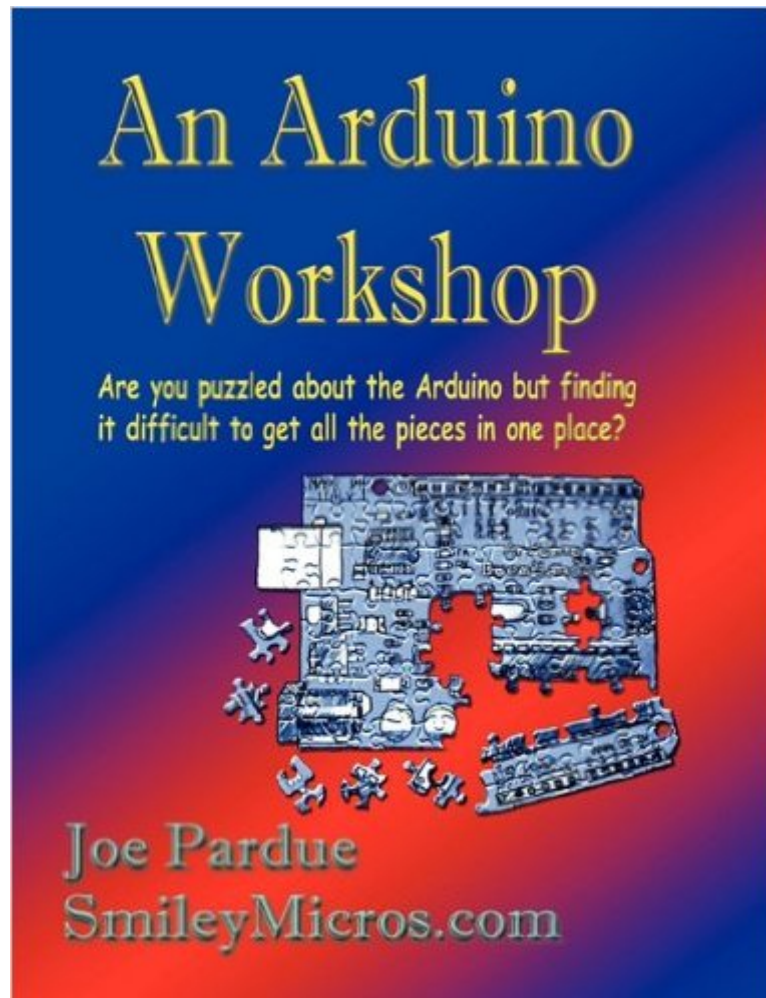


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# An Arduino Workshop



## Synopsis

The really cool thing about Arduino is that you can start playing with Physical Computing, Microcontrollers, and Embedded Systems without understanding much of what you are doing. The Arduino, designed for the novice, has become so popular that there is now an embarrassment of riches when it comes to amount of information and hardware available. So much stuff is out there, in fact, that some folks have trouble puzzling out what they need to just to get started. This text, *An Arduino Workshop*, and the associated hardware projects kit bring all the pieces of the puzzle together in one place. The author, Joe Pardue, writes the monthly *Smiley's Workshop* series in *Nuts&Volts* magazine and is known for his breezy writing style and lucid drawing and photographs that help folks understand complex technical topics. Not sure if this book is for you? Well, you can get a sample containing some of the books chapters as a downloadable PDF file from [www.smileymicros.com](http://www.smileymicros.com). With this text and parts kit you will learn to: - Blink 8 LEDs (Cylon Eyes) - Read a pushbutton and 8-bit DIP switch - Sense Voltage, Light, and Temperature - Make Music on a piezo element - Sense edges and gray levels - Optically isolate voltages - Fade LED with PWM - Control Motor Speed - And more...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There's no way I'm paying \$45 for this. It's barely 1/2" thick and the content is very sparse to say the least. If you've seen "Getting Started with Arduino" (\$8) then you've already got the basics and this

book doesn't add much more. It's worth \$15 at most - I sent it back. TWO STARS BECAUSE IT'S WAY OVERPRICED!!!!

While the content of this book is good, there simply is not enough of it for the price. I was through it in a couple of hours. Compared to the other Arduino books on the market this one is overpriced.

I recommend Joe Pardue's book, "An Arduino Workshop" as the perfect Arduino book for the novice yet challenging for the more experienced. The author defines new terms as they are presented to keep readers abreast of the subject matter. The progression of the subject matter moves smoothly from simple concepts to the more complex. There is even a short discussion of voltage, current, resistance and Ohm's law. His illustrations are very clear and schematic diagrams are backed-up with pictorial diagrams so that those who are unfamiliar with schematics can easily complete the many hardware /software experiments. The experiments are not just limited to blinking LED's. There are experiments to do that but the author adds a DIP switch that the Arduino reads to change the pattern, speed and polarity of the blinking LED's. Many of the experiments are quite sophisticated dealing with pulse width modulation, motor speed control with feedback, analog-to-digital conversion and using the serial port on the Arduino to communicate with your PC. Some of the software programs are quite long. However, the author had the good sense to put these programs on his web site so you don't have to type in these long programs. The author's down home, folksy style and sense of humor will help you to get through some of the more mundane subjects and maybe make you giggle a little too. Overall, this is an excellent book and would recommend it to anyone interested in the Arduino platform.

If you are tired of trying to learn a technical subject by reading a dry, overly technical manual, then you should really give this book a try. Mr. Pardue's approach is easy to digest, the text and diagrams are easy to understand and his sense of humor is just icing on the cake. You do NOT need to be a geek to learn from this book. In fact, you don't even need to know about electricity- it is all explained in the book. This would be a great introductory book for kids too. I highly recommend this book.

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