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Lugged Bicycle Frame Construction, A Manual for the First Time Builder: Expanded Second Edition

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LUGGED BICYCLE FRAME
CONSTRUCTION, A MANUAL
FOR THE FIRST TIME BUILDER



EXPANDED SECOND
EDITION

MARC-ANDRE R. CHIMONAS

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Marc-Andre R Chimonas : Lugged Bicycle Frame Construction, A Manual for the First Time Builder: Expanded Second Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lugged Bicycle Frame Construction, A Manual for the First Time Builder: Expanded Second Edition:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Good DIY build instructionsBy Louis MaurielloFirst off this book is perfectly readable. Don't listen to the reviews that say it isn't. Ok, it could have used a spell check. And, yes, the author has some views on design and materials that not everyone is going to side with. Yeah, it could have been a better technical manual had he not, but, he wrote the book not you, that gives him the right to put his views in there.Now for my review:I titled this review "good" because that is what it is - it is good, not great or fantastic. Someone who already has some brazing skills could certainly build a frame in his backyard using the directions in this book and basic tools

(that's the author's claim and I say he did a good job of providing the information needed). Someone who does not have those brazing skills would not be able to, as, unfortunately, there are no real directions on things like pre-braze metal-prep or fitting, which I think should have been included. The author mentions having things like Lime cleaner and flap disks but doesn't give any direction in their use. The reality is anyone can put heat to two cleaned and fluxed interlocking pieces of metal and add solder to create a joint. What you'll need to know though is how to properly fit tubes in lugs and then how to properly clean all the points of contact before putting heat to metal in order to get a good and proper brazed joint. So here is what this book does give you - A sound set of procedures to design, assemble, mock up, and hold in place the various frame parts in order to build a frame, in your yard, using basic homeowner tools. Here's what it doesn't give you - Any meaningful directions in how to prepare the various metal pieces, fit them into each other, clean them in preparation for brazing them, and properly flux them. Another important note - the cost of materials has substantially risen since the edition I read was written. Back then silver solder was cheap. It now cost a small fortune. Just go look in any Home Depot and you will find that plumbing solder (not usable for bike building) with any silver content is now locked up and available on request only. For all of those people who commented on fork building, well, if you can braze with MAPP gas or acetylene then you can also braze with acetylene and oxygen, only you'll have to go out and buy a torch and tanks. I haven't checked but I believe that you are still able to get a tank and torch set-up in places like HD, Sears, etc. You can fill the tanks at your local fire extinguisher service center. If you don't know where to find one call your local plumbing supply store and they will tell you. While you are at it ask them about silver solder because that's where you are going to have to pick it up at. Oh yeah, be warned, it is daily priced by market prices on silver.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A good tool when used in conjunction with a little common sense and some further research before building. By frunoise Before finding this book I had read lots of other stuff online etc about lugged frame construction and had learned quite a bit. With this reading came more questions about some specific things like attaching and finishing seat stays at the seat post as an example. The book was able to clearly answer all these questions to a satisfactory level. Keep in mind that this book is designed to build a successful frame taking advantage of the most user friendly parts on the market. I think the idea is that once you get a feel for brazing and assembly of the frame following the book, you would then be able to start trying new things like carving your lugs or running internal frame cable routing and on and on. If you are a first time builder like me, get the book for sure!

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read! Clear, levelheaded book for the beginner. By Hachi Gatsu After owning an old Peugeot road bike, I happened to notice the beautiful lugged frame it had. I had always wanted to build something similar but couldn't really find a clear and concise source for someone with my skill set in bicycle building (which was ZERO). Oh, don't get me wrong, there's a plethora of information out there, but that was the problem. Too much information, and mostly write ups by pro's for pro's. I had no idea what some of the terms meant, what tools I needed and it seemed like it was too far out of my reach. Then I picked up this book on a whim. It had said it was for people like me, but I was still a bit skeptical until I began reading the book. Though there are a few spelling and grammatical errors along the way, the information inside is priceless. A great primer for the beginner and it get's you started on your path to being a pro (if you wish). It's designed for the beginner and budget builder in mind. Almost all the tools need could be items you either have, or items that can be used later for other projects that are not bike related. To top it off, he even has a youtube channel. The whole book isn't exactly on there, but it may help out if you're still having trouble with a certain section of a frame build. Just copy/past the link below: http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdlqO1goHFzjC7dibSgZ9_w

AUTHORS NOTE, PLEASE READ: The third edition of Lugged Bicycle Frame Construction is now available. The third edition has a red cover and includes sections on oxy-fuel torches, improved jiggging techniques, and the use of track ends for single speed and fixie builds. I will begin the phase out of the second edition at the end of December 2013.

About the Author Marc-Andre R. Chimonas learned the basics of technical writing as a student at Georgia Tech and as an officer in the U.S. Epidemic Intelligence Service. He is the author of "Construction of Lugged Bicycle Forks," "Lugged Bicycle Frame Construction," and the electronic pulp novel "Magic Sky Daddy." He has published articles in "Boneshaker: A Bicycling Almanac" and various peer-reviewed medical science journals.