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DIY Furniture: A Step-by-Step Guide



Synopsis

Featuring 30 designs by leading designer-makers from around the world *DIY Furniture* shows you how to use simple techniques to make stunning designer furniture from scratch. All the projects can be easily assembled using the step-by-step guides from common materials which can be found at the local hardware store. Along with designs for seating and storage, the book also features projects for making your own bed, wardrobe, lighting and garden furniture. Each project features hand-drawn diagrams with short, easy-to-follow instructions on how to build the piece. Whether building from scratch or customising existing designs, *DIY Furniture* allows you to create unique designer pieces at a fraction of the normal cost. Brief biographies of all the featured designers are included at the end of the book.

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Customer Reviews

As an avid DIY-er, I'm always looking for innovative ways to modify existing and recycled materials to create a unique and cost effective product for my home. This book fell short of my expectations in many ways. I'm sorry to write such a criticism, but:

1. The aesthetic of 95% of these projects is downright terrible. Using basic materials like pipe, concrete and pine wood is fine, as long as the end result is an interesting modification of these materials. In this book, however, all you're getting is tables and chairs made from copper and PVC pipes that literally just look like you're sitting on pipes. Not interesting, not attractive - like first year design student projects.
2. The design direction of this book somehow implies that projects will be affordable, but it's plain to see that if they gave you project costs, you wouldn't pursue most of these projects - the price to result ratio wouldn't be worth

it.3. Although the book is DIY, many of the projects require space, specialty materials, and/or equipment one probably doesn't have. There are only three mildly interesting projects in this book. There are a few novel ideas, like a folding chaise lounge for portability, but the actual design is poor. You would really have to rework the concept to make it interesting. Sorry, what a bummer :(

I have to say, the money shot is actually on the cover-- by far the coolest project. The rest of the book is cool in theory, but I live in a hardwood floored house in the South... not exactly the New York studio seemingly required for these projects. That said, I found some really awesome ideas that fit for my aesthetic. As a working graphic/web designer, I liked the idea of having a more creative space without having to shell out the coin for a high-end piece or having an IKEA house full of particle board. Bottom line: Worth a read through. Find the pieces that you like and mod them to fit your space/aesthetic.

I really enjoyed some of the ideas and inspirations this book has led to. The projects are often fairly easy to follow along and show you just how cool you can make contemporary design on the cheap. But there are several areas where the instructions aren't as clear as they could be, or where it's left up to your own creativity to make it work. My least favorite aspect of some of the projects were how the measurements seemed arbitrarily confusing- for example, making a cut 14 7/8" long, or space this 58 5/8" apart... why not round it to the nearest half or whole? Those parts got frustrating when you had to make multiples of the same cut...I'm not so great at math. But I will say, the furniture projects were fun and easy to build because they didn't require a lot of fancy joinery or intricate routing- they really kept it simple and attractive. Overall the book has a lot of great stuff to keep amateur and intermediate level craftsman occupied for quite a while, and I would for sure recommend this book for those folks.

Love this book - cool designs that I believe even I can tackle most of them. I think anyone that likes to DIY would enjoy this, the designs are modern and you can enhance them with your own take and make them something special just for you. Easy for me to understand but everybody is different so I'll just say - I love it.

Not very appealing projects to me. I liked book 2 better, but these aren't my favorite project books. The books however have very nice photography and instructions. I would be very happy if I wanted to build a lot of what is presented...but I don't.

Wonderful do-it-yourself book with excellent designs and easy to follow instructions. I highly recommend this book, particularly for young people on a limited budget.

I bought this book to learn about new ways to create wood furniture. The book is mostly a collection of furniture created by artists and designers with a variety of materials. Woodworkers might be disappointed.

I am building all the furniture in my new city loft, and picked up this book and a couple of others to give me inspiration and help. This book is a great inspiration, but it is not as good as other books in detailing the step by step of how to make each piece. That said it has been a great resource, I have done a few projects from the book, and used the information as a jumping off points for other projects inspired by the works of the designers featured. I would recommend this book, and will check out its follow up.

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