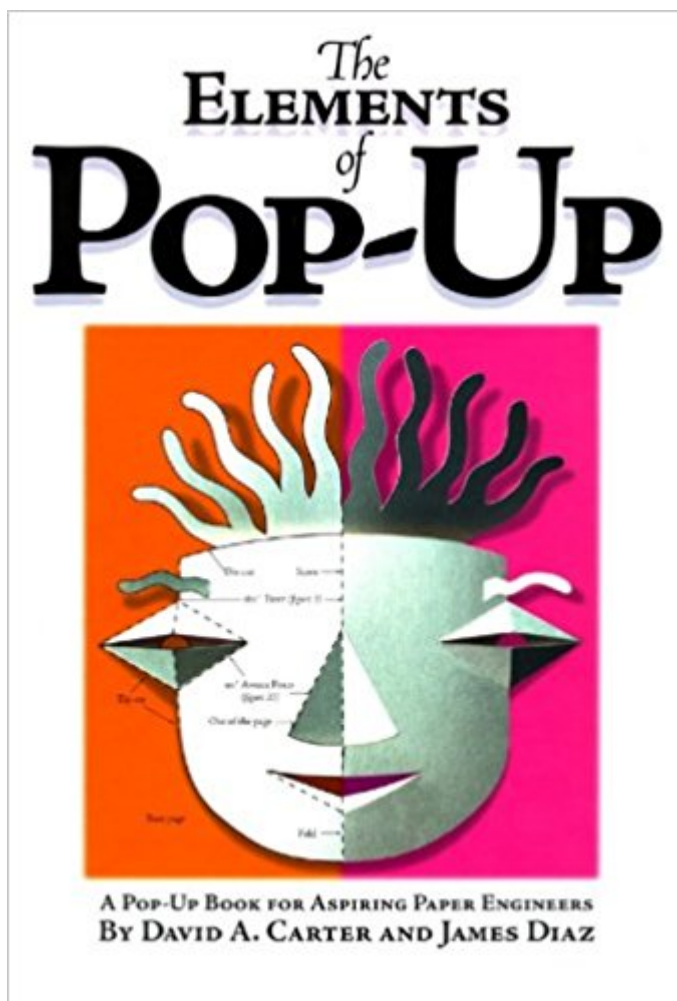


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# Elements Of Pop Up



## Synopsis

Here at last is the definitive book on how to make a pop-up. Every aspect of the creation of a pop-up, known as paper engineering, is clearly and thoroughly covered. All types of parallel folds, angle folds, wheels, and pull tabs are accurately detailed verbally and visually, flat and in dimension. Also included is a history of pop-ups and a step-by-step photographic essay on how a pop-up is made from start to finish. This guided tour is perfect for aspiring pop-up creators, paper engineers, students, and appreciators of this unique art form.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Believe it or not, the first known pop-up element in a book appeared in an astrological manuscript in 1306. During the ensuing centuries, movable mechanics were used in more and more books--but only for adults. In the 1700s a British bookseller came up with the idea of illustrating well-known children's stories with movable flaps of paper. The rest, as they say, is history. Now aspiring paper mechanics (creative engineer-artists who create dimensional and movable books, otherwise known as pop-ups) can learn the how-tos and wherefores of this marvelous craft. From tip-ons to dummies to glue knock-outs, all the intricacies of pop-up production are outlined and explained. Readers are invited to take apart the sample pop-ups (as long as they promise to put them back together!) to determine exactly how each score folds and where each glue point is. Instructions are somewhat advanced, but the dimensional samples and the step-by-step photographic essay on how a pop-up is made will ease the journey. David Carter and James Diaz have each created many, many pop-up books, and are passionate about their trade. So blow the cobwebs out of the geometry corner of

your brain, and get to work! (Ages 9 and older) --Emilie Coulter

Grade 3 Up-Two eminent paper engineers offer a nearly encyclopedic gallery of moving effects, with more than 50 different working models. They are set-when appropriate-on flaps, making the inner workings visible, and include precise design and assembly notes, all sandwiched between a partial history of pop-ups and an artist's-eye view of the production stages of this popular art form. A commanding safety note warns children away from craft knives, and though most of the effects require dexterity and patience to reproduce, the authors have flagged easier projects. All of the models, even the spectacular, full-spread opener, are constructed of white, undecorated stock, but the authors urge aspiring paper engineers to expand the possibilities by experimenting with combined effects or even inventing new ones. Despite some sketchy peripherals-the opening history stops with Jonathan Miller's *The Human Body* (Viking, 1983)-this book is not only a work of art in itself, but also a practical manual that takes a huge step past Barbara Valenta's *Pop-o-mania* (Dial, 1997). A link from the authors' and publisher's Web sites leads to reproducible, flat patterns for every tab, tube, cutout, wheel, and cam. John Peters, New York Public Library Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

If you ever wonder how the end product looks like, this is the book. By having the final product in front of me, it allows me to see where my mistakes are, how the mechanism works. I like that it includes wheels and pull-outs. It has beginner as well as complicated popups. It does not really have step by step instructions so you might need a supplementary book. But like I said, I like being able to touch and see the end product. I have not seen any pop up books with the actual product in the book except this one. I like the contrast between the colored background and the white pop-up because it clearly shows the construction. As much as I like the neon colored pages, it doesn't help me with reading the small black font - it creates a scintillating optical illusion (this is a negative). This is a book to use over and over again as you progress with your skills in paper engineering

This is an excellent beginner's book, highly recommended. It is especially helpful because it has physical examples of basic folds/mechanisms which you can examine in detail, coupled with good instructions. (As opposed to tearing apart your favorite pop-up books!) I was surprised that the involved pop-up in the front of the book seemed to be there for expression only. I expected, since this is a "how to" book, that the mechanisms used would be identified and diagrammed on the following page. That seems like a missed opportunity in an otherwise well thought-out and

designed book.

If you are considering purchasing this book, get it while truly has it in stock - actual availability of this book is spotty at best. When it was out of stock/backordered/available for pre-order, I ordered it only to have the expected delivery pushed back repeatedly. I even called and spoke with a rep who promised it would actually be sent on the date they claimed - it wasn't and eventually cancelled the order altogether. The situation was the same with other online sellers of the book - I tried ordering it from other internet booksellers and they did the same thing. I even tried to order it from an Marketplace seller who listed it in stock only to have them cancel the order because it wasn't available. After months of trying to get this book from ANYWHERE, finally listed it as being in stock, so I jumped on it. Availability issues aside, I do recommend this book. If you are just looking for a few design ideas, this probably isn't the book for you, but if you are looking to learn the actual mechanics of pop-ups, this is definitely the book to get. Think of this as a construction manual, not a design manual. It gives the ACTUAL pop-ups and a good description of how each each one works. It allows you to see each mechanism at work and to take them apart if necessary. Other books show photos or diagrams of the construction as well as photos of examples of each type of pop-up in use, but do not have the actual pop-ups that this one has. Actually having the pop-ups themselves makes this an indispensable tool. This book is also more complete than others that I have seen - it shows many more types of pop-up mechanisms than any of the others. There is one huge complicated pop-up at the front of the book incorporating most of the different examples into one awesome pop-up page. You can go to the author's website to download the individual pdf pattern files, although I think it would be much more useful if they were included on a cd with the book or if all of the pdf patterns were incorporated into a single .zip file for download. You can print the patterns and cut the mechanisms out by hand, or you can import them into the software for an electronic die-cutter (ie a Pazzles Inspiration, Craft Robo, e-Craft, Silhouette, Gazelle, etc) and let your machine do all the work, which is what I did. Overall, this is an excellent book to get if you are interested in learning to construct different mechanisms to use in pop-up books, cards or scrapbook pages. I do recommend supplementing this book with another one that shows you more design ideas. Despite not showing examples of how each element can be used in different designs, I give this book a 5-star rating. , however, gets a 1-star rating for horrible customer service with regards to this book.

All pop up ideas are demonstrated with an actual pop up of the technique. Very insightful, very fun!

I'm somewhat of a paper engineer myself so it didn't bother me that there were no instructions. It's easy enough to figure out by the actual pop ups and the geometric ratios provided. There were some elements I have never seen before and a lot that I had seen before. It was nice that there is a lift up flap in the back where you can observe the inner workings and easily take it apart if needed. It's a nice reference book for all kinds of folds and pop ups plus some fun motion type cards that don't actually pop up but move. If you are already comfortable with making action cards or pop ups, you will enjoy this book. If you are a newbie to this kind of card, you may be frustrated by the lack of measurements and instructions to make each element. Don't buy the book if you need someone to dictate exactly how to make the element.

I took an interest in pop-up books (and papercraft in general, particularly "urban paper" toys), about a year ago. I got a few books from the local library to see what was available. One of these was *The Elements of Pop-Up*, and it was, both literally and figuratively, a real standout. I bought a copy immediately. It's one thing to show diagrams and photos of example structures. It's quite another to have a physical example of those structures right in the book. The value of this is inestimable. Even better, the book gives a URL where you can download PDF files of templates of all the examples in the book so you can print them out and build them yourself. I've read maybe a half-dozen books on pop-up construction (I'd also recommend *The Pop-Up Book: Step-by-Step Instructions for Creating Over 100 Original Paper Projects*), and while reading and looking are helpful, nothing beats doing. One simply has to try to make stuff in order to properly understand what's going on, what works, and what doesn't. *The Elements of Pop-Up* really gives one a leg up on this. What's really nice is that in addition to examples of basic pop-up structures the book also demonstrates some mechanical actions, such as flaps and spinners. If you are at all interested in actually making pop-up cards or books, this needs to be one of your first acquisitions.

A lot of good information. But it was a little expensive!

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