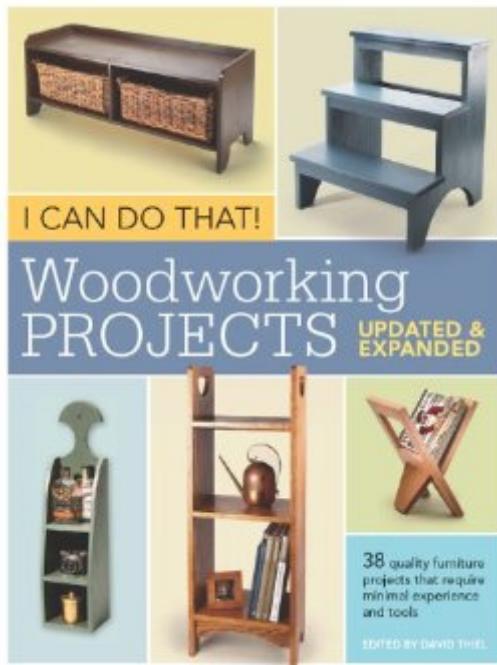


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# I Can Do That! Woodworking Projects - Updated And Expanded



## **Synopsis**

Updated and Expanded! Beginning woodworkers are constantly stymied by the apparent need for thousands of pounds worth of tools to start their hobby. Once they have the tool, they face a learning curve to understand how to use the tool. The next problem is finding wood to build the projects. Not everyone has a lumberyard nearby. This book shows you how to build quality furniture projects that can be completed by any woodworker with a modest (but decent) kit of tools in less than two days of shop time, and using raw materials that are available at any home center. The enclosed tool manual explains all the tools and shows you how to perform the basic operations in a step-by-step format.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

What I liked is that it starts from the assumption that you don't know anything about woodworking (which is not too far off the mark). So it is a very gentle introduction to the tools, then each project includes discussion on the techniques being used. Which is refreshing compared to plans that say do X, and I may not know how to do X. What is very helpful is that it starts out by defining a

minimum tool set, then every plan is based on the fact that you only have that set, so you will not get caught looking at plans that assume you have a equipment that reflected serious investment in money and space in your house. (to find the list, look for the "I can do that" section on the Popular Woodworking website. the "Free, online manual" is the tools chapter of this book.) The plans are basic compared to many woodworking plans available. But this is because it purposely limits the equipment required and the plans are not chosen for the complexity, but as objects to teach techniques on how to use tools (such as how to measure, drill, join, hammer, etc.) and more tricks of the trade. And the authors explain why each technique works and the problems the technique avoids. Which is helpful when you are like me and don't even have the minimal list of tools they list. Highly recommended as a starting point.

Great book with great ideas. To give you an idea about my skill level - I have built most of the furniture in our house using the Kreg jig and basic tools. These projects fit into that paradigm and will take you even farther. My test for whether or not I use the book is that I get at least five projects that are useful and not repeated elsewhere. This book gave me my money's worth and more.

I've been wanting to do some simple DIY wood projects, like picture frames and shelves and eventually want to move on to bigger projects like a picnic table and chairs for my backyard. I also bought blogger Ana White's e-book "The Handbuilt Home" because I love her plans. White's book, however, isn't as detailed as this one is for getting started. I like how this author spends a lot of time talking about the tools you should buy and how to use them. He has a lot of great advice and recommendations for what you should buy. The book is great for people just getting started. On the other hand, I'm not too thrilled with the project plans. Several of the pieces are fairly old fashioned and not my style. I'm a 30-year old woman though so maybe I just don't fit the traditional archetype of "wood worker". That is why I have Ana White's book as well. I would have liked to see a few more step-by-step photos, but he does have several for each project. Reading them on the kindle jumbles the photo order sometimes so I don't see the photo until a few pages after he has written about a certain step.

I have read the book cover to cover and have started several of the projects. Overall it is a good book for beginners with a couple of caveats. As others have mentioned, they need to have more pictures. I would rather have more detailed instructions with fewer projects than simply jamming as many projects in as you can. They also don't always explain the terminology. They assume you

know what a kref is. Well, now I do but I had to look it up. There are other examples along these lines. I also really wish they would provide web support for videos of these projects being made. Sometimes it is difficult to explain how to do tasks in words alone. I've learned a lot from the book though and it is well worth the investment.

This claims to be simple and for beginners requiring "a minimum of tools". This claim is very misleading. While the tasks do not appear too difficult, this book's projects require several hundred dollars of tools most people don't already own. In my case, I already own the basics such as circular and jig saws, router, drill, ect... but these projects also require tools such as a biscuit joiner, miter saw, and pocket hole jig. Those three alone are over \$400. There's a ton of smaller tools and finishing tools and supplies needed as well. Unless you have several hundred dollars to invest in tools and supplies, or for some odd reason own a shop full of pricy tools for no reason, do not bother buying this book.

Projects are simple and pretty functional. I've made 2 projects from the book, but it's more about learning to use the tools, which will help me to move on to other projects. I was already handy with very basic tools, but was a little intimidated by the power tools. I am not a pro yet, but i am getting there. Very basic and good explanation and direction.

As a person that knows nothing when it comes to woodworking this book has some useful information but falls short of really outlining where to start and which tools to buy. They proved a general list of everything you need to get going but if you price it out on you're looking at a grand. Also the vast majority of the projects look like they would go into a home from the 80's. If you're looking for current styles this is not the place to look. Project details also leave a fair amount left to be desired. Expect to search YouTube for none described terms and how to do them. To me the first 50 pages about what tools to buy and what you need versus is on the marketing lables made this book worth the \$12, but I forsee this book being more about general skills/what's possible than actual projects I want in my home.

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