Creative Workshop: 80 Challenges To Sharpen Your Design Skills
Have you ever struggled to complete a design project on time? Or felt that having a tight deadline stifled your capacity for maximum creativity? If so, then this book is for you. Within Creative Workshop, you’ll find 80 creative challenges that will help you achieve a breadth of stronger design solutions, in various media, within any set time period. Exercises range from creating a typeface in an hour to designing a paper robot in an afternoon to designing web pages and other interactive experiences. Each exercise includes compelling visual solutions from other designers and background stories to help you increase your capacity to innovate. This book also includes useful brainstorming techniques and wisdom from some of today’s top designers. By road-testing these techniques as you attempt each challenge, you’ll find new and more effective ways to solve tough design problems and bring your solutions to vibrant life.

**Synopsis**

Within Creative Workshop, you’ll find 80 creative challenges that will help you achieve a breadth of stronger design solutions, in various media, within any set time period. Exercises range from creating a typeface in an hour to designing a paper robot in an afternoon to designing web pages and other interactive experiences. Each exercise includes compelling visual solutions from other designers and background stories to help you increase your capacity to innovate. This book also includes useful brainstorming techniques and wisdom from some of today’s top designers. By road-testing these techniques as you attempt each challenge, you’ll find new and more effective ways to solve tough design problems and bring your solutions to vibrant life.

**Book Information**

Paperback: 256 pages  
Publisher: HOW Books; 3025th edition (November 24, 2010)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 1600617972  
Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.6 x 10 inches  
Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (120 customer reviews)  
Best Sellers Rank: #13445 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 in Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling > Creativity & Genius #59 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Techniques  

**Customer Reviews**

I’ve been around for awhile, and have stacks of books claiming to spark design skills and creative thinking. Most end up in the back corner of the shelf, never living up to their promise. I’m impressed, and happy to say this book is a different breed. 1) It’s a beautiful book. There is design love and care on every page. 2) It’s designed for reading and use. It’s not a coffee-table book or pretty play thing. 3) There’s a free teacher’s guide, [...] to help instructors and managers use the book. 4) The inspirations aren’t just in the book’s design (a common failing in design books), but the stories, and challenging exercises even experienced designers can benefit from. It’s an easy book to use for team challenges, offsites and to teach old dogs some new things. 5) It includes exercises from a
wide range of kinds of design, which is fun and challenging. Some are print based, others are interactive, or involve urban wayfinding, advertising, web apps, dishware, clothing, you name it. It fulfills the idea of forcing you to stretch your creative muscles. Highly recommended for people who want to learn by making, and who have some design experience but want to grow and stretch their creative abilities.

This book is simply amazing! It is well written and the instructions are clear for every workshop. It gives you examples to compare what you have done and to improve. It also let you choose what tools or materials to use for your designs, in my case I used Illustrator and Photoshop but the instructions are so simple you can even use paper and crayons!! And above all this, the challenges are actually fun to do! :D

I have found this book to be an inspiration both in terms of idea generation and design output. This book would be invaluable to a studio wishing to experiment with design ideas to showcase their clients. I intend to work through these challenges and am confident my design and thought process will improve because of it!

*I am only reviewing for its format, NOT CONTENT* This kindle version is not optimized for iPad version. Some exercises require you to read text on images but it was impossible to read any text without with low resolution images.

It’s jam packed with exercises reminiscent of those college days only with more. The samples are interesting, the exercises concise and very clear. You take away what ever you put into this book and if you approach it that way, it’s sure to reward you. Keep in mind that this is for a self disciplined person because it does you no good to "read-ahead" toward the next exercise. This book teaches you how to think faster and with restrictions (what you encounter in the real world). The only suggestion to the author, include a chapter on how to specifically generate / concept ideas.

I’m a graphic design student and I recently gave this as a gift to a friend of mine who is graduating. She almost didn’t get it because I wanted to keep it for myself! Very cool book, lots of fun ways to get your creative juices flowing. I’d highly recommend it for other graphic designers.

It’s an amazing book that doesn’t teach but helps to start to think as designer. Every new challenge
trains the brain to solve easy any new problem. Sort of 'must have' books!

Creative Workshop is a good book to learn design. Furthermore, it has challenges to teach student designers. The 80 challenges not only get the design juices, but the creative juices flowing. This book is a well-designed design book. It is well crafted and shows progression from one challenge to the next challenge. Content: 4 out of 5 The challenges are great lessons to hone design skills. The teacher's guide actually is useful for teaching. The organization of the book is an excellent design example. The only tool that I wished the book contained was "best" solutions for the design challenges. It is even useful to budding and novice designers. It also presents challenges for master designers. Readability: 5 out of 5 This book is easy to understand. I recommend it to creatives in a variety of fields.

Download to continue reading...

Work a Room, Own a Conversation, and be Instantly Likeable...Even Introverts! (Communication Skills, Small Talk, People Skills Mastery) Leadership: Become A Super Leader - Management, Management Skills, Communication & Coaching (Business Skills, Influence, Persuasion, Body Language, Leadership Skills, Emotional Intelligence)