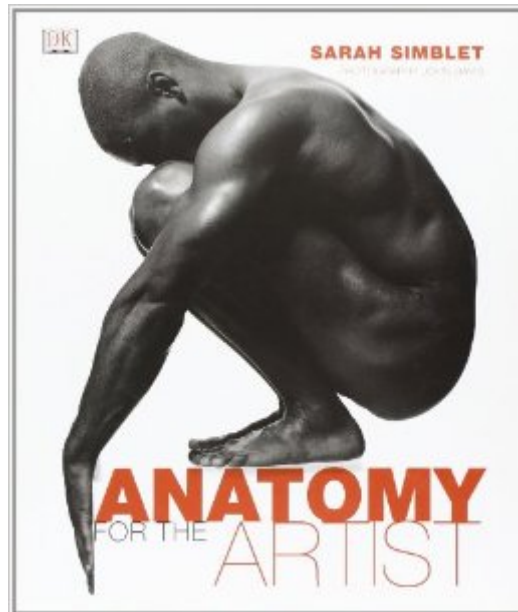


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Anatomy For The Artist



Synopsis

Specially taken photographs show the construction of the human body while underlying anatomical structures are revealed using illustrations by the author.

Book Information

Hardcover: 255 pages

Publisher: DK Publishing; 1 edition (October 1, 2001)

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (164 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I have one other excellent anatomy book besides this one--Human Anatomy for Artists by Eliot Goldfinger. Both books have thorough explanations of skeletal and muscular systems as well as illustrations in both sketch and photograph form for each body section. Which book would be most helpful to you is probably more a matter of individual learning style. Here are the major differences between the two books: The best feature of Anatomy for the Artist is its exquisite photography. The photos are large with very fine resolution (both color and black-and-white). Some are full-page and many show the entire body. There are about an equal number of male and female models, all athletically built, with a variety of skin tones. The poses are varied, expressive, and graceful. If you want a wealth of detailed photos, not sketches, to practice from, get this book. Human Anatomy for Artists, on the other hand, is much more user-friendly if you want to memorize every last bone and muscle from the Procerus to the Medial malleolus. One great thing this book has that others don't: For each body segment, the underlying skeletal and muscle structures are shown, all labeled with the names of the parts, along with a photograph of the segment ON THE SAME PAGE. This makes it very easy to see where everything lies and how much or how little it shapes the skin without having to flip from page to page to compare diagrams with photos. In addition to skeletal and muscle systems, Human Anatomy for Artists also addresses fat pads and where they grow on men versus

women, and also includes diagrams of the major veins. Main drawbacks: Although this book has many photographs, they are all small, black-and-white, a little bit grainy, and are almost all of men.

First the good things: The models in the book are very fit, and the pictures are arranged in a very aesthetically pleasing manner. The overlay pages do a decent job showing you how the underlying skeletal/muscle structure affect the surface shape. Every part of the body is covered in this book with equal attention. The illustrations are detailed and quite comprehensive. If you need high quality images of models in moderately interesting poses, this should be adequate. I find that the pictures are useful as supplementary material to more rigorous books, such as Goldfinger's famous Human Anatomy for Artists. Now the bad: Although the coverage of content is broad, it really isn't deep enough for serious study or reference. While the illustrations are very detailed when provided, the author omits many views from important angles. You'll get a very detailed side view without a front or back, or you'll get various tilted views sans any orthographic angles. In a similar fashion, many of the photos are cropped to show only the part of the body being explained. There's nothing wrong with this, but there are very few full-body images in neutral standing poses. Added to the fact that angle coverage is also arbitrary, this makes it somewhat difficult to get a grasp of the body's 3d shape in general. In conclusion, the good things about this book could have helped so much more if the negative points had been treated properly. Given how detailed the muscle and skeleton illustrations were, views from all angles would have made this an excellent reference for internal anatomy. Also, most of the models that you find in online image stores (or other anatomy books, for that matter) are not nearly as fit or well-proportioned as the models from this book.

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