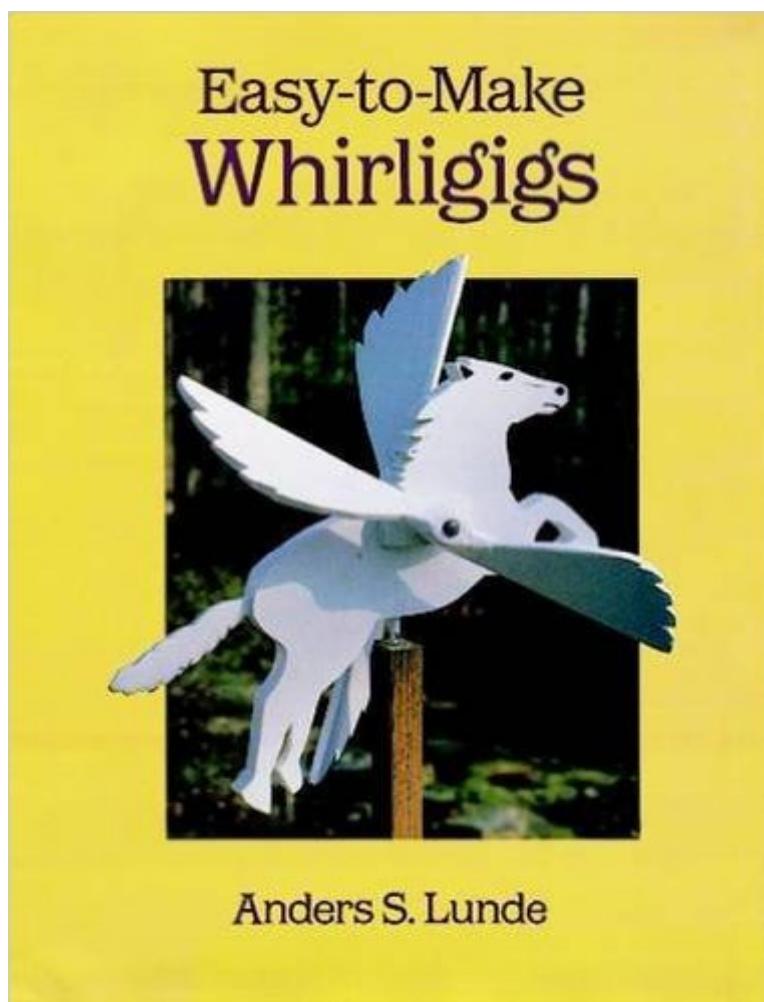


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# Easy-to-Make Whirligigs (Dover Woodworking)



## Synopsis

Welcome to the wonderful world of whirligigs! Whirligigs are small, wind-driven toylike objects â " often called "wind toys" â " that whirl and twirl on a pivot. Who made the first whirligig? Nobody knows â " their origins are lost in the distant past. Some people think they may have come to Europe with the windmill, which was introduced from the East in the twelfth century. We do know that American crafters were making whirligigs as early as the eighteenth century. This delightful guide contains complete patterns and easy-to-follow instructions for making 30 whirligigs of your own: the Signaling Trainman, Flying Puffin, Colonial Dame, Indian in Canoe, Halley's Comet, Santa, Flying Witch, and many others. All are designed to work outdoors in the wind. One of the best parts about whirligigs is that they are inexpensive to make. A few scraps of wood, a couple of tools, and a nail or two are all you need. What's more, there's no limit to the designs you can construct. Once you have mastered the simple technical aspects of whirligig construction, you can use your imagination and ingenuity to make any number of new models. Creating new whirligigs is fun, and seeing them spin and twirl in the wind is very exciting and rewarding.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Woodworking

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (March 25, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486289656

ISBN-13: 978-0486289656

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.3 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #532,638 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Toys & Models > Wood Toys #245 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Wood Crafts & Carving #379 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Seasonal

## Customer Reviews

Anders S. Lunde is the man who resurrected the whirligig from the ashheap of historical American culture. In the 1970's, Lunde first investigated old whirligigs in New England, researched in the Library of Congress, and just plain hit the woodworking bench to figure out what makes a good

whirligig work. Others have tried to copy him, but his whirligigs spin and turn and twist with a freedom and naturalness few can match. His political whirligig creations are snapped up immediately these days, because at 86 years old, there is no telling when he will stop. Simple, straightforward, and detailed, these designs and instructions will put you in the drivers seat for making any design you desire. It is the creative side of these wind machines that intrigues Lunde a lot. His other books continue his approach and offer many other interesting designs. Buy them all!

I retired a couple of years ago, and last year I bought a scroll saw. I also subscribed to a Scroll Saw and Woodworking magazine. I saw this book advertised in the magazine, so I bought it (and several others). There are a couple of whirligigs in here that I'm interested in making as gifts. Easy to follow instructions. I would have given it a 5 star rating if there were a few more projects to my liking in there. But I hardly ever rate anything a 5. Good book.

I wonder if some of the whirligigs were actually built, or someone just drew plans. I made a couple whirligigs using ideas from the book but with my design for the body. They came out pretty good however you need good bearings for the main shaft. A piece of copper tube used as a bearing just won't cut it. Things wobble and the fit is too sloppy. A little ball bearing works a lot better. Instead of trying to bend a 1/4" steel bolt, I used 1/4" aluminum rods. It bends way easier.

This is by far the most informative book on whirligig that I've come across. Fundamentals on mechanics and designs of whirligig at beginning of the book is a must read for anyone who is new to making whirligigs. I also like the variety of the designs included in the book with layouts and modification suggestions. Overall, great book! We really enjoyed making these and giving them out as gifts (and also selling a few to supplement our project fund!).

I ordered this book due to the excellent reviews it had, but I was very disappointed. The book is very outdated and for a newbie, I thought the instructions weren't very clear.

good book with very clear drawings and measurements for each project including detailed instructions and history of the whys, and whats of Whirligig history and mechanics. this is a must have book for beginners and intermediate level. Also may be a great reminder book for those more advanced that have stepped away and need a swift kick to get going again.

Any woodworker can make these delightful items..... easy patterns, explanations are plain and easy to understand. Good one to buy for yourself, and an excellent gift for any woodworker, youngsters would like this too.

The book provides great examples but not really too many patterns. I was looking for a more basic approach like the flying duck or goose pattern. Some of these patterns and plans are very intricate and mechanical in nature.

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