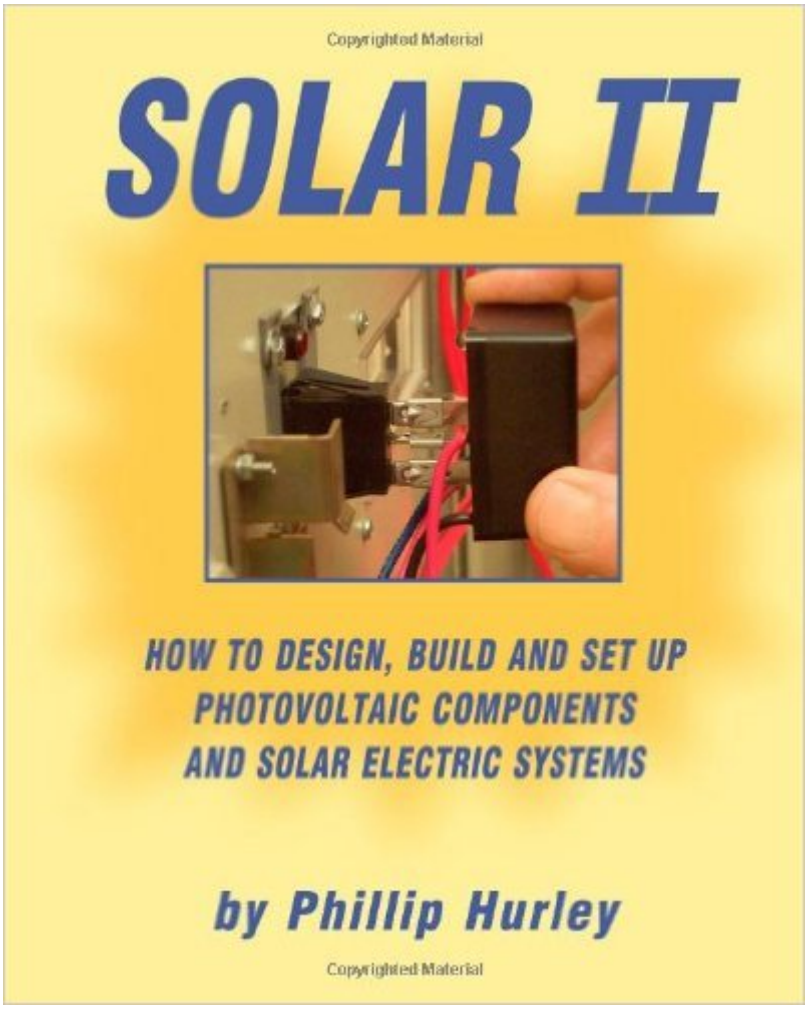
Solar II: How To Design, Build And Set Up Photovoltaic Components And Solar Electric Systems



Synopsis

Now that you've built your solar panels, how do you set up a photovoltaic system and plug in? In Solar II, Phillip Hurley, author of Build Your Own Solar Panel, will show you how to:Calculate daily electrical usage and needs Plan and size your solar electric system Build racks and charge controllers Mount and orient PV panels Wire solar panel arrays Make a ventilated battery box Wire battery arrays for solar panels Install an inverter Maintain solar batteries for optimum life and performance Make your own combiner box, bus bars, and DC and AC service boxes Solar II includes easy-to-follow directions with over 150 black & white photos, illustrations and schematics.

Book Information

Paperback: 194 pages

Publisher: Good Idea Creative Services; 5/16/12 edition (June 15, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0983784736

ISBN-13: 978-0983784739

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (58 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #80,565 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Electrical #78 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production & Extraction #232 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Construction

Customer Reviews

I give this book high marks because it is a very straightforward DIY approach to the details of installing a solar electric system -something hard to find.It should be on the list of anyone who has decided to set up a basic off-the-grid system , but it will be especially handy for anyone actually doing it themselves. Although Hurley goes through all the basics of handling electric components and aims at doing so on a budget, the reader would best be prepared if he/she has some familiarity and a minimum comfort level with the subject.I am a homeowner who has done basic AC wiring.This book gave me a much better backround in electric theory and handling DC. I take off a little for a couple editing mistakes which really can make a difference in a technical subject. However, they are minor and anyone reading with comprehension will not be mislead. I don't plan to build each component myself (for instance, I will buy a charge controller with more sophisticated

features than these instructions cover), but I found the explanation for a simplified and cheaper approach useful in making that choice. As far as the more basic construction questions, Hurley sets the reader free to be creative,but again a certain can-do attitude is best when making your own plans. His general advise on managing and maintaining the system is excellent and he also gives very useful references for suppliers and further reading which are not yet too dated. October, 2014 update. About $8,000 bucks later I have my system up and running. Needless to say I did not install the simple system described in this book. My education continued with much more reading in print and online.The components available now are light years ahead of stuff available even 10 years ago, and prices have kept coming down.

This is actually a great book on how to build solar systems. Its well written and very straighforward. The presentation has a lot to be desired, but its sufficient.The reason I give it 3 stars is due to a huge flaw. If you lack knowledge about electrical components or electricity, this book will be very hard to understand. Its written in a "Just do it" format. Sure, he goes over all the components and what they do, but I feel its not sufficient. For a person like me, and for most people im sure, I need to be shown what EVERYTHING does and why, STEP BY STEP. That way, I wont screw up as electricity is nothing to be playing around with. He even mentions certain precautions to take, so im not sure why he didnt go more into depth. Thats why I bought the book, to learn how and why. The best way I can put it is, if your an electrician, or if you have studied electricity before, you will have an easy time reading this book and building your solar systems. With those skills, a lot will be familiar to you. If you are like me, and have little to no skills about electricity, then this will be a hard book to understand. I have finished the book, but I have to go back and reread all the major parts again. I will try and figure it out.Another big flaw, and I feel this one is even worse than the first one, is the size of the system he deals with in the book. He calls it the Solar II project. It is too large and too complex for a beginner! I assume people buying this book are beginners trying to learn. The system he uses as a starter system is way to much. I expected for him to use a small system as an example. That way the reader can learn by assembling it. If the reader tries to assemble the system in the book, they will run into major problems. Possibly even hurt themselves.

Basics: A Study Guide for the NABCEP Entry Level Exam Visual Developer Developing Custom Delphi 3 Components: Master the Art of Creating Powerful Delphi 3 Software Components Developing Custom Delphi Components: Master the Art of Creating Powerful Delphi Software Components The Renewable Energy Home Handbook: Insulation & energy saving, Living off-grid, Bio-mass heating, Wind turbines, Solar electric PV generation, Solar water heating, Heat pumps, & more Photovoltaic Design and Installation For Dummies Solar Water Heating--Revised & Expanded Edition: A Comprehensive Guide to Solar Water and Space Heating Systems (Mother Earth News Wiser Living Series) The Passive Solar House: Using Solar Design to Heat and Cool Your Home (Real Goods Independent Living Book) The Passive Solar Energy Book: A Complete Guide to Passive Solar Home, Greenhouse and Building Design Large-Scale Solar Power System Design (GreenSource Books): An Engineering Guide for Grid-Connected Solar Power Generation (McGraw-Hill's Greensource) Gasoline Engine Management: Systems and Components (Bosch Professional Automotive Information) Earthship: Systems and Components vol. 2 ELVIS: Pure Gold (Arrangement for Mixed Chorus SATB with Piano, Electric Guitar, Electric Bass and Percussion) Electric Pressure Cooker Cookbook: 25 Best Electric Pressure Cooker Recipes for Busy People The Complete Electric Bass Player - Book 3: Electric Bass Improvisation The Year-Round Solar Greenhouse: How to Design and Build a Net-Zero Energy Greenhouse Solar Cooking for Home & Camp: How to Make and Use a Solar Cooker Solar Wind Nine: Proceedings of the Ninth International Solar Wind Conference: Nantucket, Massachusetts, 5-9 October 1998 (AIP Conference Proceedings / Astronomy and Astrophysics)