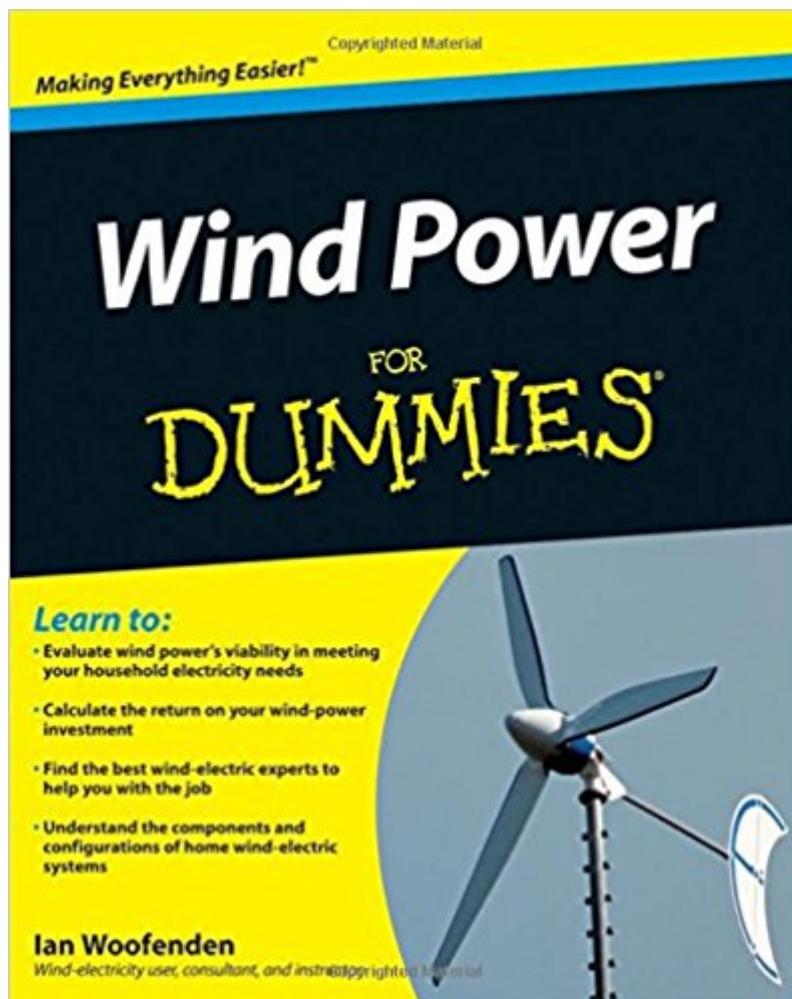


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# Wind Power For Dummies



## **Synopsis**

The consumer guide to small-scale wind electricity production! Maybe you're not T. Boone Pickens, but you can build your own home-sized wind-power empire right in your back yard. *Wind Power For Dummies* supplies all the guidance you need to install and maintain a sustainable, cost-effective wind generator to power your home for decades to come. This authoritative, plain-English guide walks you through every step of the process, from assessing your site and available wind sources to deciding whether wind power is the solution for you, from understanding the mechanics of wind power and locating a contractor to install your system to producing your own affordable and sustainable electricity. Guides you step by step through process of selecting, installing, and operating a small-scale wind generator to power your home Demystifies system configurations, terminology, and wind energy principles to help you speak the language of the pros Helps assess and reduce your energy needs and decide whether wind power is right for you Explains the mechanics of home-based wind power Shows you how to tie into the grid and sell energy back to the power company Offers advice on evaluating all of the costs of and financing for your project Provides tips on working with contractors and complying with local zoning laws Yes, you can do it, with a little help from *Wind Power For Dummies*.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Learn about home-scale wind energy without getting blown away! Are you thinking about exploring ways you can limit your home's environmental impact, but you're not sure whether a wind-energy

system is right for you? *Wind Power For Dummies* gives you real-world, easy-to-understand tips and information on each step in the process of acquiring, installing, and maintaining a home-scale wind-energy system. Plus, you'll learn how to assess your current energy use, increase your home's energy efficiency, and determine your site's wind-energy potential. Getting a wind primer; determine whether wind energy is right for you, understand the parts of a basic wind-electric system, and discover basic electricity and wind-energy principles. Assessing your situation; get a realistic understanding of your site's wind-energy potential and check out alternate options to using wind energy. Assembling your system; find helpful advice on designing your wind-electric system, whether you're doing it yourself or working with experts. Installing and operating your system; use trusted tips on safely installing, living with, maintaining, and enjoying your wind-electric system. Open the book and find: Electricity basics defined in clear English. Vital wind-energy principles. Advice on how to conduct a home energy assessment. Tips on how to increase your home's energy efficiency. Information on how wind energy will affect your wallet. The basic requirements for a productive, long-lasting system. Fundamentals on system sizing and design.

Ian Woofenden is a Senior Editor with Home Power magazine, the Northwest & Costa Rica Coordinator with Solar Energy International, and a wind-energy author, consultant, and instructor. He has been living off-grid with his family and several wind generators for almost 30 years.

This book is just so informative, and it "pulls no punches". It is very well written, obviously by someone who has a huge amount of practical experience. It is a great assessment guide to advise you as to whether wind power is for you, and whether it is even worth considering wind power. I also liked that it had some sections on alternative sources of power, other than wind power- solar and hydro for example, and examples of good and bad windpower installations. Also covered are ways to assess your current power consumption and options to increase efficiency and reduce your power bill. I would thoroughly recommend this book to anyone who is looking seriously at wind generation, alternative forms of generation, or just wanting to increase their energy efficiency.

I've never read any of the "Dummy" books before. However, I do have an interest in renewable energy, so I thought this book might be a good primer. I wasn't disappointed. Woofenden writes with humor and verve. He is honest regarding the merits and troubles of having a small wind turbine. His book isn't designed to tell you how to install such a system; the book does what it is supposed to do:

introduce small wind, in a readable fashion, to those who are investigating the merits of such a system for their home use. I can recommend this book to anyone who wants a good, basic introduction to wind energy. I also liked the author's section on other renewable energy alternatives. And his focus on conservation as the best way to profoundly, positively impact the planet.

I am new at wind power and an RVer. I am a former adult education teacher. This book is easy to understand and each chapter stands alone. I highly recommend this for first timers it has saved me a lot of time and money.

If you don't know much about small wind power and are thinking about buying/building a system for home use this book is a good place to start. It doesn't get so technical that you can't read it (ok, some of the electricity stuff does get a little boring), but it's mostly easy to read and comprehend. I was hoping for more information about specific turbines and manufacturers, but there is not a lot of that in this book. However, if you're looking for the basic principles and whether or not wind will work for you this book does a good job with that. It's definitely a quick read and helpful for the wind newbie.

I was dumb about wind power before I read this..and I am even dumber now. If you have even imagined investing in or erecting a wind power station on your property, in your neighborhood, to power your home, schools, township buildings or whatever...this is a good first must read. the whole "Dummies" series of books are very helpful. This one provides the technical, economic and environmental information that helps inform.

Using Ian's "Dummies" to flesh out both volumes on wind energy by Dan Charas. As an absolute novice to wind energy today, reading the "Dummies" volume first allowed me to take in the more technical writing of Mr. Charas much more easily. Ian also provides considered comments that take some of the gloss and sell from the industry literature available today. Good balance and excellent addition to the volumes by Dan Charas...looks right on the bookshelf as well, up there with my other "Dummies" volumes.

easy read, easy understanding... after reading you will understand what wind power is really about... you will know if wind power will work for you. and what the wind power companies really mean, when they give you specs about a wind mill...

Waste of money, you have to dig through the book to get the right information, not user friendly. Could of been made a lot simpler and easier to read and understand. This book is not for beginners.

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