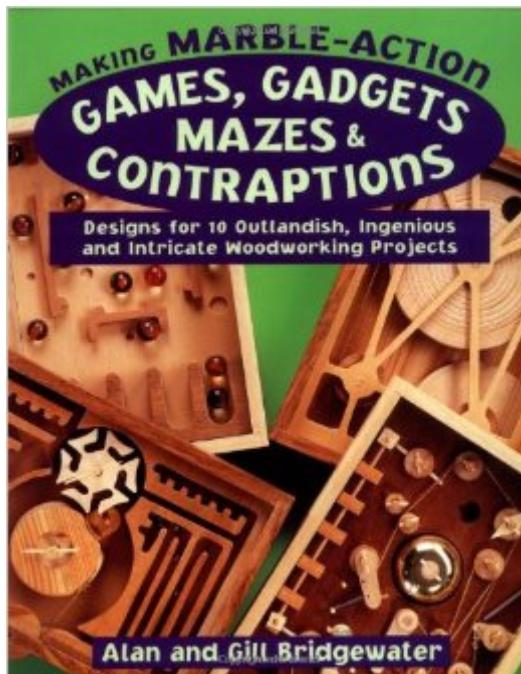


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# Making Marble-Action Games, Gadgets, Mazes & Contraptions: Designs For 10 Outlandish, Ingenious And Intricate Woodworking Projects



## **Synopsis**

Easy-to-follow text Helpful photographs In the spirit of zany contraptions, pinball, and bubble-gum machines, Alan and Gill Bridgewater present ten wildly complex marble-action woodworking projects that are as entertaining to make as they are to play with. Contraptions such as the Marble Deceleration Honeycomb Maze, Perpetual Random Number Shuffler, and Marble Rotator Finger-Touch Tumbler Labyrinth can each be constructed easily in a weekend, but in finished form will baffle those who dare to dally with them. Step-by-step instructions with accompanying photos and detailed plans make construction easy. Metric conversions included.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 2.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

I am used to making projects for which dimensions for the various pieces are provided. Not only does the author fail to provide dimensions but he also fails to even talk about some of the pieces that are part of a given project.

This book was a terrible disappointment. I wanted to give it no stars but that didn't seem to be an option. For most of these gadgets he begins the chapter by explaining that they don't actually work very well, they tend to jam and clog up requiring a certain amount of tilting and tapping to clear the device. Many of the mazes and such are non-functional - they are there to make the contraption look complicated. It's clear to me from looking at it that the dice substitute will never generate a 1, 2, or 6, and the thing is definitely not uniform like dice would be. The spirit of Rube Goldberg is

represented by contraptions that do a lot but accomplish very little. The mechanisms in this book just don't do anything. I didn't find a single satisfying project in here and felt like it was a waste of twenty bucks. And what are metric conversion tables doing in here? An embarrassment if you ask me. If you like this kind of stuff get *Making Wooden Mechanical Models* by Alan and Gill Bridgewater. It is far superior.

I was disappointed as well. I expected projects I could build, but nothing struck me as worth the time. The basic ideas are OK, marble rollers, and so on. But I would only use this stuff as a departure point for my own designs.

This book contains 10 ideas for games which seem to be what every child would enjoy. The problem is that most of the figures used in the book to give construction details leave a lot to be desired. Most of the photos are black and white and difficult to see any detail. The drawings are also in black and white and are also very difficult to follow.

Recently I retired and now have the time to pursue new hobbies, like wood working. For years I wish I had the skills, tools, and the time needed to be a good wood worker. I now want to build toys and things that will amaze my grandchildren. I took advantage of my prime membership to search for wood working plans. When I purchased this e-book I thought I would be getting a book of plans that included detailed drawings that have accurate measurements, a materials lists, and a set of easy to read instructions with plenty of pictures. This is not that Book. I believe that the Author Mr. Bridgewater intended to provide a set on instructions for a craftsmen. The book details the use of hand tools to produce the projects. Three different planes are used , a marking knife, hand drill, a hand scrapper and hand saws are used to produce these projects. Many of these hand tools are not the type of tools that most wood working hobbyist would even own. Most hobbyist own power tools and the only hand work is done with sand paper, The thought of taking several minutes to hand drill pilot holes instead using an air driven nail gun is foreign to most of us. No this book I believe not intended for hobbyist it was intended for a craftsmen making hairlooms by hand. I truely enjoyed reading it.

In today's world not many woodworkers make things by hand. The book is hard to work with, difficult to find basic stock requirements and measurements. I would not buy again.

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