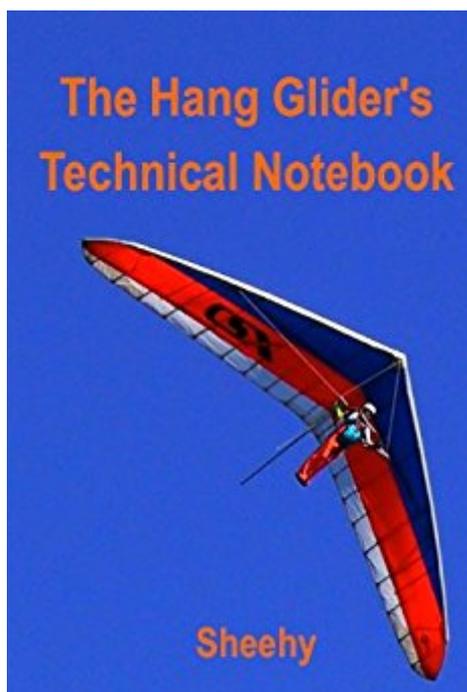


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The Hang Glider's Technical Notebook



Synopsis

This book is the definitive text on the technical aspects of hang gliding. Covering such topics as aerodynamics, stability and control, structure, performance and glide calculations (including performance in a turn), the physics of landing, and slope and thermal soaring, the book translates aeronautical engineering into practical insights from a hang glider pilot's point of view. Written in a conversational style, the book explains all the important messages in simple rules-of-thumb for those who don't want to get into the technicalities. However, the book does not run away from algebra: there are plenty of equations and graphs for those who want to look at the detail behind the rules-of-thumb. The Kindle edition includes performance charts for both flex- and rigid-wing hang gliders. Not a training manual, this book does not teach flying techniques, nor is it intended for pilots who just want to know what to do, without wondering why. This book is for pilots who want more insight into what is happening when they fly.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book couldnt be better. I wanted to know more about the physics of gliding, but I wanted to

learn it my way. It covers aerodynamics in general, so it applies to anything that flies! It just so happens that it refers to an aircraft which is not propelled by an engine. This book explains basic ideas, then adds details, then shows the ideas in pictures, and backs them up with equations when necessary. The equations are totally optional. I basically ignored them and understood everything perfectly. The book is organized so you start with a simple concept and build on it. Everything is broken down into logical sections. I can not explain how valuable this book is. I learned how an airfoil/wing works in highschool physics and my knowledge basically stopped there concerning aerodynamics. Now I can look at any aircraft, even the super funky designs, and truly enjoy an understanding of how it flies. I sat down and read this book for a two days, highlighting and re-reading. It is short and sweet, and it does the job. Absolutely buy this book.

I like the book. It is written simple, clear, with free-hand style of illustrations, and if one is looking for a serious, scientific approach to understand the fundamentals of the hang glider as a unique aircraft, this is the right text. If you are not the type of "math formulas" person, it is still useful with the illustrations and the verbal explanations. I really enjoy reading it.

A really beautiful book. Nice illustrations, easy to read yet it goes through some of the complexities of the free flying in a way that almost everybody would understand. It clears out many doubts or misunderstandings on why hanggliders behave on a certain way. I really like it. Still will be looking forward for a spanish version.

Sure, there is a lot of technical stuff that went over my head; but there was also a lot that didn't. The book was well-written, well-organized, and covered a lot of ground. If you are a hang glider pilot and you want to understand how to be a better one (and you do, don't you?), you owe it to yourself to read this and you'll have a much better idea how and why that crazy wing does what it does. Bonus: You will be a safer pilot once you learn more about the technical aspects of flying.

There is some repetition when talking about rigid wing gliders. I think that could be rewritten to supply the same info without repetition. As other have said, you can ignore the mathematical equations, because the author interprets them in plain English immediately after. Other than that, I don't see any obvious flaws in this book. It is straight to the point, the explanations are complete and sufficient.

If you want a glossy, 200-word/200 picture Hang Gliding school brochure-type quick reference - look somewhere else. This book goes into deep aeronautical theory and covers both the actual mechanics as well as the mathematical background of all aspects of Hang Gliding. Highly recommended!

Simple. Conversational-style book! Best aspect is the ease with which difficult topics/concepts have been explained! Overall language of the book is as if the author is right in front, talking to us! Illustrations further simplify understandings. Highly recommended for beginners and experts alike!

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