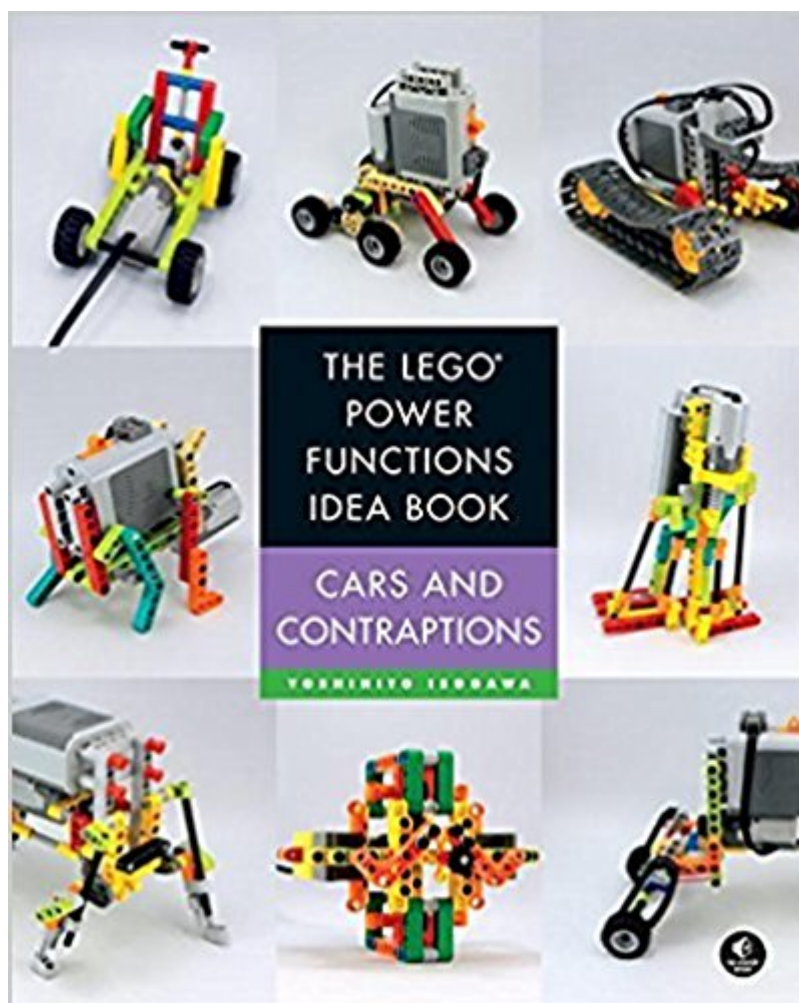


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The LEGO Power Functions Idea Book, Vol. 2: Cars And Contraptions



Synopsis

This second volume of The LEGO Power Functions Idea Book, Cars and Contraptions, showcases small projects to build with LEGO Technic gears, motors, gadgets, and other moving elements. You'll find hundreds of clever, buildable mechanisms, each one demonstrating a key building technique or mechanical principle. You'll learn to build four-wheel drive cars, adorable walking robots, steerable tanks, robotic inchworms, and cars that can follow the edge of a table! Each model includes a list of required parts and colorful photographs that guide you through the build without the need for step-by-step instructions. As you build, you'll explore the principles of gear systems, power translation, differentials, suspensions, and more.

Book Information

Paperback: 328 pages

Publisher: No Starch Press; 1 edition (October 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1593276893

ISBN-13: 978-1593276898

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.8 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 28 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #95,719 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Models #35 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Heavy Machinery #61 in Books > Computers & Technology > Computer Science > Robotics

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Sample Builds

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Cars that move something
vibration

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[Cars that react](#)

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Yoshihito Isogawa is a LEGO luminary with 46 years of building experience. In addition to running Isogawa Studio, Inc., he regularly holds LEGO workshops, lectures at schools and science museums, and creates LEGO models for events and exhibitions. He is the author of the popular

LEGO Technic Idea Book series (No Starch Press), as well as other Japanese-language LEGO titles.

Excellent book for the younger (and older) Lego Technic fans who are looking to start building their own non-Lego builds. The use of motors really helps as it is a large part of why my seven year old son finds this book interesting. Minimal to no words, but the pictures are detailed enough to build it (much like a Lego instruction book). The pictures are in color and it's clear that the author chose Lego pieces in contrasting colors when there might be difficulties understanding the pictures. My one criticism of this book and all the others by this author relating to Lego Technic is that it is next to impossible to obtain a "kit" with all the Lego pieces necessary to build ALL the models illustrated in the set. Even a Rebrickable.com listing would be a happy substitute if one was willing to pick up all the parts in your own, but that doesn't exist either (and I know the author uses rebrickable.com because he has a custom model on the site). So knowing that there is no companion "set" that is prepackaged or easily obtained, I would say that despite my high recommendation of this book, it is only for the kid, family or AFOL who already has a good collection of LARGE (1,000+ pieces) models. I'm an AFOL (adult fan of Lego) and have 23 sets so far... but ALL of the small to medium sets you can buy do NOT have Lego PF pieces (motors specifically) or don't provide enough gears and other pieces to provide a good inventory. The larger sets DO. So five stars for quality and usefulness BUT only if you have some large sets already in your inventory (and are willing to take them apart). Last note that is somewhat of a saving grace to the enterprising parent/AFOL. The book DOES list the parts needed in detail for both Lego PF Ideas Books, but you'll have to go thru a third party site (rebrickable.com) and create your own list which isn't fun and is time consuming BUT do-able.

I think this book is better than his Simple Machines and Power Functions (Vol 1) books. Gets into some reasonably interesting (but still reasonably "simple") designs. As with Vol 1, you have to be rather visually/spatially oriented to reproduce his designs, since he just gives a few views of the designs--no stepwise building instructions. Second favorite of my 6 Lego-style books. Favorite is "The Unofficial Lego Technic Builder's Guide," which is essentially a detailed textbook on Lego Technic construction concepts.

Great book with plenty of clever ideas. I love the simplicity of the designs - they're truly Japanese inspired. Although all of the models work, some of them only slightly work, or don't work very well.

Perfect book for 9 yr old lego crazy kid. Does not have step by step directions, but various images that help with construction of different vehicles.

This is a great book for our twin 10 year old sons that love building ALL things Lego!

This was for my Grandson who is 8, he loves it.

My grandson enjoyed the gift very much. Ā Ā Ā^Ā,,

Kind of useless unless you go buy a couple of hundred dollars worth of the lego technics you'll need. I did find a couple of projects my son could build after buying motors and servo and both a built up differential and steering from a bidding marketplace.

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