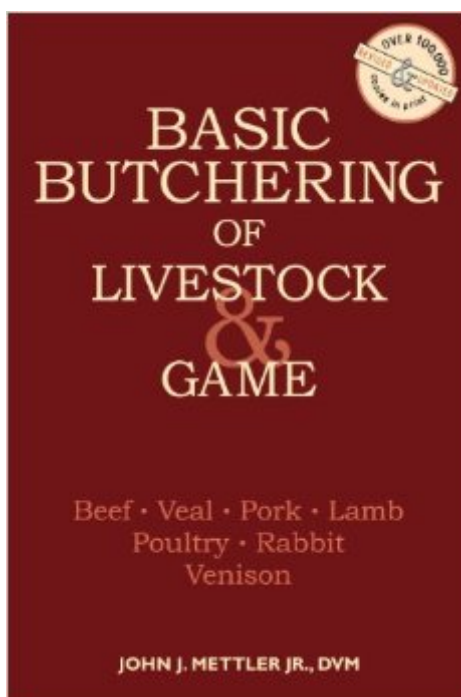


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# Basic Butchering Of Livestock & Game



## Synopsis

This guide takes the mystery out of butchering, covering everything you need to know to produce your own expert cuts of beef, venison, pork, lamb, poultry, and small game. John J. Mettler Jr. provides easy-to-follow instructions that walk you through every step of the slaughtering and butchering process, as well as plenty of advice on everything from how to dress game in a field to salting, smoking, and curing techniques. Youâ™ll soon be enjoying the satisfyingly superior flavors that come with butchering your own meat.Â

## Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Storey Publishing, LLC; Rev and Updated ed. edition (January 10, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0882663917

ISBN-13: 978-0882663913

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (341 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,312 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 inÂ Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking by Ingredient > Meat & Game > Meats #17 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry #27 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Food Science

## Customer Reviews

Put bluntly; killing and butchering animals is not a pleasant business. Anyone who has hunted or helped slaughter on a farm can attest to this. You just have to jump in and do it. Ironically, or perhaps most fittingly, this book was written by a veterinarian. I had a couple of chuckles about that fact. This is a very "how to" book, so is really not meant to be casually read. The information provided is practical and well presented to make the process easier. The author handles what some may consider a sensitive subject with honesty and straight-forward thinking. He also provides numerous tips and how-tos when it comes to handling and butchering several different kinds of animals. While every hunter may not need this book, it sure provides a lot of help and suggestions. If you are going to be butchering a wide variety of animals (pigs, cows, deer, etc.), this is definitely the book for you.

Every now and then you come across a book which is right on the spot. It's written by someone who is willing and capable to share his/her wealth of knowledge in a CLEAR way. This is one of those few books. From beef to rabbit, from pork to deer it teaches how to butcher. I read it a few times, I bought a whole lamb (with hide and guts) and I butchered it. I wouldn't say I made a work of art but all the cuts are there: back legs roasts. racks, riblets, roasts, trimmings. Don't expect instruction on fancy cuts: it's not the purpose of this book. The need of a power saw is slightly understated, though. If you butcher a large animal and you are not Hulk-sized, you may want to get one ... Absolutely recommended.

It helped me expand my knowledge of butchering wild game, namely venison! I could recommend this to the somewhat seasoned butcher as well as the novice! He also included some great ideas I can't wait to try for preserving different meats! My only complaint would be that the author did not explain the different quality of the cuts of meat (ie. tenderness) as well on the wild game as he did with the domestic animals. However, overall this book is well worth the cost and should be in any self-sufficiency minded person's library!

Here's the thing - trying to learn how to butcher animals entirely from a book is kind of like trying to learn how to fly an airplane entirely from a book: the book's alright, but most of your understanding will come from being taught or mentored personally. Anyway, this is about as good as you could hope for in a book. I bought it a couple of years ago when I kept sheep, and it did come in handy sometimes. But if you are serious about learning how to slaughter/butcher, my advice is to seek out a local guy who can show you personally how to do it. You'll learn way more that way, and far more quickly. Best of luck.

For any person living off the grid or desiring to do so, this book will provide invaluable information on how to slaughter when you can't just drive to the market or drag it to a processing house. I would have liked to have seen more information on "Walton" preserving, as I like to be able to live without all of the conveniences of city life. I like the idea of being able to fend for myself, and I would not hesitate to use this as a guide for my first steer. His rabbit method is quite similar to mine (I use two pegs).

I used this book to teach myself the basics of butchering many years ago and find it is a ready resource today. I butcher on a regular basis and would recommend this book to any man who has

never put the knife to his own livestock before. One thing to remember about butchering is this, no book will ever give you the skills, you have to kill and cut to learn them.

This is an excellent book. This should be a required purchase for everyone who takes to the woods in pursuit of wild game for the table. No more wasting meat or spending big money by taking your wild game to a professional meat processor, all you need to know is right here. I highly recommend this book, especially to hunters and outdoorsmen.

This is the most concise book I have ever seen on the subject of slaughtering livestock. My hat is off to this author who as I can tell has spent many a day around the slaughterhouse. I would recommend this book to anyone who has even a slight interest in slaughtering his or her own livestock.

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