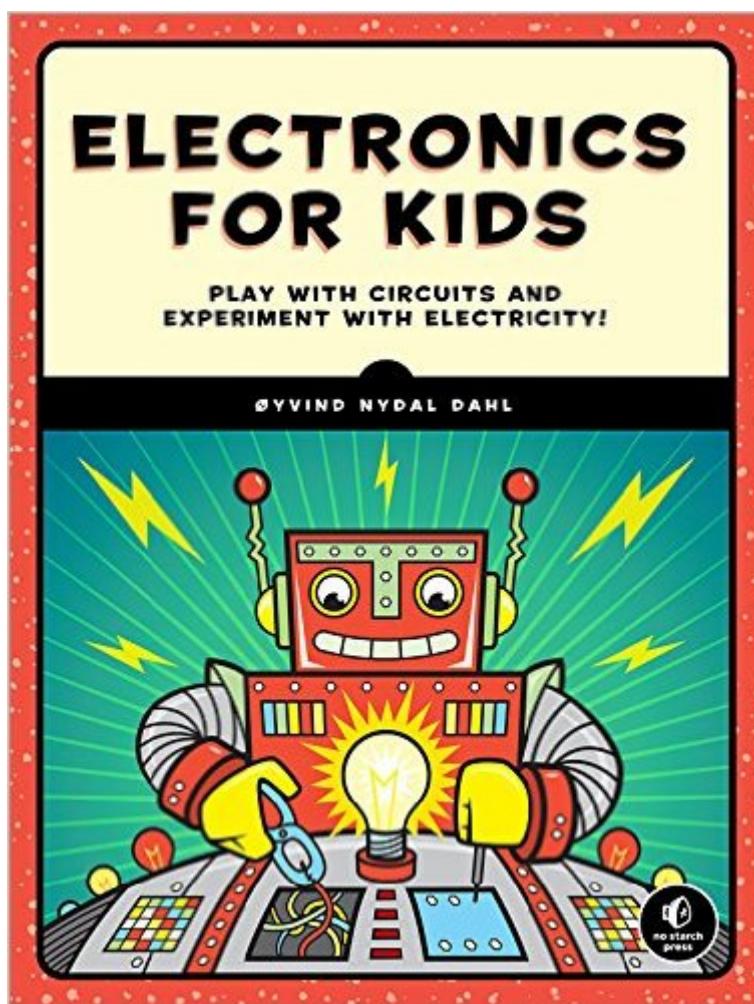


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# Electronics For Kids: Play With Simple Circuits And Experiment With Electricity!



## Synopsis

Why do the lights in a house turn on when you flip a switch? How does a remote-controlled car move? And what makes lights on TVs and microwaves blink? The technology around you may seem like magic, but most of it wouldn't run without electricity. *Electronics for Kids* demystifies electricity with a collection of awesome hands-on projects. In Part 1, you'll learn how current, voltage, and circuits work by making a battery out of a lemon, turning a metal bolt into an electromagnet, and transforming a paper cup and some magnets into a spinning motor. In Part 2, you'll make even more cool stuff as you: Solder a blinking LED circuit with resistors, capacitors, and relays Turn a circuit into a touch sensor using your finger as a resistor Build an alarm clock triggered by the sunrise Create a musical instrument that makes sci-fi sounds Then, in Part 3, you'll learn about digital electronics--things like logic gates and memory circuits--as you make a secret code checker and an electronic coin flipper. Finally, you'll use everything you've learned to make the LED Reaction Game--test your reaction time as you try to catch a blinking light! With its clear explanations and assortment of hands-on projects, *Electronics for Kids* will have you building your own circuits in no time.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

When I was a child, my older brothers got chemistry sets. But after The Great Chemistry Set Spill of

1978, which was quickly followed by the Great Carpet Cleaning of 1978, I could see that a chemistry set would never be mine. So instead, when I got older, I received an electronics set, which ended up "surprisingly" being the most fun gift I'd ever received. Making strobe lights, alarms, and radios turned out to be way more fun than I'd expected (plus, no carpet cleaning). So, I was happy to get this book for my son. It's a great book with really fun electronics projects that anyone could do "who was old enough to use a soldering iron safely (sort of like a hot glue gun). There are helpful photos, clear steps written in a friendly, easy-to-understand style, and specifics on buying the inexpensive parts needed to make each project.

An interesting book with a good beginning that will help children understand the basics of electricity and electronics. The initial chapters explain the concepts involved and then build some simple circuits up to using a transistor as a switch and detecting presence absence of light. It would be good to go out and buy the components necessary to make this fun. The later chapters get pretty complicated and there are almost two books here. The beginning is pretty simple and then it becomes quite complex. Think a younger child would have a hard time with the last chapter.

This book could have been infinitely better with a small packet of parts. This is a great catalog of projects which motivated kids can refer to. The pictures are good and the instructions are great. Each project is explained in a step by step manner with a description of what is happening. However, one thing that I felt was unfortunate was that the book expects the reader to go out and acquire all the parts on his own. It seems like attaching a small box of basic parts (an LED, zinc/copper pins, pre-stripped wires, breadboard, etc) would have gone far to really bootstrap a kid receiving this. As it is, the book is great in what it does, which is provide project ideas and detailed information to support motivated kids. However if it increased its scope just a little bit it could be an enormously useful and fun thing.

Oyvind Nydal Dahl has written a truly great book on electronics intended for young people. It is a delight to read, even for an adult. There are beautiful graphics throughout, and the explanations are clear and appropriate for any age group. I enjoyed the section on magnetism. It has instructions for winding your own electromagnet, powering it up and seeing what it can do. There are sections on multimeters, resistors and numerous other electronic devices. This book is perfect for the kid in your house. Toward the end there is a good section on digital logic and memory circuits. Electronics is the wave of the future and I can't think of a better way to get your young folks involved.

This is not your ordinary Electronics book that gives a series of steps, lists down the components and tells you what happened. It has a systematic approach that can only come from experience. The author builds out the basics first by writing a section that tells us about what electricity is, then moving things with electricity + magnets and finally how to generate electricity. Each of the concepts are explained well and there are projects to try out to understand them clearly. I agree with the author, that if you are looking to make best use of the book, it is important that you go about as per the order of chapters presented in the book. The next 2 parts of the book include ‘Building Circuits’ and ‘The Digital World’. The ‘Building Circuits’ chapter includes projects like playing with LEDs, soldering, Transistors, Potentiometers, 555 Timer and more. I liked the ‘Just do it’ approach in the book which included a project titled Let’s Destroy an LED. I think it is important to do that. The last part of the book goes digital with 0s and 1s, Logic Gates and more. I liked this separation of Analog v/s Digital Projects since it will clearly explain the potential leap in functionality once you bring in the digital stuff. Overall, I strongly recommend this book to everyone who is starting out with electronics. The title says ‘For Kids’ but trust me, it is for Kids aged from 10 to 100. It is extremely helpful to instructors who need to teach these concepts to a younger audience. If there is one book that I would have loved reading in my younger days while learning Electronics, this is the book. But better late than never.

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