Making It: Manufacturing Techniques for Product Design


This book presents industrial mass-production techniques usable by industrial designers. Research leading to my previous books that explored materials and cross-referencing for different design disciplines provided me with a sound platform, rooted in the materials aspect of a product's production, from which my research could evolve. This book is the outcome of a natural extension to my earlier work, here synthesising the material aspect of design with industrial production revealing their relationship as seamlessly entwined.

The manufactured object is a well-documented subject, however, there is a lack of cohesive, comprehensive treatment of the subject that directly addresses the needs of the working methods of industrial designers. The unique aspect of this book is the distillation and selection of relevant information, combined with an accessible graphic format.

The key focal point of the research was exploring the issue of how, by using a range of types of communication, such as product images, illustrations and on-site photographs, it was possible to communicate the story of a particular production method in a way that was informal but which addressed the intricate relationship between process, material and designed object. How to convey production informatively is traditionally a very uninspiring subject. The information presented in the text was devised to convey key elements of the production process and discuss them with relevance to design. Guides are also provided which allow for cross-referencing of aspects of production. To achieve the outcome required controlled, intensive collaboration with photographer, illustrator and graphic designer to realise my objectives.

Making It appeals not only to product designers but also to interior, furniture, and graphic designers who need access to a range of production methods, as well as to all students of design. This expanded edition includes nine new processes and an all-new section of over 40 finishing techniques. Also, you can read online Making It Manufacturing Techniques For Product Design Fu. Making It Manufacturing Techniques for Product Design, by Chris Lefteri. This looks like a handy resource for anyone looking to take a project to the manufacturing stage. From Core77:

In this digital age, an encyclopaedia seems downright archaic. Especially in the context of modern manufacturing techniques like EBM (‘Electron Beam Machining’), where a beam of electrons bores holes denominated in tens of microns through thin materials—in a vacuum no less, because the electrons could be thrown off by air molecules (!). Into this neo-futurist world, Chris Lefteri has pro...