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A Complete Guide To Special Effects Makeup: Conceptual Creations By Japanese Makeup Artists



Synopsis

Created by some of Japan's most talented and up-and-coming special effects make-up artists, this is the first Japanese language Special Effects Make-Up "how-to" guide! From easy "scar" make-ups to basic techniques to masks and full-scale prosthetics, each process is covered in a fully illustrated, step-by-step process.

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Customer Reviews

The 7 talented artists who have contributed to this book are Akihito, Tomonobu Iwakura, Keizo, Yuga Takahashi, Akiteru Nakada, Manabu Namikawa, and Tomu (Hyakutake). Between them they have worked on scores of TV series and movies, including Japanese productions like Casshern and Ultraman Max, and Hollywood movies including Alien vs Predator and Land of the Dead. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

I was looking forward to getting this book based on all the giddy reviews about it...even though the makeups on the cover looked amateurish and suspiciously poorly lit. I wish I had gone with my instincts on this one. Most of this stuff is not what I consider makeup. Its cosplay. Seriously...one of the featured "makeups" shows you how to bedazzle a burlap sack and wear it over your head. Even the basics presented here I would have to say are misguided. For instance, it tells you to paint straight black into wax or putty scratches to give the appearance of deeper wounds. Really? That's what I used to do when I first started and didn't know any better. In my opinion DeBrecini's book is

the best book on the market right now, Savini's books will give you more insight about ingenuity and artistry, and Dick Smith's Monster Makeup Handbook will continue to be pulled from my shelf a thousand times more than I will ever refer to this dog turd of a book.

For background context: I have a fairly extensive art and sculpting background with costuming and cosplay on the side. I got this book for extra tips for techniques, eye candy, and inspiration. While I hoped this would be a good tutorial book, I didn't go into my purchase expecting it. If you have at least intermediate level experience with sfx and costuming, this book is well worth it. Lots of inspirations within its pages and there's enough info for most projects that you could do something similar on your own. I would not recommend this to a beginner as far as instructions go, as there are some projects where entire chunks of the process are missing or just not explained all that well. A major example of this is the "Owl" on pg. 40. There are two pics of the materials used, and the third pic is the start of the project showing a closeup of the almost finished mask being airbrushed, accompanied by a description to make a cowl to cover the wearer's head and build up the mask from there. No pics of what said cowl is supposed to look like or how to start the project or what to do with the materials shown. The pics just start 3/4s into the project with the assumption you know exactly what went on before. There's a bit more step skipping in other projects, but to memory, this is the only extreme case, hence only 4 stars instead of 5 despite how much I like the rest of the book.

I own several books and DVD's on special effects make-up including both of the Grande Illusion books, Movie FX Magazine Master classes, books by Vincent Kehoe, Thurston James and more... and let me tell you this one book covers more ground than any of them. Everything from basic eyeliner and blush to full head latex appliances, costumes, props and metalwork. It has dozens of projects for you to follow along with to create some breathtaking effects. Now that isn't to say that this is perfect, the first and most obvious problem isn't really any fault of the original authors - but the copy I got from has several mistakes and printing errors. But even with these errors the book is still very easy to follow. Other problems might be that some of the information might have gaps as suggested by another reviewer... it is hard for me to tell because I have studied this subject so much that I can fill in the blanks without really thinking. If you are on the fence about buying this book don't be, it is in full color with amazing full page artwork of the finished designs and step by step photos of everything. This book even answered questions some "professionals" I asked could not! For the money this book is very, VERY hard to beat. Now if only someone would put out a book this detailed

about animatronics!

I've read a lot of FX makeup books, and seen lots of videos. I've been doing makeup since I was a child in the 70s. I'd never seen anything like this before, and it was amazing! I did not even see a copy until a professional FX artist I know let me look at hers. Copies were going for upwards of \$200 at the time. When I saw it was being republished, I immediately put it in my cart. So different from the usual stuff - so intricate, innovative, and inspiring! I am eagerly awaiting my very own copy now! Get yours while they are available!

This Book is a beautiful special effects book. The breakdown of the character work here is amazing. They teach you how to make high quality costumes and monster characters. This book is great it covers a lot of information in one book that is not always covered in other such books. The molding and casting, acrylic teeth, all kinds of cool crafting and fabrication for effects industry characters. I recommend that anyone wanting to get into Make-up effects grab this book. It is well done and has quite a bit of tech info. The photos are high quality this book is worth the investment. This along with a few other texts could possibly help you launch your career as a beginner in the special make-up effects industry. Be sure to seek out other information on the subject as well to give you a well rounded starting point. Dick Smith, Richard Corson, Tom Savini, and a handful of other wonderful texts on the subject matters. The make-up industry secrets have come out, and this current book contributes to the body of that information. With updates on techniques and materials available. Great book great starting point.

Great book but it is missing a lot of basic how to instructions and focuses mostly on creating a few certain characters.

bought this for my niece and she absolutely loved it. a lot of great makeup ideas for the up and coming movie makeup artist.

It's good to get ideas from... but I feel as if this is for more advanced individuals... that or the book does not describe very well how to do certain steps. It is much more convenient/easier to learn off the internet or youtube. Hope I can find another book that would help satisfy my need to learn special fx makeup.

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