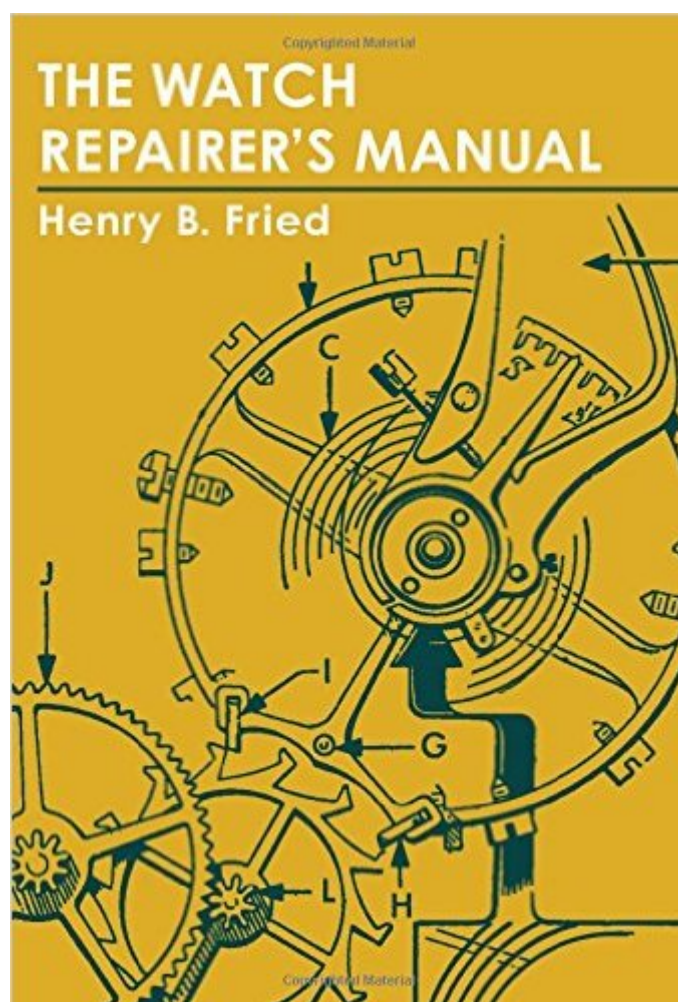


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# The Watch Repairer's Manual



## Synopsis

As The New York Times wrote after his death, Henry B. Fried was "widely acknowledged as the dean of American watchmakers." In the revised, 1961 edition of his classic book *The Watch Repairer's Manual*, reprinted here, Fried addresses topics important to contemporary watch repairers, such as self-winding watches, waterproofing, calendar watches, alarm wristwatches, and chronographs. *The Watch Repairer's Manual* also includes a fine visual dictionary of exploded views in isometric, which are very helpful for ordering watch parts. One of the few modern books available on the techniques of watch repair and certainly the most esteemed, *The Watch Repairer's Manual* is outstanding for its sequence of presentation and its many useful illustrations, including enlarged details of alarm and self-winding watches. The consummate craftsman and master of details, Fried himself created the illustrations. From teaching others, Fried has learned that if you have a good understanding of how and why the mechanisms work, you will become better at fixing any problems you face-often without needing to consult a book. *The Watch Repairer's Manual* provides:

- Helpful background material, such as full descriptions of the main divisions of the modern watch mechanisms, including the purpose and function of each unit.
- Complete directions for cleaning and overhauling a watch movement for casing.
- A section devoted to general repairs and troubleshooting.

For anyone interested in watch repair, this volume will serve as a working manual, a reference manual, and even a course of study. Assuming little previous knowledge on the part of the reader, Fried provides complete and clear detail on each operation. *The Watch Repairer's Manual* should be of great value to the student, hobbyist, watch collector, and instrument maker. Henry B. Fried wrote and illustrated 14 books, many pamphlets, and hundreds of articles on horology, the science of timepieces. The first American to receive the Silver Medal of the British Horological Institute, he served as president of the New York City Horological Society and the New York State Watchmakers Association and vice president of the old Horological Institute of America. He taught and lectured on horology and served as an industry consultant. He also was a consultant for the Random House Dictionary and the Merriam-Webster Dictionary.

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## Customer Reviews

I have this most recent 2012 paperback edition, and I couldn't be happier. My interest in horology inspired my wife to buy me this book and I have already put it to good use. With the help of this thorough textual and visual guide to cleaning and repair, I have got my old watch working again, and I'm excited to do more! The troubleshooting section was particularly helpful. I recommend this to all persons interested in watch repairs!

This is the best beginner's guide to mechanical watch repair. Some things have changed since it was written, but the basics that are covered in this book have not. Reading this book, though it is technologically dated, will render no false or bad impressions on the reader. There is no other author with both the command of the subject and the ability to teach it effectively as Fried, a legend in the field. Illustrated perfectly, it will make it possible from knowing nothing to knowing a great deal. Highly recommend accompanying this course of study with practical lessons.

This book was published for the first time in 1949: the narrative and graphics are perhaps relevant for that "age" but substandard for 2014. If you are trying to navigate for the first time in the world of "understanding" and repairing watches this is not a motivating start point. I would say that it's "too technical" and the possibilities to understand are very dimmed in part because of the poor graphics (b&w), the technical jargon used from beginning to end, etc. It is like you for the first time want to learn math and in your first lesson the teacher starts with integral and derivative calculus. Even for seasoned watchmakers I guess exist books with better designed lessons and graphics.

This is a great book for watchmaking students (and watchmakers that may need reference a specific repair). We use it in school and it is very easy to read and work from. I wouldn't recommend it for a watch enthusiast unless you have knowledge of watchmaking.

Read a few watch repair / watch making books. This one is just right. Not overly simple nor complex. Though pictures are dated, they still apply in a general sense. Highly recommend it for a first book in this topic.

This is the bible for basic watch repair. The book needs to have its' graphics "modernized" with clearer, color drawings and the use of color photography. This book is 50+ years old and for the price the publisher charges, they can provide better graphic explanations of the text material.

Together with Watchmaking by George Daniels, these two books would form the finest base for anyone who want to repair or even construct watches. All the best from Søren Andersen, Denmark member of AHCI

Great book, worth every cent. If you want to work on watches, you need this book.

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