

[Christopher Hart](#)

showoffer("0823013812"); Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Watson-Guptill

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823013812

ISBN-13: 978-0823013814

Product Dimensions: 11x8.3x0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces



FREE Nationwide 2-Day Shipping (Restrictions*)

Tags

[Screenwriter](#), [Contributor](#), [Rhythm](#), [Jokes](#), [Comedy](#)

Subjects

[Comics & Graphic Novels](#) > [Cartooning](#)

[Arts & Photography](#) > [Drawing](#)

[Comics & Graphic Novels](#) > [Manga](#)

From Library Journal

Hart, a regular contributor to Mad Magazine and a comedy screenwriter, has produced a manual with equal emphasis on the art of cartooning and the art of comedy. He has the requisite chapters on how to draw funny characters, but he comes into his own when he analyses pacing and rhythm, set-up and punch lines, and the differences between dramatic and comedic scenes. Certain words, he maintains, are ordinary and certain ones funny (e.g., fat is ordinary, bloated is funny, four is ordinary, five is funny?as are all odd numbers). This and Robin Hall's *The Cartoonist's Workbook: Drawing, Writing Gags, Selling* (LJ 11/15/97) are the two best such books available.

Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist

Gr. 7[^]-12. Several recent books have dealt with cartooning, among them Al Bohl's overview *Guide to Cartooning*, which explores the art form's history as well as its practice. Hart, who keeps his eye on commercial potential, narrows his focus to one aspect of cartooning--creating single and multipanel comic strips. He begins with some helpful cartoon-art how-tos, but it's the subtleties about joke writing, pacing, framing, and dialogue he includes that make his book stand out. The graphics, many in color, are teamed closely with small blocks of text and captions to get the message across. Hart's swaggering wit occasionally gets in the way, but usually not long enough to stop the flow of information. To be sure, Hart makes it seem easier than it is, but teenage art students who would like to see their work in the Sunday funnies would do well to start here. Tips on becoming a professional cartoonist and some helpful resources round out the text. Point interested teens to Scott McCloud's excellent adult book *Understanding Comics* (1993) for an even deeper

view. *Stephanie Zvirin*

[Buy now on Sale from Amazon.com](#)

Customer Reviews

Drawing on the Funny Side of the Brain : How to Come Up With Jokes for Cartoons and Comic Strips rated 5.0/5.0 based on 1 ratings 1 reviews

2001-07-06T16:45:51+00:00 **John MacLeod "observer"** rated 5.0/5.0:

Christopher Hart's name appears on a number of beginner's how-to books, but he's not just a beginner's author, as this book demonstrates. This is one of the better, and more advanced, cartooning books out there. While it does go over yer usual "stick-man" first steps briefly, most of it is devoted to addressing stuff like panel layout, strip breakdowns, consistency of character design, timing in humor writing, marketing your work, etc. In every case, Hart speaks from experience

[View more Customer Reviews](#)

View Online

<http://www.martexpress.net/book/drawing-on-the-funny-side-of-the-brain-how-to-come-up-with-jokes-for-cartoons-and-comic-strips.html>