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Home Improvement 1-2-3



Synopsis

Home Improvement 1-2-3 is a workbench classic. The new edition "more than 600 projects, thousands of color photos, detailed illustrations, charts, and graphs, and a 90-minute DVD" offers up-to-the-minute solutions for homeowners tackling home repair, maintenance, and improvement. Chapters cover painting, wallpaper, plumbing, electrical system, walls and ceilings, flooring, doors, windows, cabinets, shelves, countertops, insulation, weatherproofing, exterior maintenance, heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning. Clear, concise instructions accompanied by detailed how-to photographs ensure success no matter what your skill level. Every project offers tips, shortcuts, and advice on buying and using tools and materials, working safely, avoiding common mistakes, saving time and money, and developing skills. Home Improvement 1-2-3 also reviews new tools, technology, materials, and installation techniques.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Words cannot simply describe how well this book is organized. Teaches you the tools needed, how to use the tools, Safety precautions and techniques, and open-ended projects. What I mean by open-ended projects is that the projects and renovations you want are only limited to YOUR creativity. The book teaches you the basics, a general to advanced guideline, and the rest is how detailed you want your project to be. Incredible book that covers everything from how electricity works, to 3-way switches, converting 120V to 240V outlets, adding new circuit breakers for expanding homes, to installing Home-network panels (Internet Cat5/Coaxial/telephone lines/etc.). I highly recommend this book to people entirely fresh to electricity, as a review manual, and a

guideline to planning new electrical projects in your home!! also own "Black & Decker The Complete Guide to Wiring 5th Edition", and "Wiring a House 4th Edition: Completely Revised and Updated."As a comparison:Home Depot 123 is like a manual for quick easy jobs.For people who think receptacles shoot lightning and great for beginners as its simple and easy to understand. Basically the Basics but intermediate enough to mess with circuit breakers and not get electrocuted to death by them.Black & Decker is HARDCORE!They assume you know what you are doing and you won't electrocute yourself with a metal ladder on of a puddle of water while running HOT electric lines. This book goes straight into advanced wiring designs and circuits for projects, electrical codes you need to know to be up to standards, and installing therm-electric floor-warming systems. It also goes lightly into electric appliance repair such as disassembling a burned out lamp circuitry to integrating a back-up power supply to your house.Wiring a House For Pros by Pros (The name says it all)This book teaches you the experience to be an electrician. It emphasizes the difference between an electrician that came fresh out of school and an electrician that has been On-the-job for 30+ years. Words cannot simply describe the ESSENTIAL information in this book. If Black & Decker is hardcore, this book is for Journey Men and Masters of the Trade. However this book does not go in-depth in planning home electrical projects. It makes you a smarter, wiser, and a more experienced electrician.For a range of Difficulty in understanding/learning how to wire a home:BEGINNER>>>>>>>>>INTERMEDIATE>>>>>>>>>ADVANCEDHome-Depot 123>>>>>Black&Decker>>>>>>>>>Wiring a House For Pros By ProsIf you do not know what a wire stripper or wire cutter is or how to use it, I highly suggest the Home Depot 123.If you know and can differentiate what a 14 gauge, 8 gauge, and a 6 gauge is, I recommend the Black & Decker.If you know all of the previously mentioned items and need advanced mastery, I suggest Wiring a Home for pros by Pros.

This book is a good introduction to home improvement. It provides detailed instructions on how to handle a large variety of projects. It's not the end all be all, however, and it's important to make sure you have a basic understanding of tools before you start. I would recommend pairing it with one of the Black and Decker series books, which are much more specific to the project you may be tackling.

I gave this book as a gift to my brother when he bought 70 year-old home. He said it paid for itself in the first week of having it! He was able to solve a plumbing problem by following the book's advice and purchasing a \$5 part, rather than paying for a plumber!

Every home will eventually need some touch up even if you live in a rental, this book give you great instructions on how to do that. There are plenty of pictures to go along with the directions so it's even easier to understand. Of course the book has more to offer than most of us would actually need but it gives you an understanding of how much work it would be if you wanted to do this or that. It also gives you all the basics like safety and protection, terminology, tools explanations, and more. Of course for small repairs, one can just search online for a remedy but I prefer to have it in print while I'm working, plus it gives me a lot more information that sometimes the web doesn't tell you like safe operation. All in all I HIGHLY recommend having a copy around "just in case". Think of it as a first-aid manual, because it really is (at least for me).

Great book all around. It covers a ton of projects a home owner would encounter with incredible detail and great pictures. If you have one project you need help with, buy this book. It will come in handy down the road. If you can do a single project yourself because of this book, it pays for itself.

I have not read the whole book, just areas that I was working on at the time. I found the book to be helpful for the most part. some great ideas in some areas. There were many things that I would do using other techniques. I a have been in the home improvement industry for over 35 years, so I have learned many ways of doing the same thing. There are ways of doing repairs the hard way and the easy way (and there are correct techniques and improper ones as well) Some ways, in the book, to do the repairs that can make it a slower process, but will get the job done. There is nothing wrong with that, but some homeowners don't have the time or don't want to spend 8 hours on a project that may only need 1 or 2 hours. If you have questions or need suggestions on a project, email or call one of your local contractor or handyman for ideas, suggestions, advice, or assistance. I have random people (past clients and new clients to be) call me and I freely give my 2 cents. What does it hurt me to help people? sjpeterman(dot)com . If you get the book, and you should, and live in the Orange County, Ca area, contact me. I would enjoy the conversation, and hopeful you will too. Enjoy the book.

Some projects noted as being easy were not so simple. I am not a home builder, but have done my fair share of home projects over the years. I found youtube to be more informative. And it is surprising that Home Depot has many videos on Youtube...go figure. Still not a waste a money at this price.

This is an excellent book on how to do some basic home improvements. Everything from installing electrical outlets to putting up drywall, this book has it. I actually have the 2nd Edition of this book. Highly recommended for beginner to intermediate home improvement enthusiasts. Cons: ONLY one: They could provide more details - maybe more pictures.

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