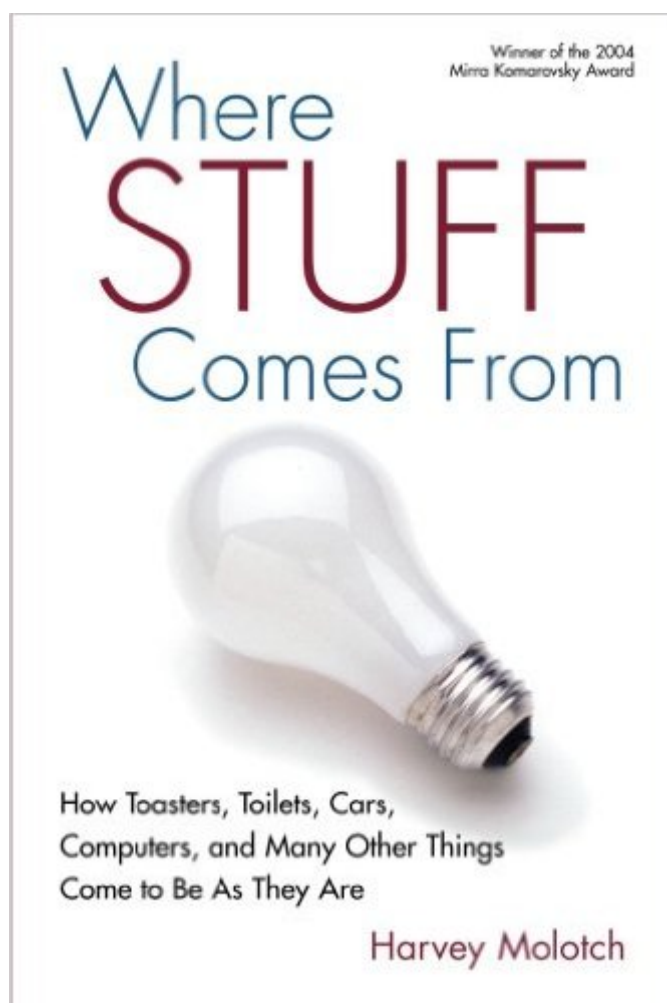


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# Where Stuff Comes From: How Toasters, Toilets, Cars, Computers And Many Other Things Come To Be As They Are



## Synopsis

Molotch takes us on a fascinating exploration into the worlds of technology, design, corporate and popular culture. We now see how corporations, designers, retailers, advertisers, and other middle-men influence what a thing can be and how it is made. We see the way goods link into ordinary life as well as vast systems of consumption, economic and political operation. The book is a meditation into the meaning of the stuff in our lives and what that stuff says about us.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The everyday objects of our lives, and where they come from, are the subject of this book. How do items such as paper clips, post-it notes and bathtubs come into being? What factors influence design, and why do we (many of us, anyway) want this stuff? I found this book fascinating. Some items of 'stuff' - such as toys and lamps change relatively quickly in response to fashion. Some other items - such as pencils and toilets - do not. The influences on change seem to vary, depending on the item. Take, for example, the chair. Chairs are not universally used around the world; many people squat, sit cross-legged or sit flat on the ground. But where chairs are used, we actively train our children how to use them 'properly'. And as a consequence, for many of us: 'Chairs have become part of the methodology of respect and rectitude.' The design of chairs has changed, and while there is some contrast between the utilitarian and the artistic, the distinction is often blurred. It's interesting to consider some of the cultural and other factors that influence design, as well as the functionality that mirrors contemporary life. There are plenty of examples including the garlic press; the Palm Pilot; and the Chrysler PT Cruiser. And there are items that could be different:

the computer keyboard (which evolved from the typewriter) for example, or the conventional western toilet which could be modified to accommodate squatting but isn't. Why things are the way they are and what factors influence this makes for very interesting reading. The linkages between items are interesting to consider: the toaster (to give one example) did not develop in isolation.

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Where Stuff Comes From: How Toasters, Toilets, Cars, Computers and Many Other Things Come To Be As They Are A Tear And A Smile: "If you love somebody, let them go, for if they return, they were always yours. If they don't, they never were." How to Get Free Stuff: The Ultimate Guide to Getting Things for Free (freecycle, freebees, free things, free samples, freebie, freestuff) The Collector's Guide to Toy Cars: An International Survey of Tinplate and Diecast Cars from 1990 The Collector's All-Colour Guide to Toy Cars: An International Survey of Tinplate and Diecast Cars from 1900 to the Present Day Collector's All-colour Guide to Toy Cars: An International Survey of Tinplate and Diecast Cars, from 1900 to the Present Day Model Cars You Threw Away: Guide to Pricing and Collecting Obsolete Diecast Model Cars Diecast Toy Cars of the 1950s & 1960s: The Collector's Guide (General: Diecast Toy Cars) Black & Decker The Complete Guide to Plumbing, Updated 5th Edition: Faucets & Fixtures - PEX - Tubs & Toilets - Water Heaters - Troubleshooting & Repair - Much More (Black & Decker Complete Guide) Understanding Girls with ADHD, Updated and Revised: How They Feel and Why They Do What They Do The 100 Best Business Books of All Time: What They Say, Why They Matter, and How They Can Help You The Big Book of Real Helicopters "How They Work \* What They Do \* Where They Fly" (Big Treasure Books) Defeating ISIS: Who They Are, How They Fight, What They Believe The Story of Stuff: How Our Obsession with Stuff Is Trashing the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health-and a Vision for Change The De-Textbook: The Stuff You Didn't Know About the Stuff You Thought You Knew Stuff Every Husband Should Know (Stuff You Should Know) Free Thought&#133; & Other Things&#133;& Other Things 100 Things Sharks Fans Should Know and Do Before They Die (100 Things...Fans Should Know) 100 Things Cubs Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die (100 Things...Fans Should Know) 100 Things Syracuse Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die (100 Things...Fans Should Know)

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