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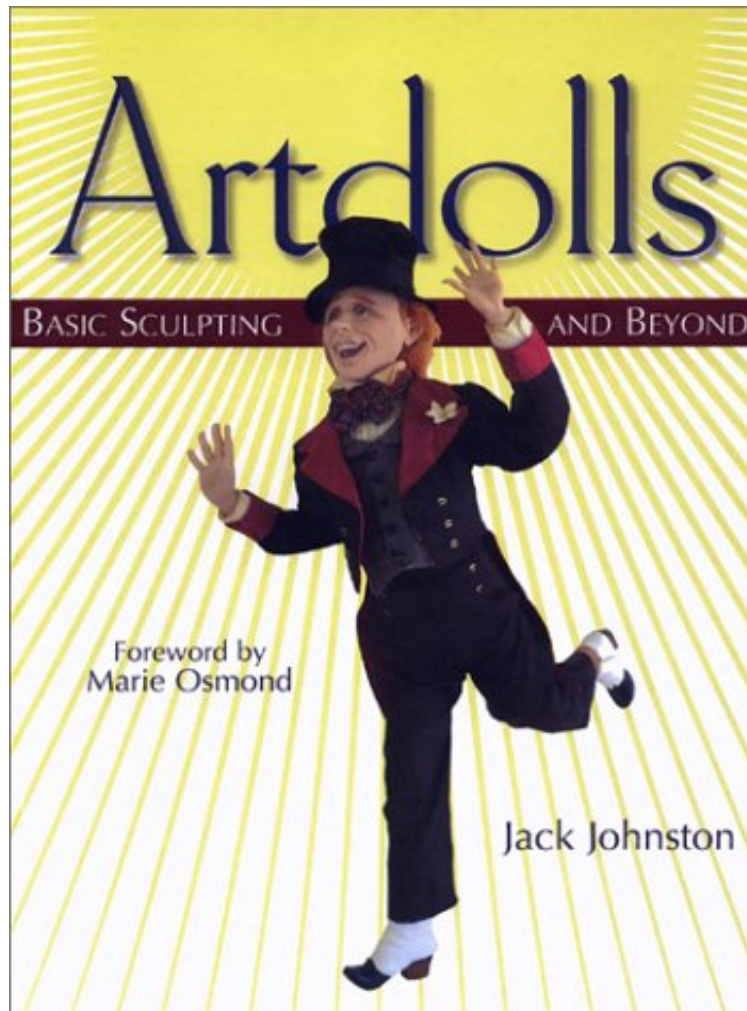
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[Read download] Artdolls: Basic Sculpting and Beyond

Artdolls: Basic Sculpting and Beyond

Jack Johnston : Artdolls: Basic Sculpting and Beyond before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Artdolls: Basic Sculpting and Beyond:

45 of 45 people found the following review helpful. ArtdollsBy Rebecca R. WakeThis book is essential for anyone who would like to make Art dolls or any kind of polymer clay figure sculpture. The photography is useful and of a good quality, and the text is in-depth and helpful. I would reccomend this book to anyone, but there are just a few minor things I take issue with.Firstly it's the near complete lack of painting instructions. I have only found a few referance so far in the book regarding painting, and all it mentions is that you may use china paint for a realistic blush, and acrylic washes for shoes! I'd love to know, for example, the different types of paint you can use for the skin, and what Mr. Johnston reccomends against using, and perhaps some techniques for the painting.Secondly, I am concerned about the section on the soft-sculpted body. All we're told in regards to making our own is: "I advise starting with a pre-made body armature and stocking (both of which are available from retail shops)" Well. They are not available

from "retail shops" really. I couldn't find them in any craft store, doll store, or art store in my entire city in fact! The only actual manufacturer of these "doll body stockings" that is easy to find online is Mr. Johnston himself, or rather, Mr. Johnston's website, which has a wide catalog of doll-making supplies. Looking at a photo of the body stocking, it looks actually extremely easy to make. A pattern for this flat thing could easily have been printed in the book so that we could photocopy it and size it to what we like, but no. I find this a very sneaky way to solicit business, that we NOT told how to make them so that we have to buy them from him. In Mr. Johnston's defense, he does mention the "2,000-stitch body" which is for advanced dollmakers, but we are not told how to make it. I hope it is in his advanced dollmaking book, which I do not yet own. This issue brings me right to my third and final point, constant self-plugging. Apart from the numerous references to the fact that he provides doll supplies (with his website info in the back under "suppliers") there are huge recommendations for ProSculpt. ProSculpt (which you can buy from his website as well as other stockists) uses one of his pieces as a logo, so I'm not sure I can trust this recommendation to be impartial, but that's just me. There is also a paragraph or two devoted to how easy it is to work from a resin head armature, which one of his students started manufacturing from a prototype he made (hey, guess the only place you can buy that!). As well as his "Kemper-Johnston Primary Sculpting Tool" -- a tool he created himself and then got the Kemper company to manufacture. It's assumed for many of the tutorials in the book that you own one of these tools, as we're told to poke our primary sculpting tool here and there at certain points. I honestly have no problem with people plugging themselves and their own brand of supplies in their own book. After all, he wrote it, so why shouldn't he! *BUT* I do take issue when the sale of his own supplies comes ahead of helping the beginner. I find the way we are herded towards buying his supplies to be absolutely insidious, and it is a taint on an otherwise spotless book. I assure you that you CAN make your own soft-sculpted body, just look for tutorials online. You don't have to buy his premade ones! Also, why not photocopy the photo of the body stocking and blow it out in size and use it as a pattern? There's saving money!! And you can easily make head armature out of aluminium foil or sculpey, you don't need a special pre-fabricated resin one! It's just a luxury for the lazy. And you don't NEED a fancy \$15 multi-purpose sculpting tool! Dental tools and rubber clay smoothers and fingers work just perfectly. Again, it's a luxury. All in all, this is a fantastically written and illustrated book, one of the better art instruction books I've seen. Mr. Johnston is an absolutely fantastic artist, and his dolls are imaginative, alluring, and beautiful. We're all human, and the allure of extra profit can get to anyone (especially us starving artists!). So forgive him the plugging, read and love this book, and just fill in all the missing gaps with your imagination!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great transaction
By Joanne M Johnson Love this book and all of Jack's helpful information he has shared.
2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Artdolls: Basic Sculpting and Beyond is very helpful!
By Always Learning I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in sculpting dolls with polymer clay products. Jack Johnston presented his lessons very well--I'm very inspired by his words and photos. Contrary to some previous reviewers, I was not put off by his mentioning his own products. I thought it good to know where some of the supplies could be found, since my own craft supplier does not carry doll-making supplies. I can't wait to get started!

In his fourth book, award-winning artist Jack Johnston, one of America's leading doll making instructors, shares his techniques and tools with beginning and advanced doll makers. Jack guides you from the very first step of formulating a list of tools, supplies and materials through the basic rules of anatomy all the way to the final stages of displaying and promoting your finished creations. Step-by-step photos illustrate his detailed instructions, and the gallery section featuring more than 30 of Jack's own dolls are a special bonus. Sprinkled with common-sense advice as well as inspiring anecdotes, this book brings doll sculpting within everyone's reach. It is a must for any doll makers' library.

"Jack will be remembered as the man who made the largest impact on polymer doll making in American history." -- Jean Bernard, Master Artist Member, Professional Doll Makers Art Guild. From the Author To be able to share my life's work with other artists is a thrill. It is not only exciting to be able to share my experiences, but it is my duty as partial re-payment for the success I've enjoyed. "If you have a dream to achieve, you will. If your dream is strong enough, you will achieve greatly and when you share your dreams, they will last forever." Jack Johnston

From the Inside Flap Forward by Marie Osmond... I first met Jack Johnston in 1991 at the Walt Disney World Doll and Teddy Bear Convention in Orlando. We were both new to the world of doll making and, both being from Utah, we had something in common. Over the years we became friends. For the past ten years we have each had our respective doll booths at the American International Toy Fair in New York City every February, and at other shows around the nation. Along with building his doll business, Jack has made a wonderful contribution to the industry and to his fellow artists. As the founder and Chairman of the Board of the nonprofit Professional Doll Makers Art Guild (PDMAG), Jack has been responsible for bringing hundreds of burgeoning artists into this wonderful industry. As he brings them to shows around the country, I've had the opportunity to meet some of them. Many of the artists have become quite successful and several have made their way to the top of the industry. Through Jack's leadership, the Professional Doll Makers Art Guild has contributed thousand of dollars to the Children's Miracle Network (CMN), of which I am one of the founders. CMN raises much-needed funds for children's hospitals all throughout North America. The PDMAG's artists

donate scores of their dolls each year to charity. This sharing attitude has become part of the mission of the PDMAG and its artists. The first doll I sculpted was with Jack in one of his dollmaking seminars. His seminars, writings and videos have become the dollmaking foundation for thousands of artists. I'm proud to call Jack Johnston a friend. I'm sure you will learn and benefit from reading this book, and getting to know him. If you study these dollmaking techniques closely and catch the same vision Jas has toward helping others, they can help you develop the skills necessary to reach your potential and be a contributor to the wonderful world of dollmaking.