



Life Skills: How to Do Almost Anything

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How do you give a good wedding toast? How do you fix a clogged drain? How do you end a relationship? Collected from the popular “Life Skills” column in the *Chicago Tribune*, this book is filled with often humorous instructions on performing tasks that many of us have never gotten around to figuring out. Some are truly useful explanations of technical topics, while others are good for a laugh or cover the more ambiguous areas of relationships, careers, and social interaction. With chapters on home economics, the office, recreation, and social issues, *Life Skills* is a unique guide to the many skills it takes a lifetime to learn and perfect.

Life Skills: How to Do Almost Anything Details

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Author : Chicago Tribune

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Hazel Went says

A disappointing read, although perhaps not surprising as this book was advertised as being light-hearted. I am exploring such books in relation to actually supporting adults with their life-skills, and this was not the book I was hoping it would be. Some interesting sections, but nothing mind-blowing and certainly nothing earth-shattering.

Aseel says

common sense is not common any more
you can read that article on its own
but its ridiculous to print out in a book

Jeremy says

Life Skills is a compilation of articles from the *Chicago Tribune* on how to do a wide range of things, from tying a bowtie to throwing a punch.

The book has 62 articles and is divided into 5 sections - Basics (hang a painting, sew a button), At the Office (ask for a raise, clean a keyboard), Play (grab a cab, teach bike riding), Technical (change a tire, jump start a car), Social (ask for a favor, break the ice).

I felt the articles were hit or miss. Due to the source, they are all quite short, which is okay for some, but not for others. In many cases, the article refers the reader to a web site for more information. Sometimes I felt that the site wouldn't add anything of value, other times I felt that all of the valuable information must be at the website (prepare an evacuation kit).

The diagrams were also not always helpful(or nonexistent). The article on tying a bowtie didn't have any diagrams. It said that it would take 30 minutes to learn, and afterwards about 2 minutes to tie a bowtie. I think the 30 minutes would be spent trying to decipher the instructions without a diagram. There were diagrams for the section on wrapping a package, but they were not complete enough to understand what the text was trying to direct.

I skipped some sections (photograph a dog), and felt that others were rather uninteresting (clean the refrigerator). However, most had at least one little bit of new information that made the read worthwhile.

Probably not a book I'd go back to, but a nice diversion at the time.

Linda L says

Not so important in the age of on-line info.

Kim says

I learned closer to nothing from this book of common sense "life skills".

Nessie says

finished that book in one go and can only recommend it to any young adult. it contains a variety of skills and life hacks from planting flowers to changing a tire or asking your boss for a raise, super helpful and a variety of topics. i wish they would teach stuff like that at schools and also hope for a second book, maybe going more in detail into money management, taxes and (housing) contracts.

Benjamin Uke says

A general practical guide on fixing day-to-day chores.

Carina Freeman says

Everything you need to know if you've ever wondered how to do something.

This was very enjoyable to read. I learned some very good things and some other things I may never do. But if you have always wondered how to do certain things, like how to be a good witness to a crime, you can now learn how.
