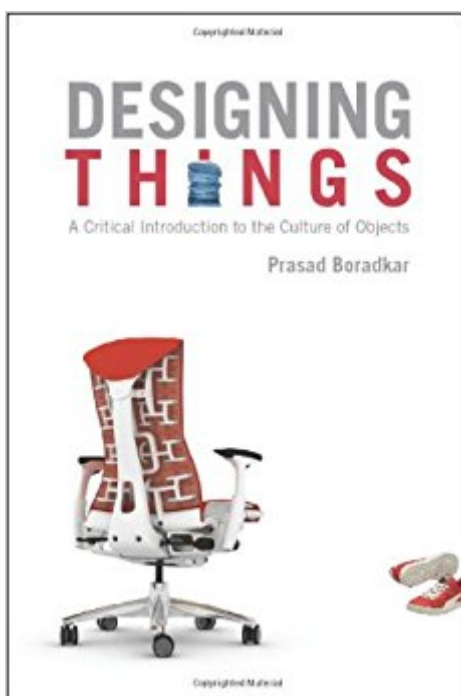**The book was found**

Designing Things: A Critical Introduction To The Culture Of Objects

Synopsis

When and why did the turntable morph from playback device to musical instrument? Why have mobile phones evolved changeable skins? How many meanings can one attach to such mundane things as tennis balls? The answers to such questions illustrate this provocative book, which examines the cultural meanings of things and the role of designers in their design and production. Designing Things provides the reader with a map of the rapidly changing field of design studies, a subject which now draws on a diverse range of theories and methodologies - from philosophy and visual culture, to anthropology and material culture, to media and cultural studies. With clear explanations of key concepts - such as form language, planned obsolescence, object fetishism, product semantics, consumer value and user needs - overviews of theoretical foundations and case studies of historical and contemporary objects, Designing Things looks behind-the-scenes and beneath-the-surface at some of our most familiar and iconic objects. Contents Introduction Theorizing Things: Disciplinary Diversity in Thinking about ObjectsÃ Â Valued Possessions: What are Things Worth? Making Things: Labor in ProductionÃ Â Producing Things: A History of Systems of ManufactureÃ Â Beautiful Things: The Aesthetics of Surfaces The Greed Imperative: User Needs in Product Design Planned Obsolescence: Unsustainable Consumption Objects as Signs: What do Things Mean? The Obsession of Possession: Fetish Objects Conclusion See more at designingthings.org Prasad Boradkar is Associate Professor of Industrial Design and Director of InnovationSpace at Arizona State University.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury Academic; 4.1.2010 edition (June 15, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1845204271

ISBN-13: 978-1845204273

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 17.5 x 238 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars   7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #431,252 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #202 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Design History & Criticism   #1283 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Architecture   #1943 inÃ Â Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å"A must read for those interested in the world of things. It explains complicated theoretical texts in ways that will delight readers.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢David Brody, Parsons The New School for DesignÃ¢â ¬Å"A lucid introduction to many of the theoretical perspectives that exist around objects and their design. For students it provides a deep understanding of the social meanings of design in both its production and consumption and the ethical issues that these raiseÃ¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Guy Julier, Leeds Metropolitan University

Prasad Boradkar is Associate Professor in the College of Design at Arizona State University.

Fantastic book!

Good book!

Wonderful book. A must have for any individual seeking to know more behind industrial design and the culture of innovation.

I had to buy this book because it is listed in my curriculum in design history. It tries to cover the culture of all things, which is just to much.

A must read for all students of design!!

Very thorough examination of the world of product design. I often assign this book or chapters relevant to the project to my design students. A must read for designers of objects.

I read a favorable review of this book and thought it would be interesting. Not so for me. Seems intended for the design professional or scholar, not the general reader. I suspect there is much good and meaty stuff here if one has the background and/or patience to study the text carefully. I do not!

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