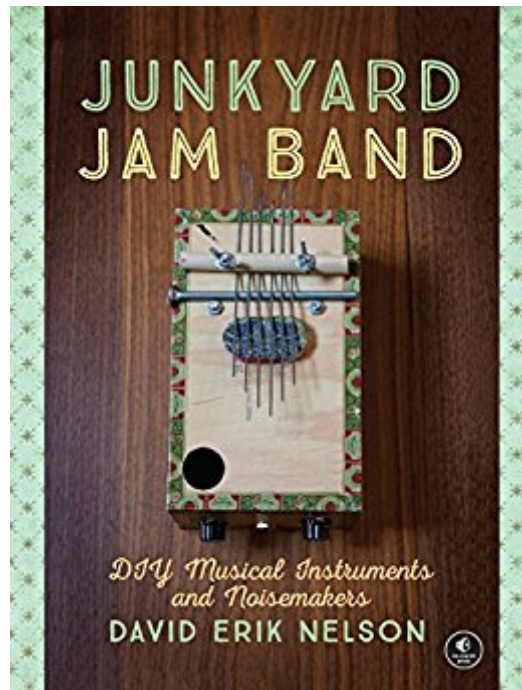




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Junkyard Jam Band: DIY Musical Instruments And Noisemakers



Synopsis

Making music doesn't have to be about dropping big bucks in the guitar shop or endlessly fiddling with expensive software. You can make good noise out of bits of wood and wire, plastic and steel. When you build your own instruments, creating your own sound comes naturally. Junkyard Jam Band is a step-by-step guide to making a full array of complete musical projects—no previous carpentry or electronics experience required. Each build includes tips on how to coax the best sounds out of the instrument and encourages you to mod the project to fit your own style. Learn how to:

- Bust up your old tape decks for a handheld old-skool Scratchbox
- Give your voice a robotic makeover with the Droid Voicebox
- Circuit-bend unsuspecting childhood toys into mutant glitching jazz-punk machines
- Transform cigar boxes into thumb pianos and electric ukuleles
- Build a crackling, multifunction Mud-n-Sizzle Preamp to attach to any electric music machine

Along the way, you'll explore the physics behind wind instruments, discover how harmonics work, and get your feet wet with some music theory. To top it all off, the back of the book includes a soldering primer for total beginners, along with extra circuits to customize your instruments even further. Build your own band your way!

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Customer Reviews

Why Build Your Own Instruments? You get to have something no one else has. No factory is ever going to mass produce an electric ukulele that is also a cowbell, or is built into a deer skull, or includes four kinds of pickups and on-board effects, or doubles as a thumb piano. But you can hit the hardware store this weekend and build it yourself. You get to have something that's precisely what you want. I like little synths with both trigger buttons and hold switches and really raw voices; you might like big synths with built in tremolo and smooth filtered tones. You build it your way, I'll build it mine, and we'll each get just what we want.

Modifying objects modifies your brain. Crack open old toys and mess with their soundboards. Walk around the Salvation Army tink a chopstick against all the old pots and pans to pick out the ones that sing. Broken things aren't broken: they're waiting to be repurposed. A crummy garage-sale guitar isn't a bad guitar; it's a cajon-style drum waiting to happen. Noise isn't noise; it's sound that you're about to mod into music.

The Robo-Tiki Steel-Stringed Ukulele. The Mud-n-Sizzle Preamp. Junkshop Percussion!
The Scratchbox.

I bought Junkyard Jam Band because I've been really interested in learning how to make quality, functional cigar box ukuleles using random items I find around the house and at thrift shops. I must say, when the book came, I was pleasantly surprised at how many other projects were in this book. It even has step by step instructions on how to wire your homemade instruments to be electric (then turn a radio into an amp!) I set the book down and my 15 year old son snatched it up and read it from cover to cover. I would have to say the only thing I might see as a problem for some people is that the book is very wordy. It has plenty of black and white photos, diagrams, and illustrations for reference but its definitely meant to be instructional. Personally, I think it's a great starter for someone who is serious about learning the craft.

Really goox book.

Well written and fun. The projects really work and are just plain awesome. It makes me really happy when someone does the research, figures out how to do it, and then writes down the stuff I wish I had time to figure out for myself.

Great book for making instruments and having a 9yr old understand

Ordered this for my husband for Christmas. He loved it! The projects will keep him busy a long time!

great

Mostly electronic projects

As I opened Junkyard Jam Band, the first thing I thought of was a couple of books I read in the mid-1990s by a man named Craig Anderton. I still have his books covering electronic projects for musicians and do-it-yourself projects for guitarists on my shelf, but they are a bit outdated. The connection is a positive one. I have played guitar for more than 25 years, built my own effects, and even built my own full-on tube amplifier. Junkyard Jam Band is a worthy heir to the maker-musician throne that Anderton's books sat on. David Erik Nelson does a great job of mixing practical and easy projects with inspiring ideas. Here you will learn how to make some instruments in less than 5 minutes, provided you already have all of the tools and have collected the supplies you need. You will also discover some projects that will take longer, but which are useful as building blocks for larger musical ventures. I was thrilled to discover a chapter dedicated to a project that I tried more than 15 years ago, just at random. At the time, I learned that piezo pickups and piezo speakers were very similar, so I bought a \$1.99 piezo speaker from Radio Shack, cut it out of its plastic case, soldered the leads to a guitar plug jack, and mounted it inside a guitar. It worked! I wish I had potted the project at the time, as it was (still is) a bit noisy, but that procedure is covered in Junkyard Jam Band with the use of Plastidip. Cool idea! No more spoilers. If you understood any of the contents of the last three paragraphs, take a look at this book. You may find it as fun and enjoyable as I have. It has also given me some ideas for projects that I must make time for soon.

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DIY Household Hacks for Beginners: DIY Hacks For Cleaning And Organizing, Increased Productivity, Declutter your Home (DIY Home Improvements, DIY Household ... And Organizing, Increase Productivity)
DIY For Men: Woodworking, Ham Radio, Blacksmithing, Homemade Weapons and Even DIY Internet

Connection: (DIY Projects For Home, Woodworking, How To Build A Shed, Blacksmith, DIY Ideas, Natural Crafts) Jungle Jam and Friends: Wild Times in God's Creation (Audio Cassette) (Jungle Jam and Friends Radio Show) Jam Recipes: The Top 50 Most Delicious Jam Recipes (Recipe Top 50's Book 44) I Love Jam (Blue Chair Jam) I Love Music: All About Musical Instruments Then and Now: Music Instruments for Kids (Children's Music Books) Making Gourd Musical Instruments: Over 60 String, Wind & Percussion Instruments & How to Play Them DIY Protein Bars: 30 Delicious and Healthy DIY Protein Bars (diy protein bars, protein bars, high protein snacks) DIY Wood Pallet Projects: 23 Creative Wood Pallet Projects That Are Easy To Make And Sell! (DIY Household Hacks, DIY Projects, Woodworking) Soapmaking, Body Butter & Essential Oils DIY Collection x 9: Soapmaking, Body Butter & Essential Oils Boxset Bundle: Making Soap At Home, DIY Soap Recipes, ... & MUCH MUCH MORE! (DIY Beauty Boxsets) Sound Innovations for Concert Band: Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band - Trombone 1: Chorales and Warm-up Exercises for Tone, Technique and Rhythm (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: B-flat Trumpet 1 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: Trombone 1 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: B-flat Trumpet 2 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: Trombone 2 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: B-flat Clarinet 1 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: B-flat Clarinet 2 (Sound Innovations Series for Band) Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Intermediate Concert Band: E-flat Alto Saxophone 2 (Sound Innovations Series for Band)

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