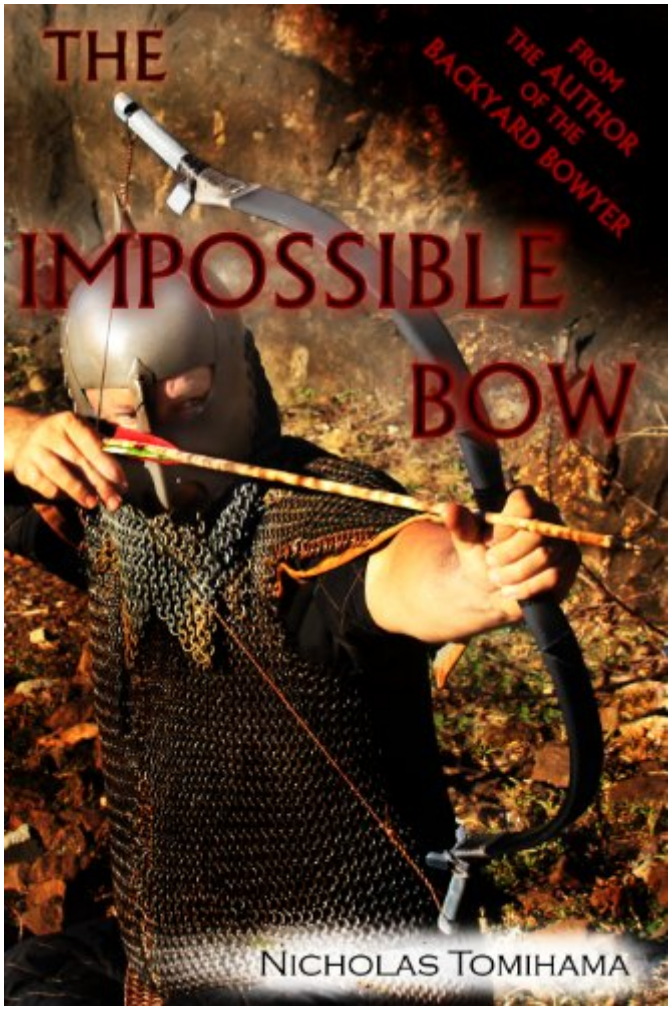
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The Impossible Bow: Building Archery Bows With PVC Pipe



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Synopsis

Archery is almost as old as mankind itself, manifesting in almost every culture and on almost every continent. It is in many ways our link to the past and the stepping stone into another age. It is one of the few ancient pastimes that are still relevant today. Yet nowadays, getting into the ancient sport of archery can be daunting for the average person with no experience or previous exposure to the subject. For many, the hefty price tags on modern bows or the seemingly impossible task of building a bow can be a surefire deterrent. Many do not want to pay the price of a decent bow to try their hand at the bow and arrow, simply to see if they enjoy it or not. If only there was a way to make a bow good enough for a beginner without expending or gambling an immense amount of time or money on it. What if you were told that there was such a bow? That hidden in the ground, in the heart of buildings, on the shelves of most hardware stores, and perhaps even in your home, there was a material that made it all possible? Would you believe it? Well it is true, and that material is PVC pipe, the white or gray plastic pipe that can be found virtually everywhere. It is possible with only a minimal investment and an hour of labor to make a fine bow for target archery that performs just as well as bows worth more than ten times as much. A bow that, if given a little more time and effort, can be made into an efficient hunting tool or serious target shooter. The Impossible Bow shows you how to construct your own PVC pipe bow, with bows ranging from the incredibly simple to the incredibly complex. Learn to build simple bows that require a minimum of tools and little time, more complex bows that can be modified to fit the target archer as well as the experienced hunter looking for more of a challenge, and finally a bow that accurately replicates the weapons of war of the steppe nomads. The best part is that even the most complex bow should cost no more than 10 dollars and be completed in a day, yet can hold up to the rigors of daily use. Don’t let anything hold you back from enjoying one of man’s oldest and most noble of sports. Join the backyard archery revolution with your very own bow that will defy everything you know and will baffle anyone who sees it. Join me in building an impossible bow. Author’s Notes: The bows in this book are great for kids of all ages, from the young to the young at heart. Because of the ability of these bows to mimic many historical bow designs, this book is great for re-enactment archery as well as for the target archer. If made well, one design in particular works well for hunting, and can be modified to work just as well as many primitive hunting bows. This book covers how to make the generic PVC pipe bow that has been the mainstay of do-it-yourself archery for some time now, as well as a couple designs which bring out the hidden performance of PVC as a bow material. These bows also work well for survival situations and can be made small and can be kept virtually anywhere out of the sun. In the trunk of a car, in a boat, in a hunting cabin, your basement, your attic, the list goes on and on.

This book goes over how to make smooth shooting bows from 30 to 70 pounds of pull that can perform well if taken care of. While they aren't top performing bows, they can certainly be used for hunting, fishing, and target archery.

Book Information

File Size: 11359 KB

Print Length: 304 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Levi Dream (January 12, 2012)

Publication Date: January 12, 2012

Sold by:Ã Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B006WYP33C

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #435,105 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #60 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Individual Sports > Archery #107 inÃ Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Individual Sports > Archery #412 inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Sports > Outdoors & Nature > Hiking & Camping > Instructional

Customer Reviews

Nicholas Tomihama, the Backyard Bowyer, has opened up a world of fun for my family and I with this simple, easy-to-digest tome. While not the creator of the idea of using PVC for archery, he's certainly refined the process of turning plumbing into bows in a way I never thought possible!YouTube has much of the same information available, as another reviewer mentioned; nevertheless, for under $10 (eBook edition), you really can't go wrong with this. The instructions on YouTube are thorough, but it's often hard to find out exactly where in the video he mentions specific measurements, and so on - here, you're really set up for success from the get go, with no fuss beyond reading the chapter you're interested in. Really, the videos are a great supplement, but that's how I used them - when I wanted to try a different technique for forming, assembling, and so

forth.He doesn’t go into string-making, and for my first few bows, I purchased strings. The bigger difficulty was that suggested string lengths weren’t to be found - I had my wife measure between nocks when I bent the bow to give a brace height of about 5-7 inches. Other than that, there’s no shortage of good information on tap.Of particular interest are the more advanced flattened recurves present, including the "Banded Krait". They’re fast, beautiful when decorated, and... did I mention cheap? I mean, I’ve made a good dozen bows now, spending under a dollar a bow in the form of PVC pipe. The paint probably comes out costing more per unit. But the bottom line is that you’ll have lots of fun, and without spending very much money.I’m truly grateful to the Backyard Bowyer for opening up this world of possibilities! In fact, I already purchased the Dowel Arrow Handbook as well, and it’s a great match.Have fun, and happy bow-crafting!

Nic has allowed us to follow along with him as he walked a path of personal discovery in the modernist creation of the PVC bow. This book is a good introduction to the process, and although some would have you skip to his other, (as in last most recently published), book on the subject, I can tell you that each of his tomes has within them bits and pieces of helpful tips, guides, and answers to just about any situation that may pop up in the building process. In trying to recreate his work, I myself have had the same troubles and issues with the materials, and he almost always has the answer right where it needs to be when "fixing" a mistake or a failure. Add his Youtube videos, and you can be building a bow in a day... I’m making one a day now, and giving them to children who would not have ever had a chance at archery before. The most expensive outlay is still the arrows, but the rest of the equipment can be made from this amazing plastic. Watch, see, learn, and try it yourself! Yes, I bought ALL of his books, and they are great for Scouts to Preppers, Novice to the Experienced. Buy them, enjoy them, and shoot straight....

In just 45 minutes, I built a bow with enough force to take down a deer with PVC I just had around my house. Without this book I never would have been able to type that sentence. That alone is enough reason to give this book five stars. To add to that though, the information is presented in an easy to understand and follow way. However, keep in mind that what you’re making is a weapon not a toy. PVC or not, I’ve launched field arrows through a sheet of plywood with ease. And as with all PVC, it gets brittle as it ages. You have to use newer PVC and eventually discard the older bows or you risk them literally shattering in your hand causing damage to both you and the bow. I recommend this book, but I would also recommend safety glasses.

Well, it so happens that Mr. Tomihama isn't nuts. His PVC bow designs work--very well. The bows made with these designs are as lethal as any bows made from more traditional materials. If our ancestors of centuries past had had access to PVC pipe, I doubt they would have entirely ignored it in preference to the wood, horn, bone and sinew they knew so well; and we would regard PVC pipe as a traditional material for making bows.With detailed instruction and clear pictures Mr. Tomihama walks the reader through the processes of turning a length of PVC pipe into a bow. All will work fine for target practice and small game hunting and some are powerful enough to take large game animals. Make no mistakes on this point: these PVC bows are not toys--they are weapons of deadly potential.

Couldn't believe it so I had to buy the book. I've just recently gotten back into archery and bow hunting and wanted to get into more traditional archery (recurve, long bow). This very talented young man has a number of videos on YouTube which are very instructive but I'm glad I got the book. In the book he gives a lot of information and detail I don't think you'll get on the videos such as information about buying PVC pipe and exact measurements and detailed information and pictures on each bow he instructs you how to build. This review is just about the book since I have yet to build my first bow. I'll have to do an addendum after I do. The book is well written, and very detailed in it's instruction. There are a wide variety of bow styles to chose from, from very simple to a bit more advanced. If you like to shoot but don't have $500-$1000 to spend on a laminated recurve, this is the ticket.

This book is a well written instructional guide for anyone who would like to make fun,inexpensive archery equipment. It provides the reader with enough information and photographs to not only build what is shown but also innovate and create their own unique designs. Theres no " this length/ diameter= fps/draw weight" chart, but using the given dimensions for the included projects and basic arithmetic the reader can quickly increase or decrease the power of their bow. Great book, I used to have a compound bow, but i gave it away in a move, so this book was perfect for me. I now have three beautiful bows (made for less than 25 dollars!).

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