

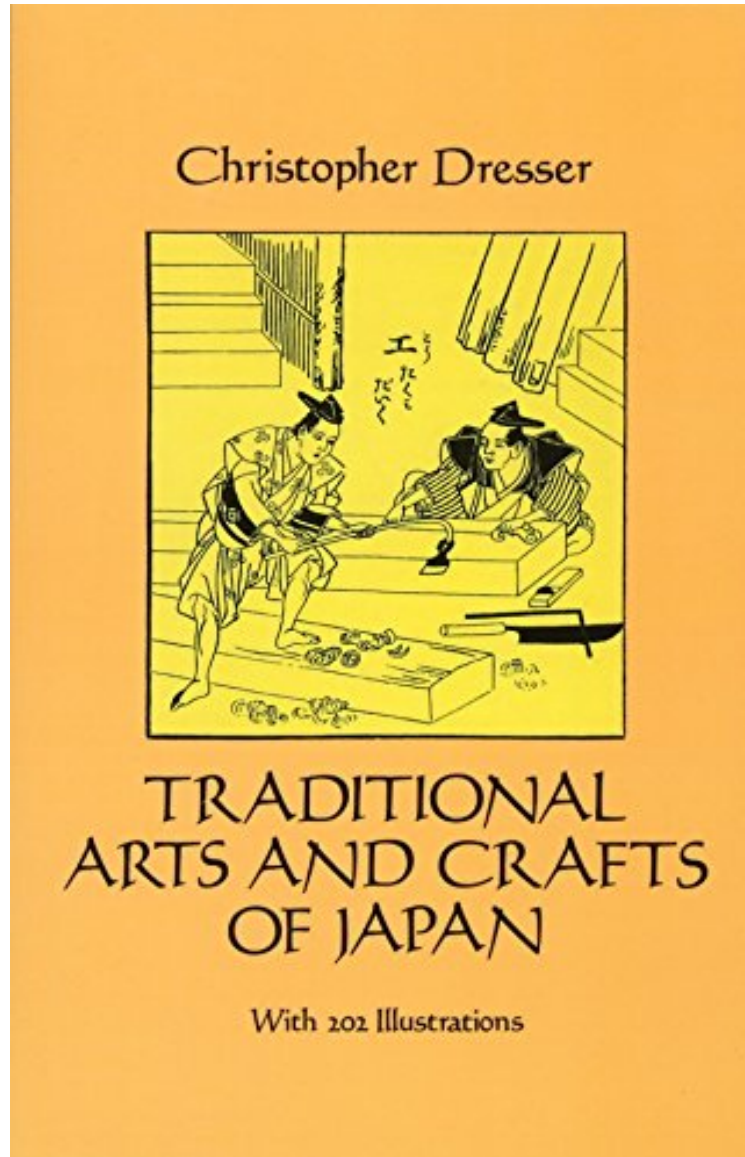
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*Christopher Dresser*

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(Free and download) Traditional Arts and Crafts of Japan

## **Traditional Arts and Crafts of Japan**

**Christopher Dresser : Traditional Arts and Crafts of Japan** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Traditional Arts and Crafts of Japan:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Intercultural ReadingBy Justin AyresThe interactions in this text express the interface between the author, a representative of England at the height of the colonial period interacts with the venerable culture, and great aesthetic beauty of Japan. The timing of the piece could not be more exquisite, engaged with Japan as it carefully attempts to integrate the European technological perspective, with its profound

traditions. This work is a meeting. The author himself is not so stunningly aware or capable of expressing the cultural shifts with the subtlety of the great contemporary writer, Haruki Murakami. Nor is he as sorely aware of the dilemma of the implicit evil of technological-colonialism as Murakami's predecessor in literary genius Yukio Mishima. The work is honestly on a par with the writing of Manly P. Hall, a brilliant educator concerning occult tradition and aesthetics, still writing from the European perspective: "Very Unusual: The Wonderful life of Mr. K. Nakamura." That is to say it is an honest and heart-felt account of a gifted and sensitive "Westerner" with a part of the culture we refer to as Japan. The natural complement to this work would be Roland Barthes' "L'Empire des Signes" (1970), which would contain a subtlety of the critique of "orientalism" (Said) along with ventures into genuine, highly flawed encounters with the "Other" in an Asian sense. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Evocative, intelligent, interesting. By jfreeman@calpoly.edu (Jo Anne Freeman) Fascinating, evocative, and illuminating. It is almost as though we were with Christopher Dresser in Japan in 1877. He sketches, describes, and lives in Japan of the 19th Century. Tying together art, architecture, and religious symbols, he educates us about the sources and inspirations of Japanese (and other Asian) art and decoration. What a wonderful book for anyone interested in history, art, architecture, Japan, or good writing. His description of his first Japanese meal is a kick, also. Don't miss this one. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating, evocative, and illuminating. By jfreeman@calpoly.edu (Jo Anne Freeman) It is almost as though we were with Christopher Dresser in Japan in 1877. He sketches, describes, and lives in the Japan of the 19th century. Tying together the art, architecture, and religious symbols, he educates us about the sources and inspirations of Japanese (and other Asian) art and decoration. What a wonderful book for anyone interested in history, art, architecture, Japan, or good writing. His description of his first Japanese meal is a kick, also. Don't miss this one.

An extremely important English Victorian commercial and industrial designer, Christopher Dresser (1834-1904) traveled at length in nineteenth-century Japan. His excursions resulted in this excellent introduction to Japanese arts and crafts, one of the finest and most authoritative volumes of its kind. It offers unsurpassed coverage of architecture, ornament, pottery, calligraphy, drawing, lacquerware, metalware, textiles, religious symbols and more. Readers will find themselves immersed in a tour of many great centers of traditional Japanese culture, from Yokohama to Kobe, Kyoto to Osaka. In the course of the journey, Dresser relates in fascinating detail many aspects of Japanese life, including descriptions of Japanese dancing girls, the custom of hara-kiri, the Mikado's antiquities, the tea-drinking ceremony, Japanese vegetation, and the splendor of Japanese shrines and scenery. Over 200 exquisitely drawn illustrations add to the appeal of this classic work, an indispensable resource for art and antique collectors, arts and crafts enthusiasts, art historians, and social scientists.