

Forbidden LEGO: Build the Models Your Parents Warned You Against!

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Ulrik Pilegaard, Mike Dooley : Forbidden LEGO: Build the Models Your Parents Warned You Against! before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forbidden LEGO: Build the Models Your Parents Warned You Against!:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great models, frustrating instructions, prepare for an online scavenger hunt to find the parts
By John W. I have a love/hate relationship with this book. THE GOOD:- The models are fantastic. Each one does exactly what it purports to do, and does it well. My son and I have completed all but one model, and each time we've finished it was with an enthusiastic "COOOOL!!" It's easy to see why Lego would never approve these designs: half of them launch objects with considerable force. When calibrated, the catapult could fire multiple plastic balls hard enough to smack into our ceiling. Make sure you tell young'uns not to shoot them at each other! THE BAD:- The instructions are riddled with errors and omissions. It's as though the author tweaked his designs

between drafts but didn't bother to update more than just the "completed" photo. It'll take a sharp eye to catch the mistakes; I've scribbled notes into the margins so that we don't have to puzzle over them the next time around. Deconstructing the models did give us an opportunity to improve certain aspects of it, though. We were able to make the trigger on the airplane launcher much better than in the book, for instance.- You'll have to scavenge or order the parts. You'll need multiples of a lot of different pieces, and many are obscure or out-of-print, forcing you to order them through third party vendors. Unless you have a giant library of Technic parts, this will indirectly inflate the cost of the book. In fact, there is such a variety of parts that you'll need to order from several different vendors - no one will have them all. AND there is no Master parts list (only individual ones for the models), so it's difficult to tell how many of each piece you'll need to make all of the models. One list might say you need 5x of something, but another will say you need 8x. You have to be careful not to just order 5.- There are NO PART NUMBERS. We've done some Technic kits in the past, but we don't have the part names or catalog numbers memorized. So if you're ordering pieces (which you will be), you have to figure out what they're called based solely on the pictures so that you can order them online. Not so bad for common pieces, but some are really obscure like the polarity reverser thing. It took forever to figure out some of them. Incidentally, I now have a complete list of parts, so I could be persuaded to share it for political favors or concert tickets. ;-)

Overall this has been a great project for us. During the weeks of research and ordering I kept thinking "This better be *\$ing worth it!" Ultimately it was, but it takes a serious commitment to get there.14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Get creative and have a blastBy Philip H. LeeWhat an awesome, fun book! My 9-yr old son and I are having a blast creating all the cool models. The instructions are clear and as good as any official lego kit, while the text is funny and informative.Included is some behind the scenes information on the inner workings at Lego, and how the design process operates there. Interesting reading for all ages.The book has also inspired my son to build other creations of his own design. A great way to watch less TV and video games, and get the creative juices flowing.Any fan of the Lego Technic line would enjoy this book. But be forewarned, unless you have a stockpile of technic parts, you will be buying more Lego sets and pieces to complete all the cool models. But it's not that bad, and well worth the effort.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great for the whole familyBy Charlee R SnowI got one of these at Christmas for my grandson about a year and a half ago. My daughter reports that her husband and the rest of her crew like it as well. She then told me about one of their family night activities: Pick a project and gather enough Lego pieces to make more than one. Then build the project as a family and spend the rest of the evening playing together.I only recommend this book to people who are younger than 120 and have an adventurous spirit.

It just may be impossible to exhaust the creative potential of LEGO bricks. With an active imagination as your guide, there are endless possibilities provided you follow the LEGO Company's official (and sensible) rules. This means no cutting or tampering with bricks, creating models that shoot unapproved projectiles, or using non-standard parts with any LEGO product. After all, those little precision-molded ABS bricks can be dangerous on the wrong hands! Well, toss those rules out the window. Forbidden LEGO introduces you to the type of free-style building that LEGO's master builders do for fun in the back room. Using LEGO bricks in combination with common household materials (from rubber bands and glue to plastic spoons and ping-pong balls) along with some very unorthodox building techniques, you'll learn to create working models that LEGO would never endorse. Try your hand at a toy gun that shoots LEGO plates, a candy catapult, a high voltage LEGO vehicle, a continuous-fire ping-pong ball launcher, and other useless but incredibly fun inventions. Once you get into the spirit, you'll want to try inventing your own rule-breaking models. Forbidden Lego's authors share tips and tricks that will inspire you and help you turn your visions into reality. Nothing's against the rules in this book!

"LEGOs they're not just for good kids anymore." FOX News "Forbidden LEGO is full of dangerous projects which break the LEGO house rules...In fact, breaking rules and folding non-lego objects into the mix are so important that each project has a "LEGO Rules Broken" list. Rebel-tastic!" Wired About the Author Ulrik Pilegaard was a Senior Designer and Studio Manager for LEGO MINDSTORMS in Denmark and San Francisco, where he worked on projects for LEGO Technic in collaboration with the Media Lab at MIT and designed multiple models for LEGO MINDSTORMS (including R2D2). After LEGO, Pilegaard held the position of Manager of Design at Evolution Robotics, where he helped develop state-of-the-art robotics solutions. Since 2004, he has worked for Energy Innovations as a senior product designer. Mike Dooley worked as the Senior Product Manager for the original LEGO MINDSTORMS and was later promoted to Director of Development. Dooley is currently Vice President for Product and Business Development at Evolution Robotics, which focuses on next-generation technologies for consumer robotics.