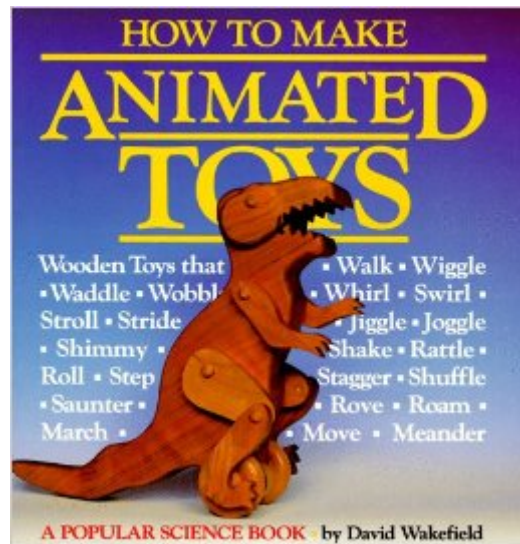


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# How To Make Animated Toys



## Synopsis

Wild, wacky toys that walk, wiggle, waddle, whirl, stagger, shuffle, shake, rattle and roll. Brilliant drawings, superb patterns, exploded diagrams and complete step-by-step instructions spur you on to make a Gallivanting Gorilla, Ornerly Lobster, Sub on the Lookout, Cantankerous Triceratops and 26 other rambling, rambunctious, animated marvels.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Whenever I am looking to make a toy for someone, this book is invariably the first one I always reach for. The plans have heaps of detail and processes for making the toys are very well thought out. These toys are not only animated, but appear to be alive, David has put a lot of effort into making these toys realistic and the movement fun for children (and lots of us not so young). As an added bonus to heaps of great plans, David has gone to great pains to talk about the processes behind designing and building a good toy, this books is worth it for this alone.

Like many scrollers I do craft shows to pay for my hobby. I bought this book as a pattern book to make the puzzles for craft shows. Since I bought it online I did not discover until I received it there was a statement inside the cover explaining you cannot make anything in the book for profit. If you want to make them just for fun it is a great book but many of the projects are very involved so I probably never will invest the time to make them since I usually make one for my son and then extras for craft shows. This book will probably just sit on my shelf and I'll work on other projects I

can make multiples of. I really wish a review like this one was posted when I ordered if I had known I could not use the patterns for craft shows I would not have bought the book.

I've had this book for over a year and used it as the basis for a number of toys I've created. The instructions are clear and concise. The plans are easy to follow and include scaled drawings for each toy. The author also includes a very useful discussion of materials and finishes appropriate for building children's toys and design ideas for building your own animated creations. These sections alone justify the purchase of the book. Be aware that most of the designs in the book are copyrighted and if you wish to build them for commercial purposes you will need to contact the author. My favorite plan is for a very simple to make wooden rattle based on a traditional folk art design (this is not copyrighted). I've built six rattles and presented them as gifts to new parents and have been delighted to see how much infants love to play with them. This is a great source for wooden toy makers.

I bought this book about 25 years ago and still regret giving it away. At that time, I did not own a band saw that worked, jigsaw, drill press, or any kind of sanding equipment. All I had was my Delta Unisaw, several good blades and a Craftsman Molding Cutter Head with a lot of cutters. I still have them today. I certainly did not want to cut patterns like these with a coping saw and scrape and sand away at it until the edges were 90 degrees. That would require a lot of time and elbow grease. Oh, I did own an old three wheel Delta band saw, but I could never get it to work correctly. The blade kept drifting to the right or left. That is when I bought Mark Duginske's book called the "Band Saw Handbook." After working on the saw for some time, I up and finally gave the book away with someone who bought the 3-wheeler saw. Looking back, I think something was wrong with the tilt mechanism on the upper wheel. Now here we are approximately 25 years since I gave it away, with all the equipment I'll ever need. The book, "How to make Animated Toys" is back in my hands again, I'm ready to begin making these toys. I don't know if it is fate, karma, or whatever, but I now have 2 grandchildren. Both of them are boys. Noah, the oldest, he is now 20 months old, and Liam, is barely 3 months old. With the 40 years of woodworking experience I now have, I guess it was not time for me to begin building them. These wooden toys are so well put together, it is going to be hard for my 20 month old to tear it apart and Liam will enjoy the same toys Noah did. They are that well built. If they are to last, these toys have to be built out of the right materials and assembled correctly with the best glue possible. Sincerely, David

I actually bought this toy making book first and then started hoarding as many other toy making books as I could find on . This is by far the best one. The patterns are simple and they look great! They are all animated in some way or another. If you are a beginner woodworker, these are simple enough to follow and should not take more than a weekend to complete. There is a huge variety of toys available in this book and are somewhat gender neutral so the toys will be great for little girls and boys! There is also an infant rattle for the younger little one. The toy wheels and axle pegs can be bought online or at local craft stores. Or you can make your own! The author also has a section on how to make your own mechanical/animated toys. All the toys in the book are great starters to get your creative juices flowing!! Who says you need to make these for a kid, they are pretty fun to play with!!! My living room is hosting a variety of the toys made from the book and my daughter, who is now 16 months, still loves the chomping hippo the most! She can grab it around the top and push it along the living room while it opens/closes its mouth. I think she'll love the lobster as well especially when she is a little older when she starts to play kitchen :).

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