

The Unofficial LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Inventor's Guide

David J. Perdue

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David J. Perdue : The Unofficial LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Inventor's Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Unofficial LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Inventor's Guide:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An excellent LEGO MINDSTORMS book for both beginners and advanced builders alikeBy Enrique MordetzkiThese are my first impressions on David Purdue's book, I will follow up later when I finish reading it. So far what I can say is that it differs from other No Starch Press books in many ways. For starters, the quality of the images (in grayscale) is very much improved. I found no difficulty following the building instructions which David managed to keep simple and well commented. I would not say it is as if they were in color, but it is close enough. In other No Starch books I really did have problems in that area, and had it not been for the help and support of the authors themselves and the community, I could not have finished some projects.Secondly this is a highly educative book. It starts from the very basics and goes to some very advanced topics. My son and I regard ourselves as experienced Lego builders, having built dozens of robots. Well, what a surprise we were in for. In

the first few pages when David starts to "dissect" and classify every single part of the Mindstorms kit, we were already learning some details it would have been impossible to find out otherwise. This book has a meticulous attention to detail for which the author must be commended. It merits careful reading because you find bits of useful info in every page. I am eager to reach the programming section in which I hope to improve my NXT-G skills considerably. As to the robots themselves, they are in line with the purpose of the book, which is educational. You learn something by building them. I truly recommend this book and especially as a first book if you plan to build Lego Mindstorms robots for quite some time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Does it come in Color :-)

By Rbhatta This book does a good job by starting out with an introduction to LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT robotics, introducing to the pieces and letting the users know about the potential of the kit and what to expect. Building the robot essentials are also very well laid out and tell you how to make strong and useable robot designs, Author also has attempted to use high quality drawings which are used to help illustrate its uniquely intuitive layouts, but I feel that it could have been even better if the drawings were in full color for kids to know their pieces and put them together faster by looking at the drawings alone. The chapters in the book are partitioned into four areas, the first three parts comprises the first half of the book. The Parts one through three focuses on an introduction, building and programming. It is actually part four of the book that provides the reader a chance to exercise the knowledge gained in previous chapters with extensive, quality project guides. A total of six different robots namely Zippy-bot, Bumper-bot, Claw-bot, Tag-bot, Guard-bot, Golf-bot with detailed building and programming instructions are presented. And for those who aren't so sure why building a robot is a worthy pastime, Check out my another favorite Author Jim Kelly who offers excellent Adventure based robot design books like LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT: The Mayan Adventure (Technology in Action) and the sequel LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT 2.0: The King's Treasure (Technology in Action) If you have recently purchased a LEGO Mindstorms NXT 2.0 (8547) the book is *must have* to go with the kit, This book definitely has excellent value! - Buy one!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book to learn more about Mindstorms NXT

By E. K. Butler The book provides a great overview of NXT platform and teaches how to build more complex robots using several projects. The first sections provides an introduction to what is in the kit before going into how to build common components. The middle sections contain several robot projects that teach how to build more complex robots, both with the bricks and sensors and how to create programs for them. I found it very useful quickly learning how to build complex robots and understanding how the graphical programming language works.

The Unofficial Lego Mindstorms Nxt Inventor's Guide by David J. Perdue. No Starch Pr, 2007

From the Back Cover The LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT set includes a variety of powerful electronic parts (motors, sensors, and the programmable NXT microcomputer) and lots of building elements. With these parts you can create thousands of unique, intelligent robots. The Unofficial LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Inventor's Guide helps you to harness the capabilities of the NXT set and effectively plan, build, and program your own NXT robots. The first part of the book contains a brief introduction to the NXT set. You'll then examine the pieces in the NXT set and the roles they play in construction. Next, you'll learn practical building techniques, like how to build sturdy structures and work with gears. Then it's time to learn how to program with the official NXT-G programming language (and learn a bit about several unofficial programming languages). You'll also learn what author David J. Perdue calls the MINDSTORMS method: a strategy for creating your own robots. Finally, you'll follow step-by-step instructions for building, programming, and testing six sample robots (all of which can be built using only the parts found in one NXT set). These six robots include: Zippy-Bot, a two-wheeled vehicle with a ball caster Bumper-Bot, a version of Zippy-Bot that explores your room and avoids objects Claw-Bot, a version of Zippy-Bot that searches for objects and pushes them away with its claw Tag-Bot, a four-wheeled steering vehicle that dashes around while you try to "tag" it with a flashlight Guard-Bot, a six-legged walking robot that launches a ball at intruders Golf-Bot, a stationary robot that finds a target and then hits a ball into the target You'll also find an NXT-G Quick Reference, which provides information on the 30 types of standard programming blocks, and the LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Piece Library, which features detailed information and images of the more than 80 types of LEGO pieces in the NXT set. So go ahead. Grab your NXT set, fire up your creative mind, and see what you can invent with The Unofficial LEGO MINDSTORMS NXT Inventor's Guide.

About the Author David J. Perdue is the author of Competitive MINDSTORMS (Apress, 2004) and has written for BrickJournal. He has been inventing with MINDSTORMS since 2001 and has received three Special Mention awards for his creations on the official online MINDSTORMS invention gallery. He lives with his family in Round Rock, Texas, and maintains his website at <http://www.davidjperdue.com>.