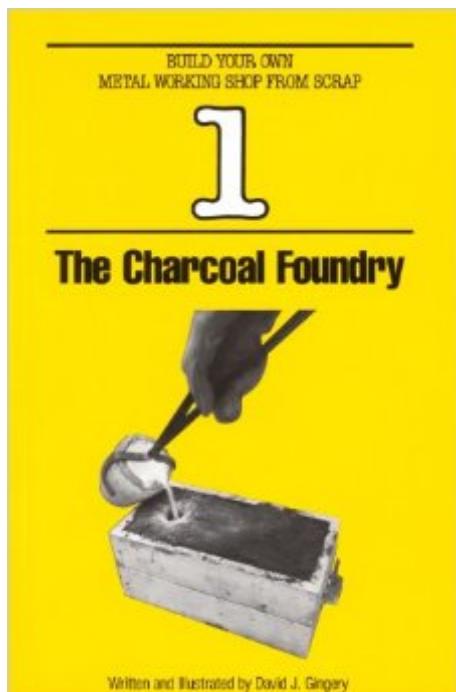


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# The Charcoal Foundry (Build Your Own Metal Working Shop From Scrap, Vol. 1)



## Synopsis

If you can build a sand castle or make a mud pie you can make a sand mold to produce castings for your metal shop projects. It really is cheap and easy with a simple solid fuel furnace. Here are plans to build the melting furnace and instructions for basic pattern making and molding to get your shop project under way. Charcoal is the fuel and aluminum and zinc alloys are the metals to cast. None of the pulsation or roar associated with gas fired furnaces. Build your own molding bench and flasks. Make your own melting pots and most of the simple tools required. Discover how cheap and easy it is. Even if you already have a lathe and other equipment this simple foundry setup will greatly expand the capacity of your shop by providing you with a supply of cheap castings for your projects. Discover why so many shop hands say "Metal Casting has opened a whole new world of shop experience". Heavily illustrated with many photographs that will show you step - by - step how to build a foundry.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was able to follow the instructions in this book and make my own foundry. The biggest difficulty is finding the materials. He makes suggestions on where to look but you still have to figure that part out. So far I have just cast aluminum and don't have any plans to try and move up to brass or steel. I used a hair dryer for the furnace blower. After about a year I recently switched to propane. I stick a 3/4" pipe propane torch into the opening that I had used for the blower. It is a lot easier since I don't have to fuss with maintaining charcoal around the pot. I have gone back to this book several times to reread it and look for tips on what I may have done wrong on a pour that went bad or to look for the

recommended draft on a wood pattern. David Gingery did everything with wood patterns. Another option now days that I have been using some is "Lost Foam Sand Casting". That is a newer method that was probably not around when he was writing the book. So overall I like the book and it got me started in sand casting. Everything he says works. The only negative is that it is starting to get a little dated.

Nice book and yes you can melt aluminum with charcoal. Be careful to preheat all tools to remove moisture, avoid rain and all water and get some safety equipment. Get a full face shield and a fireproof apron. keep the pets and kids back. Metal can spatter and you won't like that. Then have fun. You can make all kinds of stuff.

Was very informative. The materials used are harder to come by in this day and age. Goes over how to make proper tongs, basic sand casting, and how to build a small forge. A beginner's guide.

haven't done it yet, but the book is clear

It was good, I can use the information.

I was drawn in by price and reviews. I was hoping for a bit more examples and discussion about methods. This is very dry reading and short, a few quick draft sketches and doesn't house much info for a layman.

This is a good beginning book for foundry work and lays the basis for building the remainder of the Gingery machines. It covers the basics in limited detail. I give it 4 stars for this, but if you're serious about foundry work beyond the Gingery machines, there are much better books out there. Steve Chastain's books are very good, and if I were limiting myself on foundry books, I would choose his two volume set. Overall, the Gingery books are well written and laid out, and even if you don't plan to build the series, they are good to stimulate the mind in the direction of designing and building things that are useful.

What can you say? Gingery knows how to plunge into a how-to topic and explain it. His designs may not always be the very best, but they will unquestionably get you started and teach you the basics. If you are a hands-on learner who would rather DO than "talk about," then you can't do

better than this.

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