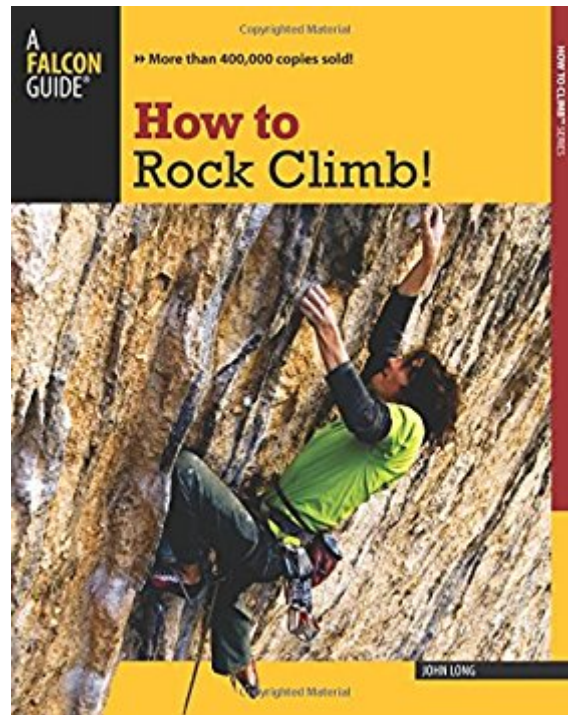


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How To Rock Climb, 5th Edition



Customer Reviews

This is an invaluable book if you want to learn the techniques of rock climbing, but it just doesn't fit well with the Kindle format. To teach rock climbing requires a lot of pictures, and it helps to have the picture and the text on the same page right next to one another. I recommend this book if you want to learn about rock climbing, but I would go with the print version.

The 4th edition of this book was my first introduction into the sport of Rock Climbing, and is still one of my most commonly used "go to" books when I need to review a point or technique. I bought the 5th edition for my kindle to have it on the go while I'm deployed overseas, and I still think it's one of the most comprehensive guides I've ever read. A note on the images, if you have a classic kindle, the images are B&W, because the kindle is monochromatic. The PC edition (and others I'm sure) is in full color, with all the original glory of the print edition. If you would like to begin rock climbing, or have already been, and would like to learn more, I highly recommend this book as a great reference.

Well, I finally found out what "bomber" meant! :-)) as in bombproof. Some times I wanted the lingo explained early on or I suppose I missed those notes in the beginning. This is an interesting book for me - a novice. It is useful. This book would greatly benefit from drawings that get at specific rope configurations and other concepts. The figure drawing showing the forces exerted when increasing the angle of the V is a fine example of weight forces vs angle points. "The forces on the primary placements increase significantly at greater angles"... I NEVER knew this! Epiphany BOING! More of this fine example would make this a great book. Not about the book. Frankly, I think it is better to buy books like this in hardback rather than the Kindle Edition. I get so tired of trying to figure out how to get to page xx. If it says 62 minutes left in book or location 14878, I get frustrated. This is not a novel. This is a guide and a reference. The Kindle format is just not suitable for books like this. My recommendation is to buy the paper edition. The GoTo function is next to useless on a Kindle Fire HD. One other remark about Kindle Editions. The photos are clean and high definition except that a reader cannot enlarge a picture. Plus, in this book some captions to pictures are too small to read easily. Plus, it seems there are no Figure numbers! Why are the pictures lacking an expansion box in the lower left or right corner? Buy paper back or hard copy. I think you'll be happier. From now on I will. For example, you are reading about a knot and you want to re-look it up. In paper, you'd flip back a few pages or a previous chapter and you are there. With the Kindle you have to find a chapter and then scroll to and fro until maybe you find the knot. Or you have to do a search which

gives you way too many options in too many places.

The book walks you through a fairly complete list of skills for rock climbers of various styles. The advice for novices is really solid and thoughtful. The book contains tips on an assortment of topics such as technique, philosophy, safety, and gear. While the breadth of topics is great the book doesn't go into a lot of detail. This becomes pretty noticeable in the later sections. The anchor and lead climbing sections jump around and skim past some fairly important information. Some of the omitted topics are large and complicated, such as anchors. But some are simple like advice on putting together a rack for a beginning trad climber, managing gear on a rack, managing rope, etc. The book is great for beginners to start learning and to get a sense of the issues facing intermediate climbers. But for anyone serious about climbing outdoors I would recommend also picking up Craig Luebben's Rock Climbing Anchors book which discusses far more than just anchors. Safe climbing.

Barely any climbing technique. The book mainly focuses on placing protection, knots, and the history of climbing. Which is fine, but for a book titled "how to climb" I expected to learn how to become a better climber. Seems like it would have been better to have separate books for climbing technique, trad climbing, and the history of climbing. I'm not even sure how good of an idea it is to have a "how to rock climb" book teach about trad climbing because that would imply that you could just read the book, buy some gear, and head out and start placing your own protection. I can honestly say that I didn't learn a single piece of information that actually improved my climbing ability (and I'm sure I have a lot to learn in that area). If you don't know the first thing about climbing you will certainly learn a lot of skills from the book but if this is you then why do you need to learn all about trad climbing/history of climbing?

This book is good to have as a backup to learning from people with skills. Good to know things you might not even use just to understand how things are done. We bought it just to back up what we've learned and will learn

This is a great introductory text for learning new tricks in rock climbing. I would definitely recommend to climbers in the 5.8-5.10d range. Practicing these techniques can help you gain climbing grades much faster than simply climbing alone.

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