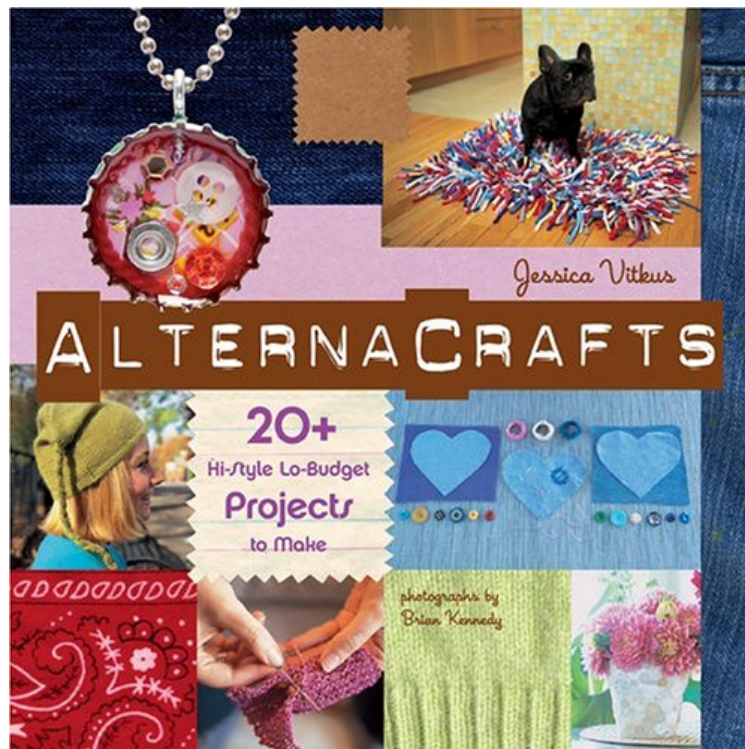



Alternacrafts: 20+ Hi-Style Lo-Budget Projects to Make

Jessica Vitkus

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#1567167 in Books Stewart Tabori Chang 2006-03-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.38 x .75 x 8.751, 1.30 #File Name: 1584794569144 pages | File size: 75.Mb

Jessica Vitkus : Alternacrafts: 20+ Hi-Style Lo-Budget Projects to Make before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alternacrafts: 20+ Hi-Style Lo-Budget Projects to Make:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. some smart, some cute, some low-budget and kinda trashyBy cinephiliagalNow, you can't buy something like this expecting to make high quality home decor and/or jewelry crafts. This is not that book. The subtitle "20+ Hi-Style Lo-Budget Project to Make" is a bit misleading. I don't think anyone would mistake the crafts in this book for "Hi-Style."That being said, there are a lot of nice ideas in here for simple crafts you can do to use stuff you already have, and make some alternative jewelry and home decor that won't break your budget. Hey, it's no worse than the stuff you find at the dollar store... actually, some of it is way better and would last longer.Just don't expect Better Homes and Gardens-type stuff out of it, and you won't be disappointed.(As a BHG reader off and on my entire life, I find BHG often recommends projects and products that are way too costly and overpriced for home decor or room make-overs/renovations. If I had that kind of money, I wouldn't be trying to make it /or do it myself!)0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Neat book - great ideasBy Amber CampbellThis book is full of great ideas that seem relatively easy to make. I got it as a gift for a friend that is very crafty but also environmentally conscios and she loves it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. not very new or creativeBy JeremyThe projects inside were pretty outdated and cheesy. I didn't love this book at all and the title "alternacrafts" is a little misleading. It sounds like a modern, inventive book of crafts, but it's not. The crafts inside are pretty lame and I really didn't find any I would want to do or that I would want to have in my house.

First came indie rock bands and indie movies. Now, thanks to Jessica Vitkus, the indie movement has reached the world of crafts, where traditional techniques such as knitting, mosaic, embroidery, metalwork, sewing, and collage are being used in brave new ways. With an emphasis on recycling, improvising, and making things from scratch, *AlternaCrafts* offers more than 20 projects that provide this newest generation of crafters with the skills they need for the self-expression they crave. Whether they want to turn their beat-up T-shirts into a shaggy rug, an old sweater into a cozy hat, yesterday's newspaper into a bouquet of flowers, or their jeans into a new skirt or bag, this exciting book tells them how to make the transformations with a minimal amount of money and no experience whatsoever. Smartly priced and boldly designed to attract teenagers and twentysomethings, this book will also appeal to older crafters seeking newfangled twists on their favorite pastimes.

From School Library Journal Grade 8 Up-Vitkus has done a good job of creating interesting crafts that can be made out of recycled household items. Teens will appreciate the relatively simple page layout and informal writing style. The ideas are organized into things to wear, projects for the home, and gifts. Old pants are transformed into a purse, and pop-bottle lids become pendants. Some projects, like converting a pair of jeans into a skirt, are quite involved, while others, like pin-prick cards, can be accomplished in a few minutes. Each idea contains clear, step-by-step instructions geared to beginners. Unfamiliar terms are defined in context or in sidebars. Full-color photos show the finished products and the essential steps in the process. Some projects also include diagrams. This is a good choice for crafty teens. However, middle schoolers and preteens may prefer Kathy Cano Murillo's *The Crafty Diva's Lifestyle Makeover* (Watson-Guptill, 2005), which has some of the same basic ideas, but has brighter, busier pages complete with cartoon craft divas. -Donna Cardon, Provo City Library, UT Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Jessica Vitkus is a writer and television producer living in New York City. She has written craft stories and developed craft projects for *Martha Stewart* magazines and television, has worked as a writer/producer for *MTV News*, *Pop-Up Video*, and *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. She is currently supervising producer for *MTV2's Wonder Showzen*. Brian Kennedy is a photographer who has worked for a variety of publications, shooting everything from chocolate connoisseurs to Central American festivals to professional surfers. He lives in New York City.