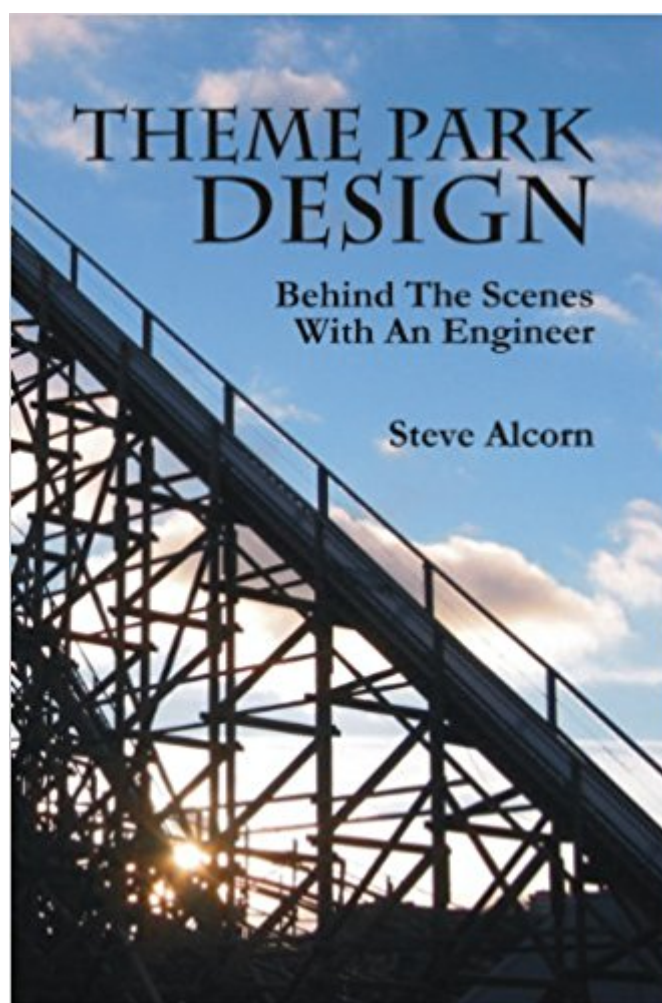


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Theme Park Design: Behind The Scenes With An Engineer (Theme Park Engineering Book 1)



Synopsis

Have you ever gone to a theme park and wondered, "How did they do that?" At last there's a book that shows you. Theme Park Design reveals the secrets behind some of the world's greatest attractions. Take a peek behind the scenes, with a theme park engineer. Aimed at theme park enthusiasts, the book features behind the scenes information based upon author Steve Alcorn's 35 years designing attractions. The story follows the development of an attraction from "Blue Sky" design to opening day. Along the way it reveals the engineering tricks used to build many fan favorite rides. "This book shows you the secrets behind the magic," says Alcorn. Theme Park Design explores ride control, mechanics, audio, video, lighting, special effects, animated figures, art direction, and much more, with insider commentary. The author illuminates the fast-paced world of theme park design through tales of calamity and triumph, sprinkled with many humorous anecdotes. He also offers career tips on becoming an Imagineer. A must-read for every theme park enthusiast!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great read, but the author does mean it when he says that he's an engineer. As a designer reading

this I felt put off at certain times, as if designers were more an inhibitor in the process. I think this gives a good incite into the design process, but this book doesn't come without a bias.

I purchased this book for my 15 year old son who is interested in becoming a roller coaster engineer/designer. He has read the book from cover to cover more than once and has really enjoyed it. The book is well written, in a conversational style and is comprehensive, giving specific, detailed information based upon the author's long term career experience within theme parks . My son feels this book is an excellent introduction into the field and has given him a good base of information to proceed in developing his career goals.

Steve Alcorn's fast paced romp through the world of theme park design are as fun to read as they are informative. Don't get me wrong, the book isn't a complete guide to becoming a theme park guru, but it is an overview of the design and engineering that go into theme park attractions and rides. If you've ever wondered about the steps it takes to bring an attraction to life, you will enjoy this book. Plus, Steve's irreverent humor keeps you laughing throughout the ride. So if you want to know what a video binloop is, or how to control a runaway roller coaster, read the book!

I was hoping this book would be a bit more technical as I am developing an FEC. If you are already working on building your own theme park or FEC this book is probably not for you. If you are interested in the design and process of building rides for large theme parks like Disney, this book may be for you. This book is a great one for someone who is looking for entertainment and behind the scenes info, but probably won't prove too helpful for designing your own park. Steve Alcorn is witty and humorous in his "for the layman" portrayal.

This is a great book on theme park design, specifically on Imagineering. But, it's not about roller coaster design. There's little or no mention about coasters in the book. In fact, despite a wooden roller coaster being on the cover, they weren't even mentioned in the book. But, it's a great book to pick up and read. The book is based on personal stories from the author Steve Alcorn. I haven't found too many books where the focus is on one designer's career. It's pretty easy to read, with little math involved despite being about engineering and design. Also, the book is pretty fun read and a witty at points. The book has a rare blend of Disney and non-Disney attractions (more emphasis on Disney attractions). In a hex-nut bolt shell, it's a nice read, even if you have every book on Disney imagineering out there.

Lo recomiendo a todo ingeniero electrónico que quiera ampliar su experiencia a un nuevo campo, exigente pero divertido! I recommend it to all electronic engineers who want to expand their experience to a new demanding but fun field.

I enjoyed the book. The insight Steve Alcorn gives into the process of developing theme park attractions from his own experiences are priceless. However, please know that his perspective is one of engineering specifically. While not so heady that it's hard to grasp, the creative element of theme park design is mostly glossed over. That's ok with me. While not quite what I was expecting, it clearly states that he's an engineer in the title. It detailed elements of the design process that I was unfamiliar with before, and I find that enlightening and fascinating. Good reading if you are interested in behind the scenes stories of what goes into all the technological magic at these places.

I work in the industry and think Steve did a great job of explaining the life span of an attraction from initial concept through design into opening.

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