



## Synopsis

Respected internationally for his knotting skills and clear, concise video and book presentations, J. D. Lenzen shows how to tie knots like no others. Just as origami figurines are created through the merging of different folding techniques, he creates new knots by combining historical knot elements and new knotting techniques. The product of this intermingling is what he calls a fusion knot -- a brand new genre of knot in a centuries-old tradition. It is rare for a knot book to feature even one brand new, never-before-seen knot, but *Decorative Fusion Knots* features more than 20 brand-new knots created by the author. *Decorative Fusion Knots* is the culmination of ten years of study, practice, and creation. The knots within were inspired by history, nature, mythology, and more. Many of these incredible knots have never been presented or described publicly, until now. Never before has a knot book presented a step-by-step format to tying brand new knots like this in full-color. Alongside fusion knots, this book presents logical and comprehensive instructions for a plethora of historical knots, including Celtic knots, Chinese decorative knots, maritime knots, and popular paracord ties. Each historical knot instruction is presented in step-by-step fashion. Each of the 600 step-by-step color photographs is accompanied with clear, concise instructional captions. Whether you're a sailor, teacher, jewelry maker, survivalist, general knot enthusiast, or just looking for bush crafts, paracord ties, a curriculum for students, or a fun way to pass the time, *Decorative Fusion Knots* is the book for you. With easy-to-understand captions and clear step-by-step photos, readers can learn at their own pace, review whole techniques at a single glance and simply lay the book flat on the table and follow along as they tie.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Being a knot enthusiast, I was immediately interested about this book when I heard about it from a friend. I own several dozen books dedicated to knots and their uses, and while some are better than others, most show what is essentially the same content. Since this book appeared to be a different take on knots, I pre-ordered it from Amazon and was pleasantly surprised when I got the e-mail that it had shipped last Friday. I received it yesterday and proceeded to spend hours reading it and practicing the knots and ties inside. As the name implies, these knots are decorative in nature, and provide a beauty to projects and crafts made in rope or similar mediums. Many of these knots are esoteric, and that is what makes this book stand out from the rest. While every other knot book focuses purely on knots for their function, and there is certainly nothing wrong with that, this is one of the few books to focus almost exclusively on the aesthetic value of knots as an art form in and of themselves. Of all the knot books I own, and the countless other's I've browsed through, I cannot think of any other book like this one. If you are interested in knots or rope in any capacity, or work in any crafts that use cordage, then you must own this book because there is not another title like it!

On the recommendation of everyone on the internet involved with knots, I bought this with some extra Christmas funds. It is an amazing book. Two things I really liked about this book: 1) The author starts each chapter with the basic knot that he used for his "jumping off" point throughout the rest of the chapter. So once you understand the Box Knot (page 20) you are then well on your way to learning the other 6 knots that vary from it. The same with each chapter. 2) The author covers a lot of ground. Here are the chapter titles: Flipping the Double Coin Opening the Box Weaving & Tucking Bights Strange Twists & Turns Deconstructing the Trinity Popular Paracord Ties Petals of the Flower Rolling Out the Barrels Other Asian Inspirations Knots for Lovers Short & Long Sinnets JD Lenzen teaches 60 knots that come out of these chapters. That's a lot of knots!! I do have one small quibble, but it may be unimportant to many who purchase this book. As neat as many of the knots are in this book, I would love to have seen Lenzen demonstrate a way to USE the knots, whether in jewelry, display pieces, etc. As neat as his Triskelion Knot is, I have no idea where it would ever be used or for what. I would love to have seen, at the end of each chapter, a page of each knot actually used within a project somehow. Again, if you are merely interested in knowing fancy knots, then this aside has little importance in your decision to buy this book. Finally, I am VERY happy with my purchase of this book, and would not hesitate to recommend it to everyone I

know.

One of the best if not the best books on rope work knots I have ever read. I was impressed with the variety and quality of the writing and pictures. I was very impressed with the variety. This is a wonderful book for all ages and can provide not only a fun pastime but perhaps a therapeutic tool as well. It has all skill levels and is very well laid out. A wonderful present for someone who likes to either use their creativity or find a great deal of enjoyment in the creative process using a piece of rope. This book makes a 10penny item a wonderful world of creativity.

I ordered this book for my husband who drives a tractor trailer over the road. He has a lot of time on his hands just sitting and waiting to get unloaded. I wanted to find something he could do in the truck to help pass the time. He has really enjoyed this book and the knots are amazing. He has also started making bracelets with some of the knots. He is very pleased with the pictures and directions in the book. He said they are simple and very easy to follow.

This book is a complete waste of money. Not only can you find 100% of the knots in it in instructional free youtube videos, it is poorly written. Some of the knots (such as the bugle cord) are best done when you know the "historical know" which is noted. However, that knot does not appear in here. Many of the steps include, I kid you not, instructions reading only as "over, under, under, over, over, and under" showing a white rope throughout. The steps would be simpler if JD had bothered to do a little photoshop and add directional, colored arrows to the rope. I bought this to have in my library and teach my apprentices but it's completely useless for a novice. Now I just demonstrate myself and give them the youtube links to practice at home. Also note that you have to have medium-gauge stiff silk rope for most of these knots to work. In other words, for most, you need shibari rope. Don't even try it with large gauge or nylon/cotton rope. Save your money and watch youtube videos which are much, much easier to understand. This book is only worth it to have on your shelf to impress people who don't know any better.

I bought this book for more practical application in tying useful things. There are some good and useful knots in it, but overall it is exactly what it says, decorative knot work. The instructions are fabulously laid out and easy to follow. If you know the specific knot you want to work with, go to the youtube videos. If you're looking for something unique and you don't have a name for it, this is a good place to find it. These knots can lead you to your own applications. I made a belt with the

trilobite knot and it turned out great. I am sure that a lace maker could learn a lot from this book about new and unique patterns and knot tying is a great way to entertain yourself at a boring job.

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