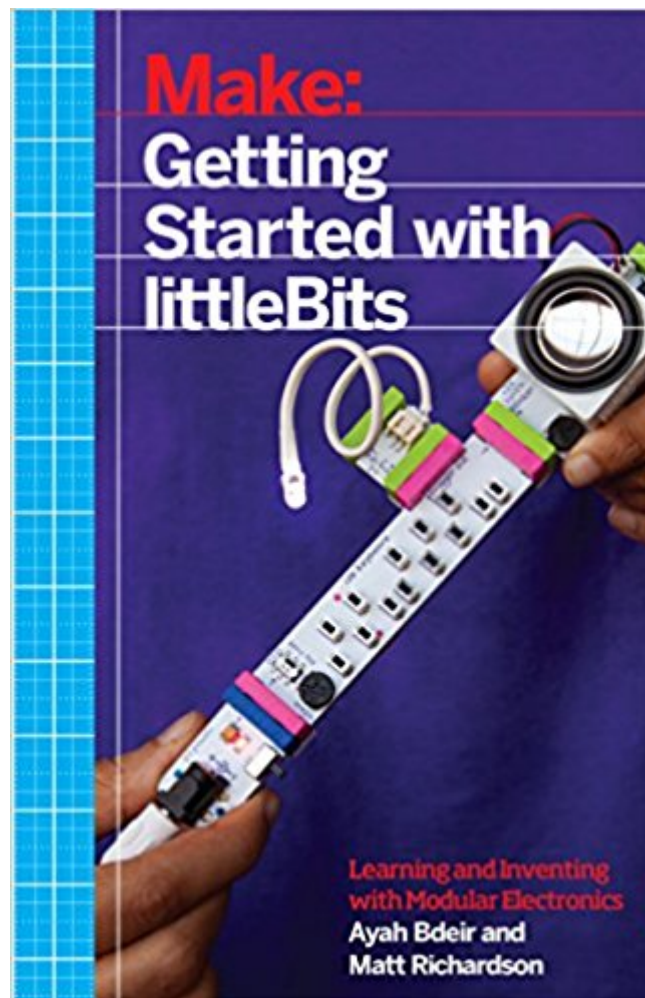




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Getting Started With LittleBits: Prototyping And Inventing With Modular Electronics



Synopsis

littleBits are electronic building blocks with over 60 modules and trillions of combinations. With littleBits, anyone can harness the power of electronics, microcontrollers, and the cloud--regardless of age, gender, technical ability, or educational background. You can combine these simple, snap-together, magnetic bricks to make simple electronic circuits, or build robots and devices that combine sensors, microcontrollers, and cloud connectivity. This book, co-authored by littleBits founder Ayah Bdeir, along with top-selling author Matt Richardson (Getting Started with Raspberry Pi), teaches you just enough electronics to start making things with littleBits and takes you on up through connecting littleBits to the cloud and programming with its Arduino-compatible module.

Book Information

Paperback: 190 pages

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Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (22 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 11 - 17 years

Grade Level: 6 - 12

Customer Reviews

Summary: As a lover of Make Magazine, and a love/semi-hate relationship with littlebits, this book misses the mark. It reiterates everything that has been frustrating about littlebits. Littlebits are for kids, they need kidlike tutorials. Adults don't need a book to point them in the direction of the littlebits website. I reiterate the other reviewer, this is an advertisement for littlebits. Not for someone that currently owns them and is looking for basic knowldege and project tutorials.In Depth: It explains the basics of each module (kind of on a level for 8 year olds, but written more for adults). That is okay, but I assume that they will then give me basic projects. There are less than 10 projects

in the book, none of which are cool, and only half that are basic. After they describe the basic premise of the modules it then shows you a project where you use a laser cutter. Huh? If you don't know how these bits work, you do not own a laser cutter. We own dozens of little bits, and the worst part about little bits is their project tutorials. Kids need to walk through some basic projects, and then use their creativity to make their own. Their website is terrible to search, and the tutorials are even worse. This book points you in the direction of their website for these projects. THERE ARE NO STEP BY STEP TUTORIALS IN THIS BOOK.

Let me start off by saying that when I ordered this book, it was with the intention of giving it to my seven year old son. He is an above average reader, and works with his littleBits CONSTANTLY. My husband is an electrical engineer who has a love of micro controllers, so they play with the littleBits together, too. I figured this would be a god book to keep my son busy this summer. Unfortunately, it has caused quite a bit of frustration. He is certainly capable of reading the book, but it's clear that this is a book that was made for teens to adults, not children. I get that littleBits have practical applications for all ages, but they are still TOYS. You know, FOR KIDS. I'm a little disappointed that this book wasn't aimed a little younger audience. The other frustration thing is that nearly ALL of the projects in the book require parts he doesn't have! So it's essentially a book of ideas that are over his head and a wish list of additional items that we can't afford. I'm sure it's a great book if you're an adult with lots of your own money to spend on the additional components, but for a seven year old, this book is a flop.

I had high hopes for this book and pre-ordered it. It would be a good guide for someone to create curriculum for teaching LittleBits, but there is almost nothing in the book that isn't already available on the LittleBits website. I was hoping for a book full of projects and creative ideas. I was very disappointed.

This book is an advertisement for "little bits" electronics, not much in it but how he built his little bits design

I had high hopes for this book because I didn't realize it was going to be a guide for one product. Once you understand the concept of circuitry, it can be made out of lots of things. In fact, the beginning of this book made me wonder what on earth it had to do with legos. Our ten year old blew through the Elenco snap circuits sets, that seem a lot more sophisticated than littleBits, a long time

ago. I was hoping to be able to build on that knowledge, not repeat it. Looking at the website made littleBits seem a lot more interesting. The directions and the projects on the website are a lot clearer and more interesting.

I am an adult hobbyist and I new to littleBits. I have been building robots most of my life so I know something about electronics. I thought this book might be a great reference to have, but after reading some of the reviews, I wasn't sure what to expect. I wasn't disappointed though, I think this book is great and I refer to it a lot. It goes into a lot of detail about how each of the Bits works and there are lots of examples. I found it especially helpful in setting up the CloudBit from the Smart Home Kit that I had initially purchased. I also purchased the Arduino Coding Kit and again this book was very helpful in getting the Arduino Bit set up. I have never used an Arduino before and the book goes over the basic commands for controlling the inputs and outputs as well as providing example code. I didn't have any problems and have been happily testing out the Arduino Bit to see what it can do. The book seems to be very well written and I would recommend it for anyone young or old who wants to get into littleBits.

Fun book to explore electronics. I got this on a whim wondering what littleBits is. Think of it as a modern "erector set" for the curious. It is part mechanics, electronics and simple programming. I am definitely going to build a killer robot.

I was not happy with this purchase. It was very elementary, and not very informative. A person could open a littleBits package and get more information than this book. Besides how poorly it's written, it's too expensive for what you get.

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