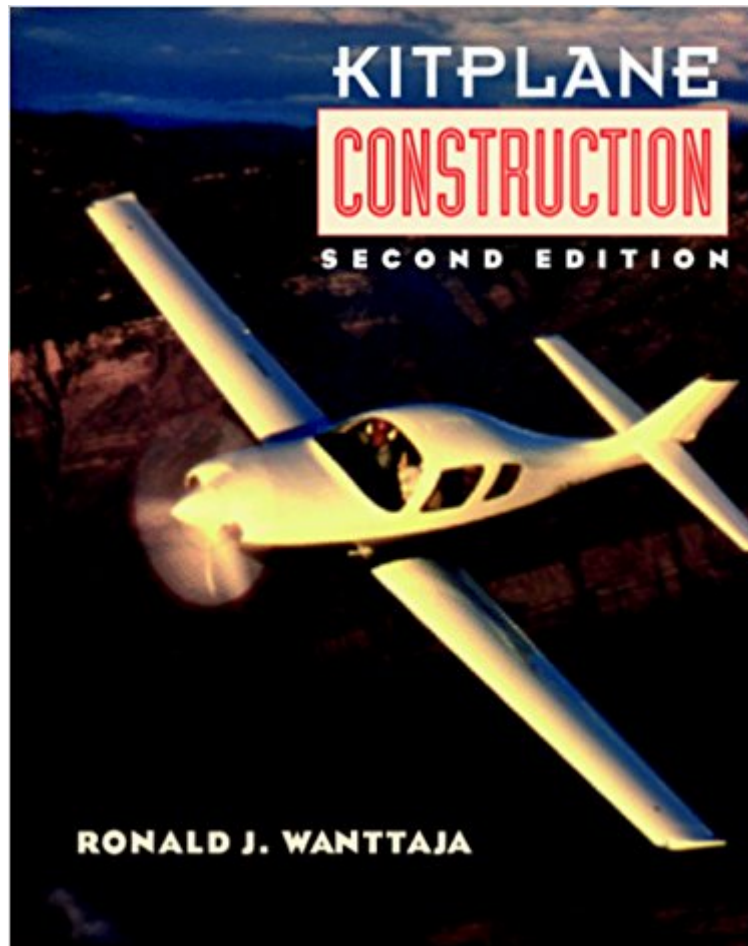




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Kitplane Construction



Synopsis

Featuring new and classic kitplane designs, this bestseller shows you how to choose, build, and fly a homebuilt plane. Kitplanes magazine calls this book "required reading for anyone thinking about building an airplane."

Book Information

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Professional; 2 edition (June 1, 1996)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

THE Guide for Kitplane Builders Featuring new and classic kitplane designs, this bestseller shows you how to choose, build, and fly a homebuilt plane. Kitplanes magazine calls this book "required reading for anyone thinking about building an airplane." More than a how-to, Kit Airplane Construction is also a why-to. In this unbiased look at every aspect of the kitplane process, award-winning aviation writer Ron Wanttaja covers everything from cost comparisons with certified used aircraft to drilling all those holes for the rivets. Expert, easy-to-understand instructions help you construct your chosen kitplane type: tubing and fabric, wood, traditional sheet metal, or leading-edge composites. Case studies confer the benefit of others' experiences in purchasing and building a variety of kitplanes. You'll find state-of-the-art kitplane designs; high-quality illustrations; current prices and costs associated with shipping kits; expanded information on financing options; highlights of the auto-engine debate; and quality control features to add confidence to workmanship.

THERE'S A LOT NEW IN KITPLANE CONSTRUCTION, Third Edition! Costs and Materials Guides
Details on Avionics Occupant Comfort Section "Experimental Light Sports" Category Safety
Regulations New photographs --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ronald J. Wanttaja is an award-winning aviation writer and a systems engineer with Boeing, working in satellite orbit/constellation design and analysis, launch vehicle and onboard propulsion system trades, and operations concepts for space systems. He worked on the early design studies for the International Space Station. An Air Force veteran, he was an on-duty operator for the Defense Support Program missile early-warning satellite. As a freelance aviation journalist, he has written for *Private Pilot*, *Flying*, *Sport Aviation*, *Flight Line*, *Kitplanes*, and other publications. He is author of the book *Airplane Ownership*, also from McGraw-Hill. His aviation writing has won several prizes, including the EAA "Bax Seat Trophy" and a journalism award from the Aviation/Space Writer's Association. Mr. Wanttaja has also written and published historical fiction. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a great book for someone considering the idea of building an airplane. The first part really helps the reader get past the fantasy part of building and owning a plane and think about the reality behind what it takes to build, operate, maintain, store, and insure a home built airplane. Really helped me contemplate the question: Is this something that is really for me? The second part is an overview of construction techniques that presents the basic skills of each method. The information is very useful and helps steer the potential builder towards a desired construction type. Overall, I agree with many reviewers that this book is a highly recommended read for anyone who plans to get into home built aircraft.

I wish I'd had this book when I was getting my A&P (airframe and power plant) license. Its not a substitute for the AC 43.13 (Advisory Circular 43.13 Acceptable methods for repair and modifications), but the second half of the book is a good auxiliary text. Mr. Wanttaja is taller than the average pilot, and I am even taller than him. I've tried on a couple of Europa's but they were each too small. I've flown in a GlasAir Glastar and it was big enough for two good sized men. He provides three tables of dimensions - headroom, hip room, and leg room, generated from data he's taken from existing home built aircraft, and they were enough to convince my wife that the GlaStar was big enough for me (and thus her, as she's average build for a woman). There are many advantages to folding wing aircraft, including less hangar space required, and easy transportation. Storing at the house and hauling to a hangar doesn't seem to be much of an advantage after his explanation of the stresses and strains on a towed airplane. I could go on and on about what's covered in this book, but instead, I'll do Mr. Wanttaja a favor and recommend you buy this book first, if you are at all

interested in homebuilding. Whether or not you actually even start a plane you'll be glad you did; and even gladder if you have it while you are building.CAVU

I think that this is the definitive kit plane reference for those contemplating building the same. The book is well written in an easy to understand style and provides a great insight into what's involved. It covers all aspects of construction and also includes a lot of honest, upfront details about the real costs involved. I also purchased a copy of "Choosing your Homebuilt" and while this provides much of the same information it does so in a much more superficial manner compared to this book. The only advantage of Ken Armstrong's title is the flight reviews, which although useful are somewhat dated with many of the listed manufacturer's no longer in business... Therefore if your budget allows purchase both, but if I had to choose just one it would have to be a copy of the "Kit Airplane Construction"

Posed many questions I'd not thought of. It's a necessary read for anyone thinking about getting into personal aviation and building his own plane.

Very helpful getting my head around whether to pursue kit plane construction and about fabrication techniques.

It's very dry and detailed. It does cover everything pretty much. I may have to read it few times to get it all.

my husband love this!

Well put together book. bought it used and was in great condition

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