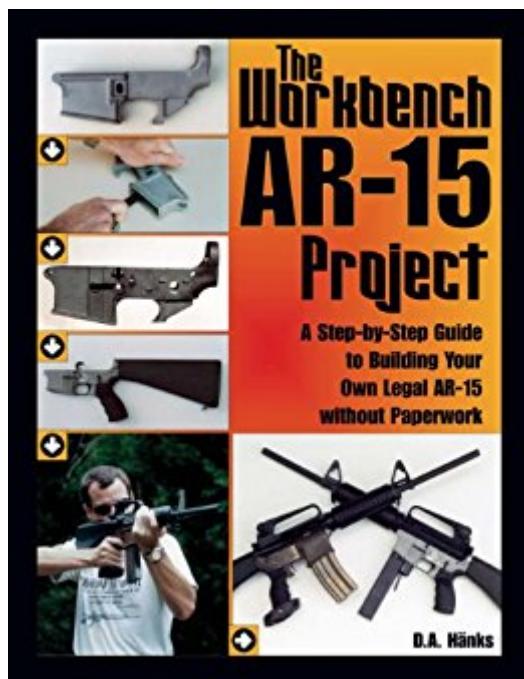


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# Workbench AR-15 Project: A Step-by-Step Guide To Building Your Own Legal AR-15 Without Paperwork



## **Synopsis**

Build your own multipurpose AR-15 suitable for plinking, hunting, collecting or home defense. By following the simple plans in this book to finish a commercial lower receiver, you can have a rifle that will accept a variety of upper receivers - from .22 LR to .50 BMG - and does not require government registration.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 2328 KB

Print Length: 80 pages

Publisher: Paladin Press (September 1, 2004)

Publication Date: September 1, 2004

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00IO01YEF

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #348,391 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #52  
in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Industrial,  
Manufacturing & Operational Systems > Manufacturing #62 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home  
> Crafts & Hobbies > Weaponsmithing #157 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Military  
> Weapons & Warfare > Weapons

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is just what it says it is, I completed not one but several rifles using this book. I went to the websites, and this was the best set of instructions I found. If you can buy it you can build it, so go for it and buy the book it is worth the price in every mistake you will avoid. It also tells how to fix those mistakes if you make them.

I was torn between 3 and 4 stars. I have built quite a few AR's over the years and bought this book for a friend of mine who is going to build his first one on his own. To start out on a first time build I recommend starting with a finished lower receiver. This book starts out with a 80% finished one. Not

everyone has the tools or equipment to drill and tap precise holes. Having pictures on assembly of each piece put in the lower or upper receiver would be very nice instead of just an explanation of how to do it. "The Complete AR-15 Assembly Guide Vol.2" is much better for the novice builder. I gave it 4 stars because it is great if you have the tools and experience to do machine work. The explanation of the different size take-down pins is very clear and a great help. Because if you see a Colt lower for sale you think, "Great!" but it may or may not fit the upper you have or what upper you are going to buy. The pictures and labeling of all the pins and springs is also great so you don't get confused on where each one goes. Don't get me wrong, the book is very good at what it does but it needs a better description of what it does do or doesn't do, especially if this is your first build.

The book was not what I was looking for but that's more my fault for not reading more reviews. The focus of the book is on selecting a lower receiver blank and doing the necessary machining and other work to make it a usable lower receiver, assembling the parts of a lower receiver and then testing it. I was looking for something far more general. That said the book appears to be a pretty detailed description of what needs to be done. For the non-machinist, non gunsmith it looks like a daunting project. There's certainly value in that message. There is a lot on the laws but I would be concerned that the book was published in 2004 and some of the material may be out of date. In summary, if you are specifically interested in purchasing a lower receiver blank and converting it to a working lower receiver assembly this is probably a good, well detailed book, if you are looking for more than that you should probably look elsewhere. I suspect that the cost information is out of date.

The book shows how to make an AR-15 type receiver out of a casting. The casting the author uses includes an already hollowed-out fire control cavity (where the trigger goes). These castings are no longer available due to changes in ATF policy. What you get nowadays is a forging or casting with a completely solid fire control cavity (no cavity, per current ATF guidance), and you have to machine out the entire cavity yourself. This book gives no instructions for machining the fire control cavity, other than cleaning up the existing cavity in a casting that you can no longer purchase. A minor point is that the book tells you how to build a legal post-ban AR receiver according to the law as it existed prior to the 2004 sunset of the Assault Weapons Ban. The book has not been updated to cover what your current (post 2004) legal options are. Now that the law has sunsetted, for instance, can I use imported parts on my AR? These criticisms aside, the book does demonstrate clearly that many of the machining operations can be done with simple tools; cordless drill, hand files, belt sander, etc.

You don't need to have a Bridgeport mill or a CNC lathe to get the job done.

This book was of absolutely no help to me with my 80% build. Maybe at one time it was of some relevance, but every 80% lower that I have come across, is in a state that is completely inconsistent with the examples used in this book. Many of the steps in this book are no longer necessary on today's 80% and what you DO need to finish is not covered. Any information that would have been helpful, such as any sort of detailed drawings with dimensions, is absent. It not only was useless for finishing the lower, it gave no info on assembling the lower once you have it in a stripped state. It really is completely useless .... I didn't even want to give it one star. Don't waste your money

I bought this book for the 80% idea, but now after doing much more research and building my own 80% lower, I only use the book for parts breakdown and ID now.. Don't buy the book if you are looking to build your own 80% lower, there are much easier ways of doing it now!

Over all I was very disappointed with this book. The title implies that this book is a step-by-step guide for building an entire AR-15. It had no procedures or steps to complete the upper receiver what so ever and the lower receiver steps were sketchy at best. I found going to the internet and downloading the step-by-step procedures for the upper and lower receivers much more helpful and they cost nothing at all. This was a wasted purchase.

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