

(Free and download) The Toaster Project: Or A Heroic Attempt to Build a Simple Electric Appliance from Scratch

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Von Thomas Thwaites
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Von Thomas Thwaites : **The Toaster Project: Or A Heroic Attempt to Build a Simple Electric Appliance from Scratch** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Toaster Project: Or A Heroic Attempt to Build a Simple Electric Appliance from Scratch:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ich wrde

diesem Buch auch 6 Sterne geben. Von eyefish Oberflächlich gesehen geht es um den verwegenen Versuch, ein einfaches, in jedem britischen Haushalt verwendetes elektrisches Gert - einen Toaster - aus seinen Ursprungsmaterialien (Rohstoffen) neu herzustellen. Dieses zunächst naiv bis absurd erscheinende Unterfangen wird aber mit aller Konsequenz angegangen und sehr unterhaltsam beschrieben. Der Autor schaut sich beim abwechselnden Gelingen und Scheitern humorvoll selbst über die Schulter und kommt - ganz nebenbei(?) - zu grundsätzlichen Erkenntnissen über unser heutiges Herstellungs- u. Wirtschaftssystem. Der Leser wird unterdessen durch zahlreiche Abb. eng in das Unternehmen eingebunden. Am Ende steht tatsächlich ein "fertiger" Toaster (na ja) und die Einsicht, dass die Lösung unserer Probleme mit Sicherheit nicht in der Vergangenheit liegt. Und der Appell, die Kosten unserer unterbezahlten Konsumgüter nicht von anderen (mit-)tragen zu lassen. Alles ohne erhobenen Zeigefinger sondern feinsinnig/humorig im Stil eines Entdeckungsberichts geschrieben. Daher auch sehr für jüngere Leser geeignet. Die englische Sprache? Kein wirkliches Hindernis!

Kurzbeschreibung "Hello, my name is Thomas Thwaites, and I have made a toaster." So begins The Toaster Project, the author's nine-month-long journey from his local appliance store to remote mines in the UK to his mother's backyard, where he creates a crude foundry. Along the way, he learns that an ordinary toaster is made up of 404 separate parts, that the best way to smelt metal at home is by using a method found in a fifteenth-century treatise, and that plastic is almost impossible to make from scratch. In the end, Thwaites's homemade toaster a haunting and strangely beautiful object cost 250 times more than the toaster he bought at the store and involved close to two thousand miles of travel to some of Britain's remotest locations. The Toaster Project may seem foolish, even insane. Yet, Thwaites's quixotic tale, told with self-deprecating wit, helps us reflect on the costs and perils of our cheap consumer culture, and in so doing reveals much about the organization of the modern world. Pressestimmen "It's fun, and you'll get a little smarter, and maybe you'll appreciate our ancestors and their smarts a little more." -- Science 2.0 "Incredibly entertaining and well-written." -- International Sculpture Center blog "As befits the project, the book is hilarious. I never thought reading about iron smelting and descents into mines would be so engrossing." -- We Make Money Not Art "Funny and thoughtful" -- the Boston Globe "At once a charming manifesto for the maker movement and a poetic reflection on consumerism's downfall, The Toaster Project is a story of reacquainting ourselves with the origins of our stuff, part Moby-Duck, part The Story of Stuff, part something else made entirely from scratch." -- Brain Pickings "I particularly admired his can-do attitude and loved his heroic ignorance-is-bliss abuse of a microwave oven." - Electronics Weekly.com "If you are looking for good books on interior design theory, the pickings are quite slim. Lois Weinthal's massive 648-page reader redresses this with a carefully curated collection of 48 essays, with texts by Wim Wenders, Le Corbusier, Beatriz Colomina, and (my favorite) Juhani Pallasmaa. While there is an almost too heavy reliance on essays from the field of architecture (and you can't really blame Weinthal for that), she divides the book into eight chapters, pulling from many fields: fashion, philosophy, film, and art." - Paul Makovsky, Designers Books "This fascinating book follows the adventures of Thomas Thwaites as he attempts to build a toaster from scratch. He molds his own plastic, extrudes his own nickel-chromium wire, and refines iron ore to build the frame. It's an entertaining and well-written book, and I love how Thwaites embraces failure as a part of the story, which is a reality for many "maker" style projects" -- Wired.com "Thomas Thwaites has turned toast into a philosophical inquiry." -- The Rumpus.net "Easily my favorite book this year, The Toaster Project should be required reading for artists, designers, consumers and anyone who has ever bought or thrown away a toaster. Thomas Thwaites, a graduate student at London's Royal College of Art, sets out to build a toaster from scratch -- not just an object that toasts bread, but one that aesthetically and mechanically replicates the ubiquitous \$6 drugstore toaster.... Thwaites is a laugh-out-loud-funny but thoughtful guide through his own adventures, touching provocatively on ideas as far-ranging as medieval metallurgy, sustainability, mass production, and our 'throwaway' consumer culture. You'll buy it as a gift for the title and the concept, but you'll end up keeping it for yourself once you crack the cover -- so take my advice and buy two." -- NPR.org "The Toaster Project raises fascinating questions.... Thwaites's eagerness to learn and his determination to see the project through--not to mention the author's engaging writing and the novelty of the project--makes this book a winner." -- Make online "My new hero is Thomas Thwaites, who built a toaster from scratch in nine months, and wrote a delightful yet weighty little book called The Toaster Project about the process.... The completed toaster looks more like 'what happened?' than a finished product. But Thwaites is an inspiring maker, as he embraces his failures, recalibrates the 'rules' as necessary (using a high-tech piece of machinery like a microwave, for example, was not part of the original plan), and sees the project through to the end." -- San Jose Mercury News "One of the most exciting books to come across my desk in the last while.... A hilarious, wonderfully wrought account of how hard it is to really make anything from scratch, much less an electronic device." -- Aaron Britt, Dwell.com

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