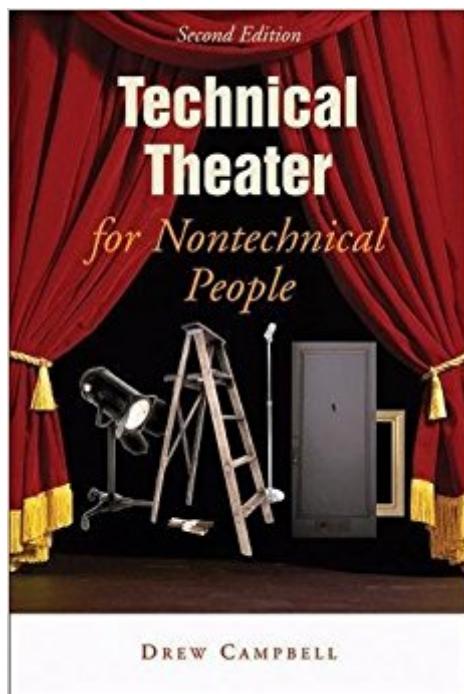


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# Technical Theater For Nontechnical People, 2nd Edition



## Synopsis

Completely updated to reflect state-of-the-art standards in today's fast-changing theater technology, *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People* helps actors, dancers, playwrights, and directors to understand every aspect of a traditional and digitally supported backstage environment—from scenery, lighting, and sound to props, costumes, and stage management. All sides of production are clearly explained in jargon-free prose, and unfamiliar terms are highlighted and defined in an appended glossary. In addition to discussions on the more traditional elements of technical theater, this book gives equal weight to the new technologies that have become mainstream, including software (DMX, MIDI, and SMPTI) for show control systems, software to build audio cues, and PC-based audio play-back systems. Allworth Press, an imprint of Skyhorse Publishing, publishes a broad range of books on the visual and performing arts, with emphasis on the business of art. Our titles cover subjects such as graphic design, theater, branding, fine art, photography, interior design, writing, acting, film, how to start careers, business and legal forms, business practices, and more. While we don't aspire to publish a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are deeply committed to quality books that help creative professionals succeed and thrive. We often publish in areas overlooked by other publishers and welcome the author whose expertise can help our audience of readers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Two under-appreciated theatrical specialties, technical production for the novice and audience development, take center stage in these two thorough works. With hundreds of

production/design/technical credits behind him, Campbell has written what will certainly become a standard introductory text on technical theater. All facets of production are clearly explained in jargon-free prose, and unfamiliar terms are highlighted and defined in an appended glossary. In addition to separate chapters on the more traditional elements of technical theater (lights, sound, scenery, properties), Campbell gives equal weight to the venue, design, stage management, corporate theater, and checklists. As valuable as this comprehensive manual is for the neophyte, experienced techies will also benefit from its common sense. Everyone involved with theater should have access to this most welcome text. Stage Directions, "the practical magazine of theater," is to the theater community what the U\*N\*A\*B\*A\*S\*H\*E\*D Librarian is to librarians. This guide to cultivating and retaining an audience, the most perplexing and financially significant problem facing every theater, is the latest entry in Heinemann's "Stage Directions" series, compiled mostly from previously published articles in the magazine. This practical compendium, arranged in three sections, addresses how to attract and retain a constituency and profiles several theaters that have been successful in both areas. A more focused and audience-specific work, this title will be of value to theater administrators and marketers as well as smaller theater groups seeking practical and empirically tested ideas and solutions. A Barry X. Miller, Austin P.L., TX Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A resource that is concise, entertaining, and eminently practical. -- American Association of Community Theater An excellent handbook for the beginner and occasional technician, or indeed for the professional regularly working with the less experienced. -- [StageTechBooks.com](http://StageTechBooks.com)

This is a good resource book for those having to teach a technical theatre class but who have little to no technical theatre experience themselves. I will be using some of the books info for my Drama I classes where I teach not only the acting side of theatre, but also touch on the technical side as well. the book is laid out in an easy to understand format that can be utilized by teachers.

If, like me, you have worked in theater a few years but never went to school for it or had anyone sit down and tell you "this is this and that is that" then this book is for you!!! It might even be for you if you have a background since every situation in theater is worked out to accommodate each theater!! It is an incredible resource for who does typically does what but he also lets you know that "typical" and "theater" goes together however you need it to go together for your production. For me, knowing what is known out there among long-time theater workers and professionals has been

fantastic to learn. Now I at least feel like I am speaking the same language! :) Also, it was encouraging to find out that what we thought maybe we were doing wrong is actually a thing!! lol!!!Also, the author's conversational style of writing really helps!! If this was overly technical or dry I would have returned it. However, because it is so helpful and so easy to read, I plan on buying more for my fellow producers so that we all know the same stuff and can reference our own copy!!So if you have started working in theater, are thinking of starting a theater or think that maybe a career in the theater world sounds fun and interesting then I highly recommend this book!!

This book was brilliant! I'm studying to become a teacher in Texas which requires one to take a content exam over theatre. I needed to brush up on my tech (especially lighting and sound), and this was the perfect book to do it! Drew Campbell writes in a very relatable fashion, and makes jokes along the way. I would highly recommend it!

Simply put, this is the most helpful book on the technical side of theater I have ever read. Mr. Campbell is a rare individual. Although a technician, he has written a sympathetic and yet extremely informative book on lighting, sound, stage terminology, etc. The amount of really usefull information in the book is astounding. I am a high school drama teacher, and I think this book should be in the library of every theater teacher and theater student. No other book I've read so clearly explains the essentials one needs to know about the technical craft of theater. If you are a person who doesn't want a book where the author is trying to show what an expert he or she is and what an idiot you are, then Drew Campbell's book is just the one for you. He is an expert who understands his job is to help those of us who aren't. Bravo for this book. I hope Mr. Campbell keeps writing on theater. We can use his knowledge, wit, and empathy. Five stars for this book, and a few thrown in for the actor with glass in his butt telling jokes on the way to the hospital. Thanks for a great book.

I love this book. The title seems a little misleading though since it comes off as though it is for people not in technical theatre. Anyone working in whichever technical department should read this book. This should be required reading for people just getting into technical theatre although even if you have been in theatre for a number of years, it should be very useful still. It is very detailed with so many facets of theatre which is why it will probably be my first go-to book about anything that I need to find.

Excellent book for instruction in theater.....it really is for people who are not versed in the tech lingo

and need somewhere to begin. Would absolutely recommend this to anyone who is interested in starting in theater.

An excellent read for anyone new to technical theatre, or just curious about aspects they aren't familiar with. Writing is engaging and easy to follow, and helpful diagrams make this a great learning tool.

This book is a perfect introduction for those who don't know much about the technical sides of theater. If you've read other theater books and found the authors a bit arrogant, this guy is no exception. He does however understand that the audience is not well versed in theater, hence they are reading his book. The author does a wonderful job of explaining all aspects of technical theater so that the common person can understand it a bit better. The goal of the book is to make the reader not look like a complete idiot around professionals and actually teach them something about theater. Goal achieved.

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