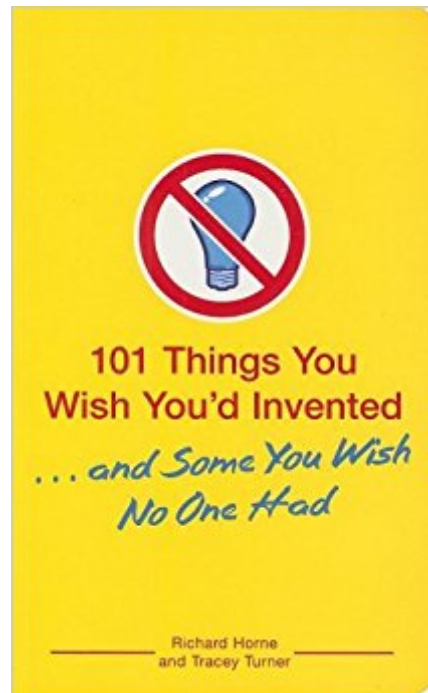




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# 101 Things You Wish You'd Invented . . . And Some You Wish No One Had



## Synopsis

Would you like to have your leg chopped off without anesthetic? Or attend a party with no music? Or brush your teeth with a stick? The odds are, probably not. Perhaps it's time you marveled at the sheer brilliance of inventions. How did we ever end up with: Morse code? X-rays? Toilet paper? In this book, you will discover 101 of the most interesting, most dangerous, and most unnecessary inventions out there. Make something, invent something, or just impress your friends with your increased knowledge about where all those crazy contraptions came from. **WARNING:** Increased braininess may be only temporary.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

'Top inventions detailed in this pocket-sized book. From fizzy drinks to fireworks, it's a cracker.' *tBk* magazine, Spring, 2011 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Richard Horne is a designer of books, album covers, and magazines, and the author of *101 Things to Do Before You're Old and Boring*, *101 Things You Need to Know . . . and Some You Don't!* and the bestselling *101 Things to Do Before You Die*. A self-confessed risk taker and left-hander, he lives in London, England. Visit him at [www.101thingstodobook.com](http://www.101thingstodobook.com) Tracey Turner is a former editor, and is the author of many non-fiction books for children, including *Disgusting Dictionary* and titles for

the Dead Famous series. Tracey lives in Bath, England.

I was carefully removing a typewriter from the dumpster behind the Zero Public Library when something hit the side of the dumpster with a powerful report. At first I thought it must have been a gunshot, and the sound of the window slamming in the Director's office would not argue against this. But it was just this book. I didn't know they made 'em this way anymore. Heavy durable paper, actually a bit like a toddler's board book, fit to be chewed on. But, aside from a slight flattening on the corner which had hit the dumpster, there was no sign that it had been read, much less masticated by a young h. sapiens still indiscriminately enthusiastic about the world. Some of this stuff isn't the sort of stuff that gets invented. "Fashion", for instance. Scarcely more than sex. Kind of like the distinction between invention and evolution. There are all kind of things in here. Hard to say that they were invented in the way the light bulb was invented, which is what most people think of when they think of inventions. "X-ray", yes. "Umbrella", eh, well, people probably used elephant ear plants and such, and artificial aids developed over time. "Silk" didn't get invented; something else happened. Interesting, but something else. As for "post-it" notes, and "flip-flops", who cares? But I suppose anything historical is interesting, to some people. But probably not the sort of people who will pick up this colorful little book, like middle-schoolers. As soon as they see what it is, they'll drop it. So I really don't think that this book will help in the training of young minds. Though I don't think that's why the Director threw it at me. It didn't have a red WITHDRAWN FROM THE ZERO MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC LIBRARY stamp on it.

If you've ever wondered about how Braille was created, when the skateboard first appeared, or why the time machine has yet to be invented, then you'll want to check out this book! 101 inventions are given two page histories/factoids, accompanied by a worksheet for readers to complete. For example, the entry for Roller Coaster gives a history of the invention, including steep icy hills built in Russia during the 1700s, where people would ride down on seats made of wood or ice. The accompanying worksheet asks readers to list their favorite roller coaster, how many times they've ridden it, the types and amounts of loops, and the consequences of riding. Readers will find recommendations with each entry for other inventions they may enjoy. The book includes items that have yet to be invented (a teleporter, terraforming, anti-aging pills, etc.) and "If Only" items, such as a Know-It-All Hat, a Language Decoder, and a Weather Machine. This is a great book for tweens and teens, and is fun for just browsing. A concern for libraries may be that the book encourages readers to write in it, cut pages out, and use stickers to mark inventions that have been fully

researched.

I just love this product I just use it for basic cutting I bought it because I read the reviews and its just what they I just have to go buy a sleeve for it excellent. give my parents , 5 star. help me a lot.

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