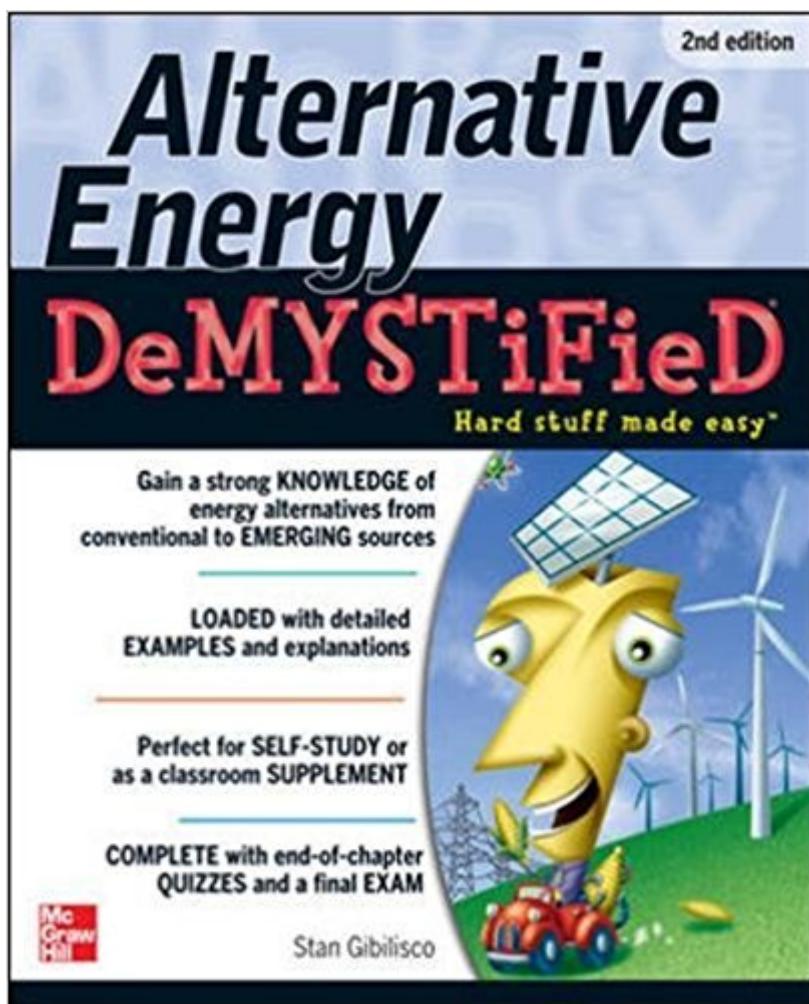


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Alternative Energy DeMYSTiFieD, 2nd Edition



Synopsis

DeMYSTiFieD fuels your knowledge of tricky subjects like alternative energy. If you think a Maglev train is a child's toy, or learning about fusion makes your brain reach critical mass, Alternative Energy DeMYSTiFieD, Second Edition will power up your knowledge of this topic's fundamental concepts and theories at your own pace. This practical guide eases you into this field of science, starting at primitive heating sources such as coal and wood. As you progress, you will master the science behind alternative energies such as evaporative cooling, fuel-cell vehicles, aeroelectric power, and more. You will understand the difference between conventional fluorescent and compact fluorescent lamps as well as the benefits of large-scale wind power. Detailed examples make it easy to understand the material, and end-of-chapter quizzes and a final exam help reinforce key ideas. It's a no-brainer! You'll learn about: Passive solar heating Thermal-mass cooling Propulsion with biofuels Electric vehicles Large-scale hydropower Semiconductor lamps Geothermal power Simple enough for a beginner, but challenging enough for an advanced student, Alternative Energy DeMYSTiFieD, Second Edition is your shortcut to a working knowledge of this timely topic.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stan Gibilisco is the "father" of the Demystified series, as well as a best-selling Demystified author. He has authored or co-authored dozens of nonfiction books about electronics, general science,

mathematics and engineering including Teach Yourself Electricity and Electronics, Physics Demystified, Everyday Math Demystified and The TAB Encyclopedia of Electronics for Technicians. He has worked as a technical writer in industry, as a radio broadcast station technician, as a radio-frequency design engineer, and as a magazine editor.

The information presented is so shallow that you are better off reading magazines. More space is devoted to standard, well known energy production than true alternatives and illustrations/pictures are of high school newsletter quality. I can't believe this book is actually used as a college text, especially for a three-credit-hour course. Doubtful it is even appropriate for a weekend adult ed class.

Alternative Energy by Stan Gibilisco is the first of McGraw Hill's DeMYSTiFieD series that I've read. If the other titles treat technology and science in the same engaging way for we ordinary readers, I'll be adding them to my bookshelf. It's not just that I want to know more about subjects outside my area of expertise, but, even though I'm not a survivalist, I tend to think about whether a book would be of value to a post-apocalyptic society if we have to start over again. Clearly, if we don't heed the lessons of Alternative Energy, we may find ourselves in the position of having to reconstruct our world with less destructive power sources and will value the work of Gibilisco and other science writers who demystify the lessons of science.

Stan Gibilisco's Alternative Energy Demystified was very helpful to me in putting it all together. He shows how all these topics -- wind, solar, biofuels -- interrelate. We've reached the point in the history of this planet where we have to do some good hard thinking about how we are going to get our energy and how we are going to use it. We have to get some answers quickly, and Stan Gibilisco is right on top of this. This book helps get the information we need right out in front of us. I liked the sections on sun and wind. I think these will be our future. I highly recommend this book for those who want to build their own alternative power systems or just become part of the dialog.

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