The Big Book of Hacks (Popular Science) - Revised Edition: 264 Amazing DIY Tech Projects

Doug Cantor

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In this reboot of the popular 2012 title, readers will find a collection of the most up-to-date and thrilling DIY tech projects around—straight from the experts at *Popular Science* magazine. Updated with new and more modern projects, the *Big Book of Hacks* the perfect book for aspiring makers, curious young techies and old-school enthusiasts alike … especially any who love using a soldering iron!

Charge up that drill, fire up your soldering iron, and get ready to hack! Starting with a robust introduction to basic yet essential maker skills and followed by four comprehensive chapters of hack projects, this book has everything you'll need.

BASIC MAKER SKILLS From setting up your workspace to using basic hand and power tools to tinkering with robotics, find the top tips and essential skills every maker and maker-in-training needs to be successful. Other skills include 3-D printing, lasercutting, CAD design, and more!

GEEK TOYS Be the life of the party with quirky drinking amusements, amazing pyrotechnics, and robots. Includes projects for installing a shower beer caddy, freezing LEGO ice cubes, wielding a potato launcher, building an LED-light dance floor, and constructing a light saber, with updates like a sword that detects free Wi-Fi, a solar-powered rover that really goes, a replica of a Roman catapult, and more!

HOME IMPROVEMENTS Pimp out your pad with a laser-security system, an improvised sous-vide cooker, a secret door, an aquarium in an old TV, the perfect gaming chair or a life-size cardboard display of anyone you want. New projects include a sensor that lets you control your home's temperature and energy use from afar, an automated pet-feeder, and a light made with pennies!

GADGET UPGRADES Want to use an XBOX 360 controller as a phone case or build a polygraph test? Looking to brighten up a standard flashlight or charge your phone with solar rays? Improvise a fisheye lens for your camera or dye your

laptop? Now you can upgrade many household items without breaking the bank. Look for updated content, such as a hacked radio that lets you listen to meteor showers, your very own DIY particle detector, and a cool soldering stencil.

THINGS THAT GO Give your motorbike a *Tron* vibe or make a unicycle out of an old bike, deck out your car with an action-figure hood ornament or install a bed in your van, upgrade your kayak to a sail boat or take aerial photos with a balloon. Find these mobile projects and more—plus new stuff, like a heart-rate monitor you wear on your sleeve, a bike jacket with flashing turn signals, goggles with prescription lenses, and a bicycle-powered generator!

With its clever tone, step-by-step instructions, and useful diagrams, every project is accessible to people of all ages. Find all the ingenious and hilarious projects that every techie will enjoy, in the upgraded *The Big Book of Hacks*.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Founded in 1872, *Popular Science* is the world's largest science and technology magazine, with 6.7 million readers. Each month, *Popular Science* reports on the intersection of science and everyday life, delivering a new look at the future now. It's the ultimate guide to what's new and what's next. *Popular Science* is one of the oldest continuously published magazines in the United States, and is published in five languages and nine countries. Its web site, popsci.com, has been readers' first stop for up-to-the-minute science news since the site first went live in 1999.

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Tip 232: Hack an Emergency USB Charger

On the lam without your car charger? Splice some wires and be on your way.

STEP 1 Cut the USB end off the cable for your device and strip the insulation. You'll use the black and red wires to connect to the adapter. Twist together the other two wires.

STEP 2 Cut off the end of the cigarette lighter adapter that does not plug into the cigarette lighter. Use the knife to strip the insulation to reveal the black and red wires.

STEP 3 Twist the two red wires together and the two black wires together. Wrap tape around the joints to insulate them.

STEP 4 Plug it in and charge up your phone in the car.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Keisha Kent:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always try and and must have the time or they will get large amount of stress from both day to day life and work. So , if we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not just a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the book you have read will be The Big Book of Hacks (Popular Science) - Revised Edition: 264 Amazing DIY Tech Projects.

Mike Jones:

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Regina Dye:

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