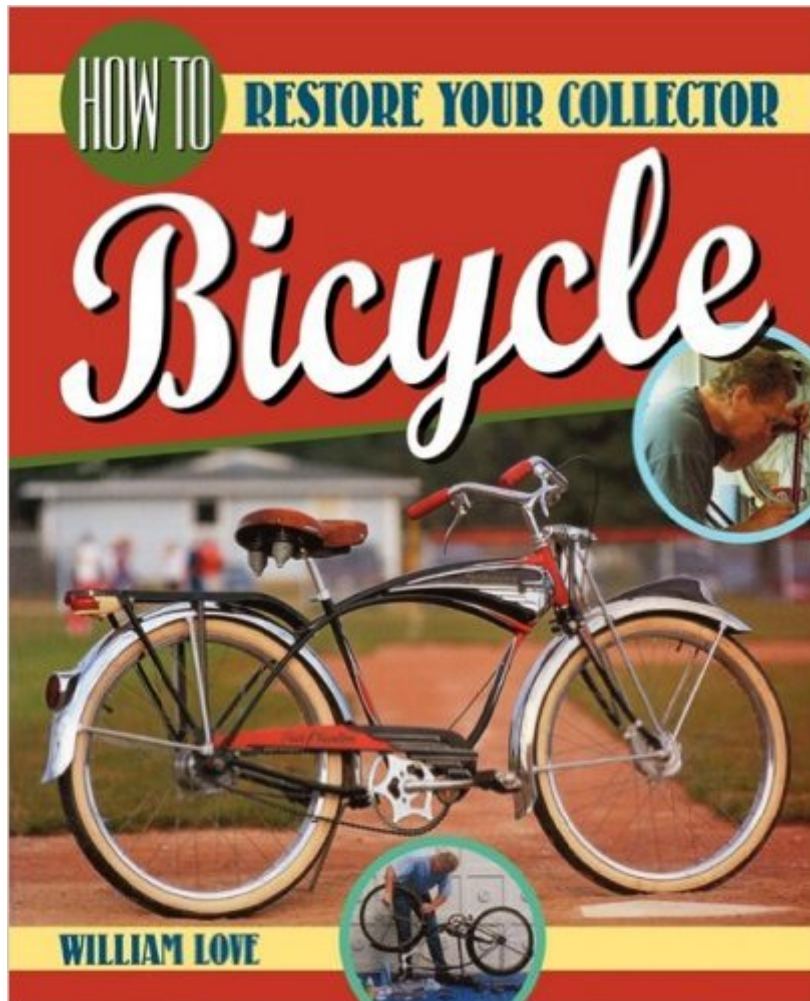


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# How To Restore Your Collector Bicycle (Bicycle Books)



## Synopsis

All aspects of bicycle restoration are covered including finding, evaluating and choosing a bicycle. Planning the restoration project, along with disassembly, mechanical restoration, cosmetic restoration (with and without painting), and assembly are all discussed in detail. There are sections about parts, accessories and sources as well. Additionally, you will find over 250 photos of bicycles and their parts, showing off the splendor of these vintage treasures.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #238,443 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #17 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Antiques Care & Reference > Care & Restoration #44 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Transportation #168 in Â Books > Engineering & Transportation > Automotive > Motorcycles

## Customer Reviews

I can't say enough good things about this book! Of course it has the usual "how to remove a tire" info, but the sections on rebuilding and refinishing a vintage bicycle are plain outstanding! The information is detailed without being overwhelming. And they also make sense to non-gearheads like me. The book also gives lots of sources for obtaining vintage and reproduction parts--with URLs that actually work! One of the things I liked best about the book is that the author places much emphasis on the decision making process involved in cleaning/repairing/restoring an old bike. As we all know, many collectible bikes (and collectibles of any kind!) have been ruined by over-enthusiastic owners wanting to make them "like new." It is obvious that Mr. Love LOVES his hobby, and delights in sharing it with other people. Highly recommended!

I am mainly into restoring classic British cars, but my interest in classic bicycles has always been

strong. I have found this to be an excellent book for its coverage of the restoration process, for the many helpful technical tips sprinkled throughout, and for the high level historical information covering major categories of most commonly collected bikes. Some of the best financial advice in the book relates to finding and selecting reasonable project bikes (I have a bad habit of trying to "save" bikes needing major work and/or missing parts). The chapters "Finding and Evaluating a Bicycle" and "Choosing the Right Project" have helped to change my approach. As recently as this morning, after becoming enamoured with a certain 1920s era bicycle needing restoration, I checked page 12 and was tipped off that the expense of the single tube tires might be significant. A quick phone call verified the expense...saved! This is a well written book and well worth the investment.

Of course there is the basic "how to remove a tire" information, but there are also lots of good tips on how to evaluate a purchase, some really clever and easy techniques for brightening up an old bike's appearance, plus many excellent "insider" resources for information and replacement parts...with URLs that actually work! He uses different "experts" to demonstrate how to do a factory finish on the bike, how to get it replated etc., and the information is detailed, specific and fun to read without being overwhelming. The author places much emphasis on deciding whether to restore or not, which is a good thing-- as we all know many wonderful collectible bikes (or collectible anything!) are ruined by owners eager to make them "like new." This book strikes me as a labor of love by a person who really loves his hobby and enjoys sharing it with other people. The mechanical info might be too basic for die-hard gearheads, but even they will benefit from the wonderful body work sections!

This book is about a special field, and William Love knows exactly what he is talking about. He covers the two main aspects of restoration - the "museum - quality" restoration and the "functional" restoration; and also touches the "upgraded and customized" classic bike (which might lose value with this procedure, though!). The mechanical aspect covers the basics with a minimum of tools. If you are already savvy in bicycle mechanics, go ahead and develop your restoration skills with help of this book. If you are new to bike mechanics you might want to get a more comprehensive book about that subject as a complementary lecture and reference. But the part about re-finishing is very comprehensive and a must to read; also the guide to other, restoration - specific procedures and techniques. I only wish that this book had photographs in color so we all could appreciate better the outstanding job that the author and his co-workers are doing! The grayscale photos are so-so, therefore the 4 stars. All in all however, this is a very informative work, written with lots of insight and

knowledge, not too technical for the beginner, and with some useful tips for finding those rare accessories and spare parts. Very recommended.

This is a good book with plenty of information about restoring old bikes. I wish the photos or illustration were better. Some photos are such poor copies that it's a wonder why they were included in the book. Otherwise, I appreciate what the author put together.

This is just the book I needed to fix up an old Schwinn into ride-able condition. The detail is great for someone like me who knows absolutely zero about bike restoration. The only gripe I have is that the pictures aren't clear, but at least the words are. I can find a picture on the web if I absolutely need to see something. Great book!

This book will be a good companion during your trials of trying to get that old-school bike found in a pile in some dusty garage back into working order. Read through it to get an idea of what you actually have to do and how to do it.

The information is pretty good and covers the basic information you need to do repairs and customize your bike. My big gripe with the book is that the only color pictures found are on the front and back cover! Everything inside the book is black and white and most of those are pretty dark. I can understand that some of the pictures are old stock photos of way back when, but there should be color pics and the black and white photos need to be lightened up.

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