be a good "how to." More theory than practice.

...and poorly organized. I realise I am a nay-sayer among all these enthusiastic reviews, but I was unimpressed with *The Makeup Artist Handbook*. (Grammar police here--shouldn't it have been 'Artist's', with the possessive?) Yes, there is good information here, and yes, a fair number of color pictures, but it seemed things were thrown in randomly, to pad the book, or perhaps to justify the inclusion of another friend of the authors as a contributor, and sometimes only to justify an odd reference at the end of the chapter. Why, in chapter TWO of this book, (where other books might be discussing shading and highlighting), do we have a list of diseases, disorders, and environmental conditions that include Anthrax, Leukemia, and Heat Exhaustion? Okay, when discussing Psoriasis, we find out how to camouflage it--but since we haven't even yet learned how to prep clean, healthy skin, isn't this a bit out of place? If I'm being told about Leukemia because I might have to mimic the look in makeup, is it really necessary for me to know "Blood disorder. No one knows the cause of this disease, although genetics, environment, and the immune system might play a part."? Interesting, perhaps, but helpful? Wouldn't a photo of a leukemia patient be more helpful, and a step-by-step discussion of how to create that look be even more helpful? In the same chapter, there are figures of the skeletal system, the muscular system, and the vascular system. Okay on the first two, but the VASCULAR system? Why? The whole book strikes me this way--very poorly organized. In the chapter on design, there's a discussion on aging, with some good tips and pictures--but no similar discussion on what to do when you have to reverse the process, and make an actor look younger. Chapter nine is titled HAIR--perhaps it will be about styling, putting in extensions, various kinds of wigs? No, the entire chapter is about false beards. And again, no discussion of the converse, how to successfully mask a deep five o'clock shadow. There are much better books out there--I recommend Rosemarie Swinfield's *Stage Makeup Step-by-Step*.

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