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Things Come Apart: A Teardown Manual For Modern Living



Synopsis

Inspiring and unique photographs capture mechanical and electronic objects of past and present in a dismantled, meticulously arranged form. Welcome to Todd McLellan's unique photographic vision of the material world: fifty design classics are arranged first by size and then by intricacy. They are beautifully displayed, piece by piece, exploding in midair and dissected in real-time, frame-by-frame video stills. This book makes visible the inner workings of some of the world's most iconic designs. From SLR camera to mantel clock to espresso machine, from iPad to bicycle to grand piano, every single component of each object is revealed. These disassembled objects show that even the most intricate of modern technologies can be broken down and understood, while beautifully illustrating the quality and elegance of older designs. Stunning photography is interspersed with essays by notable figures from the worlds of restoration, DIY, and design innovation who discuss historical examples of teardowns, disassembly, and reverse-engineering. Each photograph is itself a work of art and offers a reinterpretation of our familiar world. They connect people with the child-like joy of taking something apart to see how it works and will appeal to anyone with a curiosity about the material world. 181 color illustrations

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A new book full of gorgeous and meticulously organized photographs of old school and modern tech broken down and laid bare." - The Huffington Post "The photos are

enjoyable as pure eye candy, but they also illustrate the history of modern manufacturing. - [Wired.com](#) McLellan's photographs seek to challenge our disposable culture by making transparent all the things that we regularly throw away. - [NPR Picture Show](#) A geeky adoration of design, disassembly, and tinkering. - [Publishers Weekly](#) . . . 50 disassembled classics of mechanical and electronic design, with the components first arrayed in formal order and then in midair freefall. - [The New York Times Book Review](#) Fifty objects and 21,959 components later, Mr. McLellan is still disassembling objects. - [Florida Weekly](#) This fascinating book showcases unique photos of 50 design classics in a dismantled, meticulously rearranged form - including an iPad, grand piano and an espresso machine. - [FrontiersLA.com](#) Truly unique. - [Woman Around Town](#)

Todd McLellan is a Toronto-based photographer who specializes in automotive, commercial, and conceptual work.

What: This is my first ever Review. **Why:** I purchased this book because I don't believe 20x200 is coming back online any time soon and I needed some Todd McLellan in my life. His work is wonderful, so I suggest you get his book too - and maybe a second one for a friend that you really like. **Where:** This book lives open on a vintage shop desk in my house. Every couple of days I turn the page to enjoy another creative composition. It's a bound work of art - so it deserves to be displayed and not shelved. **Who:** You will like this book too if you enjoy picture books, tinkering, sculpture, science fairs, art, photography, the creative process or are old enough to identify most of the products photographed. **How:** Since I am an adult, I bought this book on with my own money. **When:** I pre-ordered this book because I knew it would be awesome, and I was right. Seriously - buy it now - what are you waiting for?

This book is a wonderful unique coffee table book for a wide range of ages and personalities. Very interesting to flip through and makes a killer Christmas gift for someone you know either very well or an office coworker. I got this for my grandmother last Christmas and she actually referenced it to find out where the sim card is located in her cell phone! So cute

THIS IS AN AMAZING BOOK! My 6-year-old son and 3-year-old daughter spend so much time looking through the book! They try to guess what it is, then look at the caption to figure it out. They

try to identify the parts they know and try to figure out how they would put everything back together.

There's really not much to learn in this book but it's a god send for those who loved to take things apart and tinker as a kid. I would definitely recommend as a coffee table book.

This is a very neat book, from grand pianos to ipads disassembled. It's really great to see how everything, literally, comes apart. This book made a great gift, and it was definitely a hit amongst people with a broad range of interests. I would see this book as a great centerpiece for a coffee table, and a perfect conversation starter.

Stunning photos! Very creative concept!

I got this book for my brother for Christmas. He is a civil engineer and has always taken broken stuff apart just b/c he could. I seen this book on YouTube and thought it would be perfect for him. After getting it in the mail I had to browse a few pages of course. It is a wonderful book. Lots of awesome pictures. It is very well put together. His kids (ages 3,7,8) also enjoy looking at the book. I would highly suggest this book for anybody that is interested in how things work or loves taking things apart.

This was a well received Christmas present. my only issue was that the book was slightly damaged as a result of shipping. The box this book came in was a little beat up and the book itself was partially dented as a result.

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