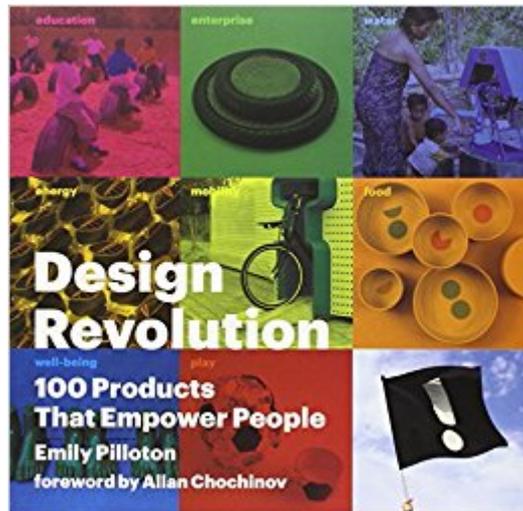


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Design Revolution: 100 Products That Empower People: By Emily Pilloton



Synopsis

In January of 2008, with a thousand dollars, a laptop and an outsized conviction that design can change the world, rising San Francisco-based product designer and activist Emily Pilloton launched Project H Design, a radical non-profit that supports, inspires and delivers life-improving humanitarian product design. "We need to go beyond 'going green' and to enlist a new generation of design activists," she wrote in an influential manifesto. "We need big hearts, bigger business sense and the bravery to take action now." Featuring more than 100 contemporary design products and systems--safer baby bottles, a high-tech waterless washing machine, low-cost prosthetics for landmine victims, Braille-based Lego-style building blocks for blind children, wheelchairs for rugged conditions, sugarcane charcoal, universal composting systems, DIY soccer balls--that are as fascinating as they are revolutionary, this exceptionally smart, friendly and well-designed volume makes the case for design as a tool to solve some of the world's biggest social problems in beautiful, sustainable and engaging ways--for global citizens in the developing world and in more developed economies alike. Particularly at a time when the weight of climate change, global poverty and population growth are impossible to ignore, Pilloton challenges designers to be changemakers instead of "stuff creators." Urgent and optimistic, a compendium and a call to action, *Design Revolution* is easily the most exciting design publication to come out this year. Emily Pilloton is the founder and Executive Director of Project H Design, a global industrial design nonprofit with eight chapters around the world. Trained in architecture at the University of California, Berkeley, and product design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Pilloton started Project H in 2008 to provide a conduit and catalyst for need-based product design that empowers individuals, communities and economies. Current Project H initiatives include water transport and filtration systems in South Africa and India; an educational math playground built for elementary schools in Uganda and North Carolina; a homeless-run design coop in Los Angeles; and design concepts for foster care education and therapy in Austin, Texas. Allan Chochinov is Editor in Chief of Core77.com, and writes and lectures widely on the impact of design on contemporary culture.

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Customer Reviews

OK, I am biased. I am a strong advocate of using interesting designs in all aspects of our daily lives. And this book provides a framework, a wonderful narrative and fantastic images of products that you can instantly tell not only are great designs but can change the lives of the people who use them. Ms. Pilloton has captured the passion that great designers put into their work, in writing her first book. I highly recommend it.

I got to meet Pilloton immediately after reading this and she emphasized how much her thinking had changed toward valuing processes, especially in engaging with young people (she's currently teaching at UC Davis and in the Bay Area). Pilloton herself easily defies rating (she's a superperson), but she's also correct about process rather than products being the best way to engage and empower people, not that products don't have their place.

Who doesn't love Emily Pilloton? I enjoyed this book! A great compilation of contemporary gadgets and product designs that have changed the world today! Great for designers who are going into product designs or for the general person who wants to engage themselves in learning different levels of empowering designs in multiple interdisciplinary areas.

Fantastic. I loved this book. The whole concept of designing products that will empower people, many made from locally available materials and not harmful to the environment is a joy and so needed. I know I am not alone in roaming the aisles of the grocery store in frustration while trying to find a basic product amidst the exploding varieties and variation of that product. The essays in the Introduction were fascinating and each page of the products displayed such innovative thinking. Some products I was familiar with, such as the Oxo Good Grips and the Free Rice online vocabulary charity site. I loved learning about the Hippo Water Roller, the Adiri Natural Nurser

Ultimate Baby Bottle and Calfee Bamboo Bike.

Every classroom should have a copy of this book, it is so inspiring and my students love it because it makes them think about how to invent tools that help the world be a better place. I am glad I bought this book.

I watched Emily Pilloton on the Colbert Report and had to order this book immediately. I don't buy very many books but bought it for two reasons. One reason is that I am a retired design engineer and I am interested in these designs that empower people. The other reason is that I had to support this young woman who has done more good for the world than most people do in a lifetime. Any review of this effort less than five stars is pathetic. People should look in a mirror before they open their mouth.

Design Revolution crosses sectors, continents and industries to bring engaging and inspiring case studies to the forefront of design. It's a great compilation and supports a fantastic cause!

The selection of inspirational innovations in this book is great. The layout of one or two pages per project with large images is very digestible. Works great as a supplemental textbook for an innovation course, or as a coffee table book that is guaranteed to start interesting conversations.

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