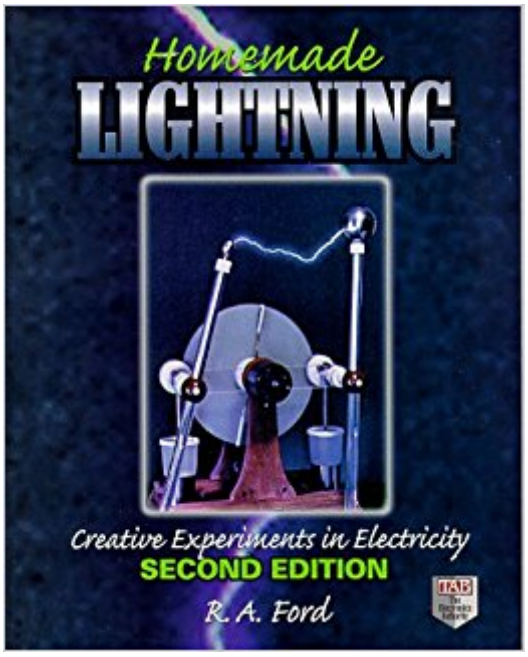
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Homemade Lightning: Creative Experiments In Electricity



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Synopsis

This text on electrostatics for the hobbyist, inventor or experimenter provides information on electrical anomalies, which represent the frontier of electrostatic research. It covers theory, as well as experiments with electrohorticulture, gravitation and electricity, cold light, and electric tornadoes. This edition includes information on electrostatic generators, and complete instructions for building various types, including Wimshurst and Van de Graaf generators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

From January/February 2003 issue Hands-on high-voltage experimentalists interested in electrostatic machines will love this book. Filled with design plans for building electrostatic generators and various high-voltage components, this book provides the necessary details to construct these devices. Like the first two editions, there are detailed plans describing the construction of a Wimhurst machine. This edition however, details a more simplified but larger and improved version than previously described. There is also now an entire chapter devoted to Van de Graff generators describing the principles of operation, construction, modifications for improvement, and making accessories. There are many illustrations and photos describing the construction of these generators as well as methods for making electroscopes, large capacitors, and an electrophorus. There are many tips and tricks revealed that show how to make various parts like high-voltage corona spheres, shorting rods, and terminals. Other topics include electrostatic motors,

cold light, levitation, exploding wire experiments, and historical notes on unusual electric discharges. A revised bibliography and materials supplier list also made in this new edition. Anyone with an interest in high-voltage electrostatics will find this book to be not only a "cookbook" for designing and building high-voltage generators but also an historical account of the Wimhurst and Van de Graff generators.From January/February 2003 issue. . Hands-on high-voltage experimentalists interested in electrostatic machines will love this book. Filled with design plans for building electrostatic generators and various high-voltage components, this book provides the necessary details to construct these devices. Like the first two editions, there are detailed plans describing the construction of a Wimhurst machine. This edition however, details a more simplified but larger and improved version than previously described. There is also now an entire chapter devoted to Van de Graff generators describing the principles of operation, construction, modifications for improvement, and making accessories. There are many illustrations and photos describing the construction of these generators as well as methods for making electroscopes, large capacitors, and an electrophorus. There are many tips and tricks revealed that show how to make various parts like high-voltage corona spheres, shorting rods, and terminals. Other topics include electrostatic motors, cold light, levitation, exploding wire experiments, and historical notes on unusual electric discharges. A revised bibliography and materials supplier list also made in this new edition.. . Anyone with an interest in high-voltage electrostatics will find this book to be not only a "cookbook" for designing and building high-voltage generators but also an historical account of the Wimhurst and Van de Graff generators. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

*****RAVE ONLINE REVIEW!..."Wimshurst Machine and other wonderful information. This is a must-buy book for the electrical experimenter and science/physics educator. Very well-written with unusual and unexpected material. Beautifully illustrated. Great plans for Wimshurst machine to make 14 inch sparks! Kinetic gravity and countergravitation experiments/information and more!""Modern, detailed view of mysterious subject. This is an area of science that seems neglected, hidden in the back room of the ’mad scientist.’ However, this book details both traditional and modern means of obtaining, using, measuring & studying aspects of static electricity... All in all, a very informative, even enjoyable read for anyone interested in high-voltage electrostatics.""An indispensable guide to anyone interested in starting out in electrostatics. It gives a wonderful overview of the principles involved, and takes the reader on a thorough tour of how to go about building both sectorless-Wimshurst and Van de Graaff generators. A must-have for electrostatic enthusiasts."Build a Wimshurst generator or modify your Van de Graaff for creative, hands-on

experiments--explore the wide-open frontiers of electrostatics.Enter the wide-open frontier of high-voltage electrostatics with this fascinating, experiment-filled guide. You'll discover how to make your own equipment, how electricity is used in healing, and the workings of many experiments in high potential physics! Starting with electrostatic basics, R.A. Ford's highly praised Homemade Lightning entertains, instructs, and challenges. It's the only comprehensive electrostatics book packed with useful projects for serious hobbyists, students, inventors, and experimenters!LOADS OF FASCINATING EXPERIMENTS AND ILLUSTRATIONSPerfect for beginning electrical experimentation or advancing an interest in electrostatics, Homemade Lightning takes you through electrostatic generator construction and operation to prepare you for a number of unusual projects. Inside, you'll find a complete description of several types of generators, including the Wimshurst and Van de Graaff, plus specific details for experiments with* Electroscopes* Electrohorticulture* Electroaerodynamics* High-voltage capacitators* Countergravitation* Cold light* Electric tornadoes* And moreFROM THE PAST TO THE FUTUREFeaturing beautiful illustrations from turn-of-the-century science journals of Victorian-era electrostatic generator designs, Homemade Lightning provides hard-to-find information on electrical anomalies--the key to the future of electrostatic research. This is a book that everyone interested in the mystery and power of lighting will treasure. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Rather disappointed in this. Partially because I expected something else, and partially because it goes off the rails into 'everything you know is wrong' pseudoscience. I thought from the limited preview and the description that this would have plans for historical machines. Instead it has plans for a couple of machines of the author's own devising, which are hybrids of several different designs. Historical designs are found only in reprinted articles from old magazines, without much construction detail. Then, towards the end it goes completely off the rails into the author's speculations about antigravity... It's going into the pseudoscience section of the library, next to Velikovsy, Pawlicki, and Casteneda.

Far too complicated; not really a worthwhile accompaniment to the Wimshurst machine.

It's okay but the illustrations are pretty bad. I use to do a lot of technical drawings and even for me that book is not easily understandable.

If you are anything like me and love to build things then this is a book for you. Not only do you get to

play with wood but also you'll be playing with high voltage as well. The book has everything you need to know about building this lighting machine. With a little bit of re-measuring you can scale up or scale down your lightning machine. Excellent writing and easy to understand even for the beginner that wants to know and experiment with high voltage.

This book is a comprehensive yet easy read in this field of Physics/Electricity/Generation of Discharges. It delivers so much more than expected ! As a warning : It may keep you up late at night thinking of experiments to run ...

I choose this rating because this book and many like this one are collector items, in my opinion. This book will help you to further gain understanding a different reality.

Excellent. just what I was looking for. Thanks

Great book. Clear writing with succinct explanations. No wasted words. I am using this book to build from no doubt.

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