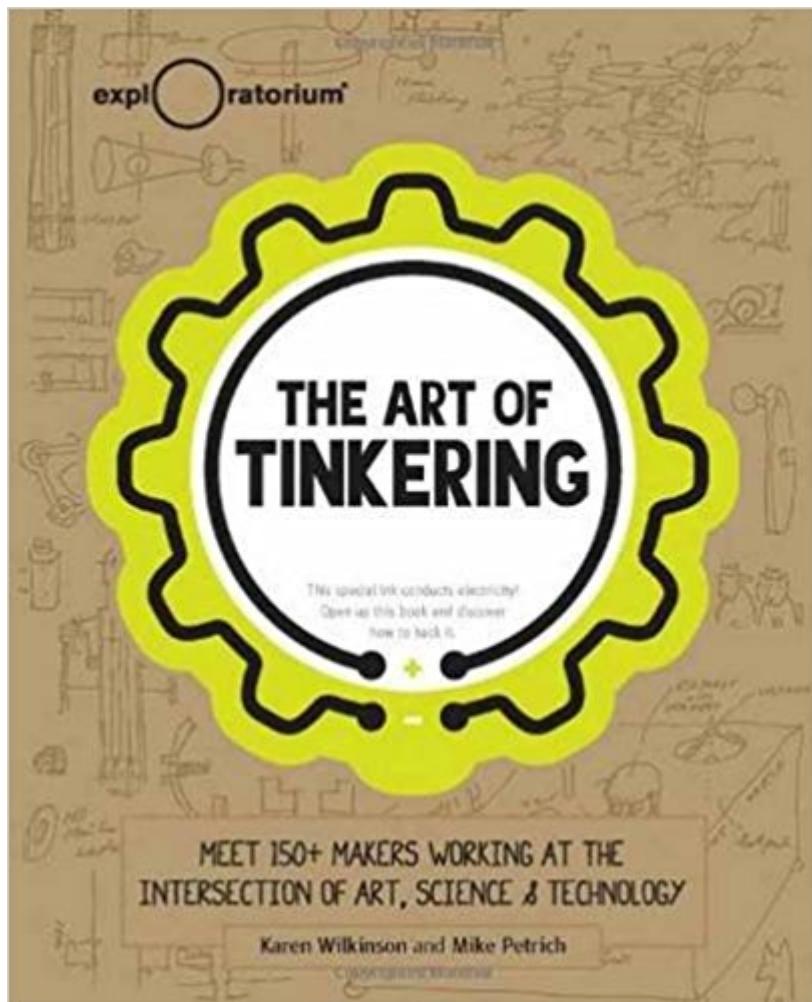


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The Art Of Tinkering



Synopsis

This Is Not Your Average Art Book. Brought to you by the Exploratorium's Tinkering Studio, *The Art of Tinkering* is an unprecedented celebration of what it means to tinker: to take things apart, explore tools and materials, and build wondrous, wild art that's part science and part technology. Join 150+ makers as they share the stories behind their beautiful and bold work and use this book to do some tinkering yourself. We do mean "use this book" in a literal sense—you won't even be able to reach the first page before using it. *The Art of Tinkering* is a collection of exhibits, artwork, and projects that celebrate a whole new way to learn, in which people create their own knowledge through making and doing, working with readily available materials, getting their hands dirty, collaborating with others, problem-solving in the most fun sense of the word, and, yes, oftentimes failing and bouncing back from getting stuck. Each artist featured in *The Art of Tinkering* goes through this process, and lovingly shares the backstory behind their own work so that readers can feel invited to join in on the whimsy. Whether it's sharing their favorite tools (who knew toenail clippers could be so handy?) or offering a glimpse of their workspaces (you'd be amazed how many electronics tools you can pack into one pantry!), the stories, lessons, and tips in *The Art of Tinkering* offer a fascinating portrait of today's maker scene. Artists include: Learn from greats like Scott Weaver, Arthur Ganson, Moxie, Tim Hunkin, AnnMarie Thomas, Ranjit Bhatnagar and Jie Qi.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The book showcases 150+ makers working at the intersection of art, science and technology and captures that infectious maker spirit I so deeply love. Inside you'll not only find profiles of important makers but also how you can start tinkering around and explore making things from soft circuits, wire art, puppets, mark-making machines, fused fashion and more." (Coquette)"If you know someone who loves making or Maker Faire or the Exploratorium or just the delightful little moments of everyday life, make sure this book makes it into their hands. And don't forget to top your gift with an LED and a 9v battery, so that your happy recipient can tinker right away with the conductive ink on the cover." (Make Magazine)"What an incredible book! At every page, the "making" parts of my brain are activated and I'm compelled into the shop to try versions of the suggested projects. I wish, WISH that this book existed when I was young. Hell, I wish I had it when my kids were younger. A must-read for every maker!" (Adam Savage, "Mythbusters")"I absolutely fell in love with all the geniuses in the Tinkering Studio. I may contract some of them to build me a home inside the museum so I can live there and learn forever!" (Reggie Watts, comedian)

As codirectors of the Tinkering Studio, Karen Wilkinson and Mike Petrich see their roles at the Exploratorium as advocates for making as a way of knowing. They believe deeply in studio pedagogy and the ability that we all have to think with our hands, and are curious about how people develop personal and unique understandings of the world for themselves. As undergraduates, both attended the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, where Mike studied fine arts, filmmaking, and photography and Karen focused on environmental design. Before coming to the Exploratorium, they pursued graduate studies in education and technology at Harvard and MIT. Today, after more than twenty years working as a team to integrate science, art, and technology into curriculum for both in-school and out-of-school learning environments, they foster and facilitate informal learning spaces for making and tinkering, offering people a chance to connect to their own learning in a deeply personal way. They've worked with audiences as diverse as museum visitors, primary school students, Tibetan monks, prison inmates, and graduate school researchers, and are both happy to call the Tinkering Studio home, where they are able to work with a delightfully quirky group of artists, educators, and innovators. The Exploratorium—San Francisco's renowned museum of science, art, and human perception—is dedicated to changing the way the world learns. Within the Exploratorium, the Tinkering Studio is a workshop in which science and technology become powerful tools for personal expression, and where visitors gather to participate in hands-on, mind-expanding activities and demonstrations.

WoW! As a middle school art teacher looking to incorporate "STEM" into my classroom, this is the book for me. Profiles individuals that are learning by play. If you love the Exploratorium site on the internet, you will love this book. My students went crazy when I brought it to class!

I love this stuff. Some of the projects assume you as a maker know more than you (I) know about what goes into them. But, for the most part it is a fun, fun book. How cool, too, that you can use the cover as a battery-powered doohickey.

Very inspirational way to explore thinking about objects differently. Many of the artists' creations are fabulous but I have no idea how to start one like it on my own, so that would have been a helpful addition.

The Art of Tinkering describes a playful world of invention and making. In part about material properties and emerging technologies, the book also looks over the shoulder of tinkerers as they deconstruct, reimagine, and invent with whimsy and purpose. It is my favorite type of book where each turn of the page makes me want to head to the workshop. Bravo to Ms. Wilkinson, Mr. Petrich and the Tinkering Studio!

When I saw this book, I thought it was about, well, tinkering. Pages of projects to construct and tinker with--especially because you can use the cover and a 9 volt battery to light up an LED bulb. But that's not what it's about. It's a book about the Tinkering Studio in the Exploratorium, plus bios of a number of people who have created interesting "stuff" by tinkering. That bulb-lighting cover is the only thing the reader gets instructions for. I think I'll probably donate it to our local public library. Nothing wrong with the book itself, it just wasn't what I thought I was buying.

If you are in need of inspiration for tech-inspired projects in the classroom, formal or informal, this is the book to get. Such a wonderful layout and colorful, helpful photographs. Beautifully done.

This was a gift for my 12 year old grandson for Christmas. He is a bookworm and I like to find non-fiction books for him that will hook his imagination. This book certainly does that. He loved it!

This book is a wonderful introduction to the practice of tinkering! It is well-organized by project/material themes and does a good job of highlighting various levels of "tinkering

sophistication" -- you get to see expert-level masterpieces as well as beginner projects. Most of all, the book captures the dual science-arts nature of tinkering in a creative and enthusiastic manner. I can't recommend this book enough.

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