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# Snow Crystals (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

"Offers valuable material not only to students of crystallography but also to those of the arts."

• The New York Times Did you ever try to photograph a snowflake? The procedure is very tricky. The work must be done rapidly in extreme cold, for even body heat can melt a rare specimen that has been painstakingly mounted. The lighting must be just right to reveal all the nuances of design without producing heat. But the results can be rewarding, as the work of W. A. Bentley proved. For almost half a century, Bentley caught and photographed thousands of snowflakes in his workshop at Jericho, Vermont, and made available to scientists and art instructors samples of his remarkable work. In 1931, the American Meteorological Society gathered together the best of these photomicrographs, plus some slides of frost, glaze, dew on vegetation and spider webs, sleet, and soft hail, and a text by W. J. Humphreys, and had them published. That book is here reproduced, unaltered, and unabridged. Over 2,000 beautiful crystals on these pages reveal the wonder of nature's diversity in uniformity; no two are alike, yet all are based on a common hexagon. The introductory text covers the technique of photographing snow crystals, classification, the fundamentals of crystallography, and markings. There are also brief discussions of the nature and cause of ice flowers, windowpane frost, dew, rime, sleet, and graupel. The book is of great value both to students of ice forms and for textile and other designers who can use the natural designs of these snow crystals in their work. Every photograph is royalty-free; you may use up to 10 without fees, permission, or acknowledgement. "A most unusual and very readable book." • Nature

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Offers valuable material not only to students of crystallography but also to those of the arts." – The New York Times

Did you ever try to photograph a snowflake? The procedure is very tricky. The work must be done rapidly in extreme cold, for even body heat can melt a rare specimen that has been painstakingly mounted. The lighting must be just right to reveal all the nuances of design without producing heat. But the results can be rewarding, as the work of W. A. Bentley proved. For almost half a century, Bentley caught and photographed thousands of snowflakes in his workshop at Jericho, Vermont, and made available to scientists and art instructors samples of his remarkable work. In 1931, the American Meteorological Society gathered together the best of these photomicrographs, plus some slides of frost, glaze, dew on vegetation and spider webs, sleet, and soft hail, and a text by W. J. Humphreys, and had them published. That book is here reproduced, unaltered, and unabridged. Over 2,000 beautiful crystals on these pages reveal the wonder of nature's diversity in uniformity; no two are alike, yet all are based on a common hexagon. The introductory text covers the technique of photographing snow crystals, classification, the fundamentals of crystallography, and markings. There are also brief discussions of the nature and cause of ice flowers, windowpane frost, dew, rime, sleet, and graupel. The book is of great value both to students of ice forms and for textile and other designers who can use the natural designs of these snow crystals in their work. Every photograph is royalty-free; you may use up to 10 without fees, permission, or acknowledgement. "A most unusual and very readable book." – Nature

Love this book. We bought it along with the kids' book "Snowflake Bentley." My son was excited to see the work of the man the story book was about, and he has been flipping throughout for days.

Considering how far back in time and equipment available to do these photos it's an amazing work. That said this book does not capture the full transparent beauty of a snowflake like the book ( Snowflakes by Kenneth Libbrecht ) While Snowflake is a smaller book it displays much larger photo's and captures the snowflakes beauty the way light does going through crystal or diamonds No jewelry store has ever displayed anything that reflects the creative design, brilliance and beauty of some of these snowflakes.

Very nice pictures and great work done with very limited technical equipment compared to today's

possibilities. For those who expect a more scientific book not the right choice. I enjoy it and always when I read in the book I am again impressed by the beautiful structures of each single snow crystal.

This amazing book was written by Wilson Bentley (snowflake Bentley). Sadly It was the last book he wrote before he died. It is done in only black and white as this book was published in the 1900's. It shows his incredible work and the most amazing snowflake images that one has ever seen. There are many pages of them and they are just so amazing!!! If you purchase the snowflake Bentley book which talks about him and his life and death as well as this one he published, you will never think about snowflakes in the same way again. Go ahead and buy them, I am glad I did.

A must have if you enjoy the glories of nature. The perfect coffee table book for the winter months.

This book is perfect. Very cool to see all of these snow flakes. As a kid I would always try to see the shape of them when they would land on things but you rarely get to see them individually. This book is awesome to just look through and see all the pretty shapes water can make!

This book contains beautiful pictures of snow crystals and gives an interesting history of how W. A. Bentley caught and photographed thousands of snowflakes in his workshop for almost half a century. It includes a lot of technical information which is amazing to read. Probably not the kind of book you would look at very often, but I am glad I bought it.

Incredible photography by the man who started it all.

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