



# Structural Design for the Stage

By Alys Holden, Ben Sammler

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**Structural Design for the Stage** By Alys Holden, Ben Sammler

This book provides the theater technician with a foundation in structural design allowing an intuitive understanding of why sets "stand up". It introduces the basics of statics and the study of the strength of materials as they apply to typical scenery, with a minimum of theory and many examples. The material is presented such that only a basic knowledge of algebra, geometry and trigonometry is required. This useful text is also invaluable to professionals as a permanent handbook complete with carefully selected reference tables, which are applicable to most theatrical situations.

Traditionally, theatrical design and carpentry are rooted in a craft-based tradition that places a high value on empirically tested techniques; in other words, if it was done that way for a show and nothing fell down, then that's the way it will be done.

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## Structural Design for the Stage By Alys Holden, Ben Sammler Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1358439 in Books
- Published on: 1999-02-28
- Released on: 1999-04-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x .97" w x 7.00" l, 1.63 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 428 pages

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### **Editorial Review**

#### **Review**

An excellent resource to teach the physics of structures to tech theatre students. It covers the parts of structural engineering that pertaining to theatre without getting too far from the practical application. (Tom Davis, U of Florida)

A unique text that fills a long-standing void. (Henry Grillo, NC School of the Arts)

#### **From the Publisher**

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#### **About the Author**

Ben Sammler is currently the Chairman of the Department of Technical Design and Production for Yale School of Drama. He is the Production Supervisor for Yale Repertory Theatre and has overseen over 150 productions. Ben Sammler is also an experienced lighting designer and technical director with over 15 years of teaching experience, as well as the co-author of Structural Design for the Stage, 1999 (Focal Press), winner of the Golden Pen Award presented by USITT in 2000.

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