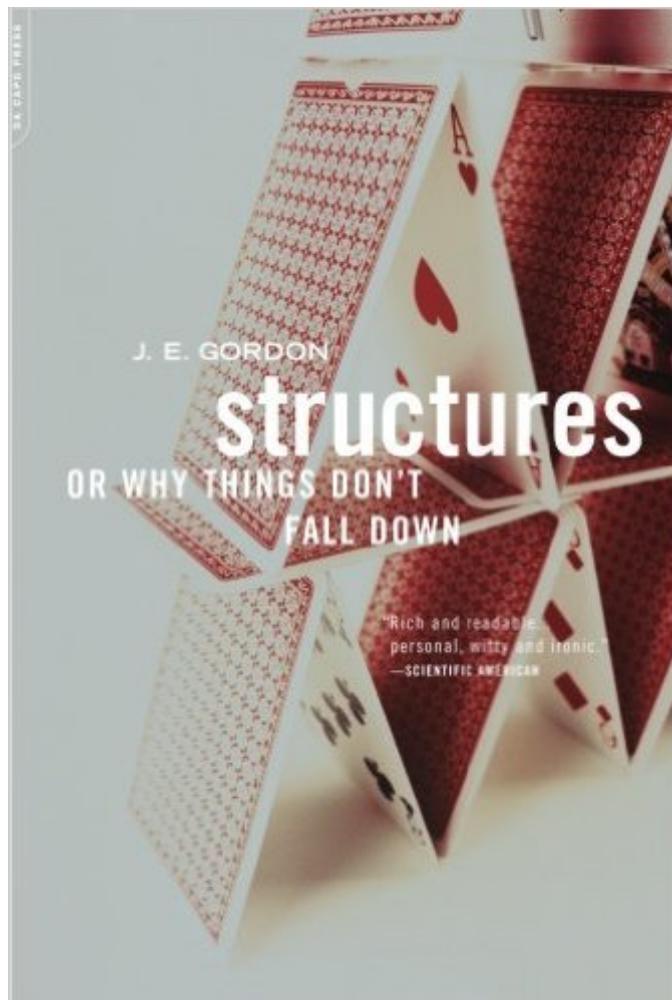


The book was found

Structures: Or Why Things Don't Fall Down



Synopsis

For anyone who has ever wondered why suspension bridges don't collapse under eight lanes of traffic, how dams hold back-or give way under-thousands of gallons of water, or what principles guide the design of a skyscraper or a kangaroo, this book will ease your anxiety and answer your questions. J. E. Gordon strips engineering of its confusing technical terms, communicating its founding principles in accessible, witty prose.

Book Information

Paperback: 424 pages

Publisher: Da Capo Press; 1 edition (July 10, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0306812835

ISBN-13: 978-0306812835

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (75 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #49,553 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Structural #12 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Reference > Architecture > Methods & Materials #24 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Engineering > Civil Engineering

Customer Reviews

In the wonderful tradition of Sagan, Cousteau and Asimov, Professor Gordon shows us that science and technology need not be abstruse and tedious, but can be made both pleasant and fascinating. Structures, or Why Things Don't Fall Down stands perfectly well on its own, but the best benefits are to be derived when reading it in tandem with its sister publication, The New Science of Strong Materials. In both books, Professor Gordon strikes the difficult balance between the ease of exposition and the exactness of detail that characterises only the very best of scientific popularisations. He combines his technical presentation with a warm and self-deprecating wit that will have you feeling that you are not being lectured to, so much as enjoying an engaging explanation from a friend. For example, in a typical moment of whimsy, Professor Gordon speculates upon the benefits of attaching army surplus chicken feathers onto motor cars - a suggestion designed to evoke a humourous image, except that his preceding explication on the structural properties of feathers is done so well that it lends the idea a certain fanciful credence. The pages

are filled with such moments. Professor Gordon delights in drawing parallels between the unlikeliest of phenomena - how an intelligent reflection on the properties of worms led him to the design of a better anchor bracket, or how his introduction to a circus proprietor's somewhat self-conscious invention ended up improving everything from military aircraft to household doors. Through the liberal use of such anecdotes, he leads us, gently but inexorably, to a fuller understanding of the interconnectedness of the physical world. While his book deals with abstract ideas, Professor Gordon comes across clearly as a practical man.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Structures: Or Why Things Don't Fall Down Why Buildings Fall Down: How Structures Fail The Life-Changing Magic of Not Giving a F*ck: How to Stop Spending Time You Don't Have with People You Don't Like Doing Things You Don't Want to Do Down, Down, Down: A Journey to the Bottom of the Sea Anatomy of Orofacial Structures - Enhanced Edition: A Comprehensive Approach, 7e (Anatomy of Orofacial Structures (Brand)) Anatomy of Orofacial Structures, 7e (Anatomy of Orofacial Structures (Brand)) Don't Sweat the Small Stuff and It's All Small Stuff: Simple Ways to Keep the Little Things From Taking Over Your Life (Don't Sweat the Small Stuff Series) Things That Float and Things That Don't How to Use Graphic Design to Sell Things, Explain Things, Make Things Look Better, Make People Laugh, Make People Cry, and (Every Once in a While) Change the World The Brain Audit: Why Customers Buy (And Why They Don't) First Things First: Understand Why So Often Our First Things Aren't First Why We Make Things and Why It Matters: The Education of a Craftsman Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia and Even Iraq Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most Popular Sport Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia and Even Iraq Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most Popular Sport Up, Down, All-Around Stitch Dictionary: More than 150 stitch patterns to knit top down, bottom up, back and forth, and in the round Early Communication Skills for Children with Down Syndrome: A Guide for Parents and Professionals (Topics in Down Syndrome) Structuring Zero Down Deals: Real Estate Investing With No Down Payment Or Bank Qualifying Down and Out Down Under (Geronimo Stilton, No. 29) The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures We All Fall Down: Living with Addiction

[Dmca](#)