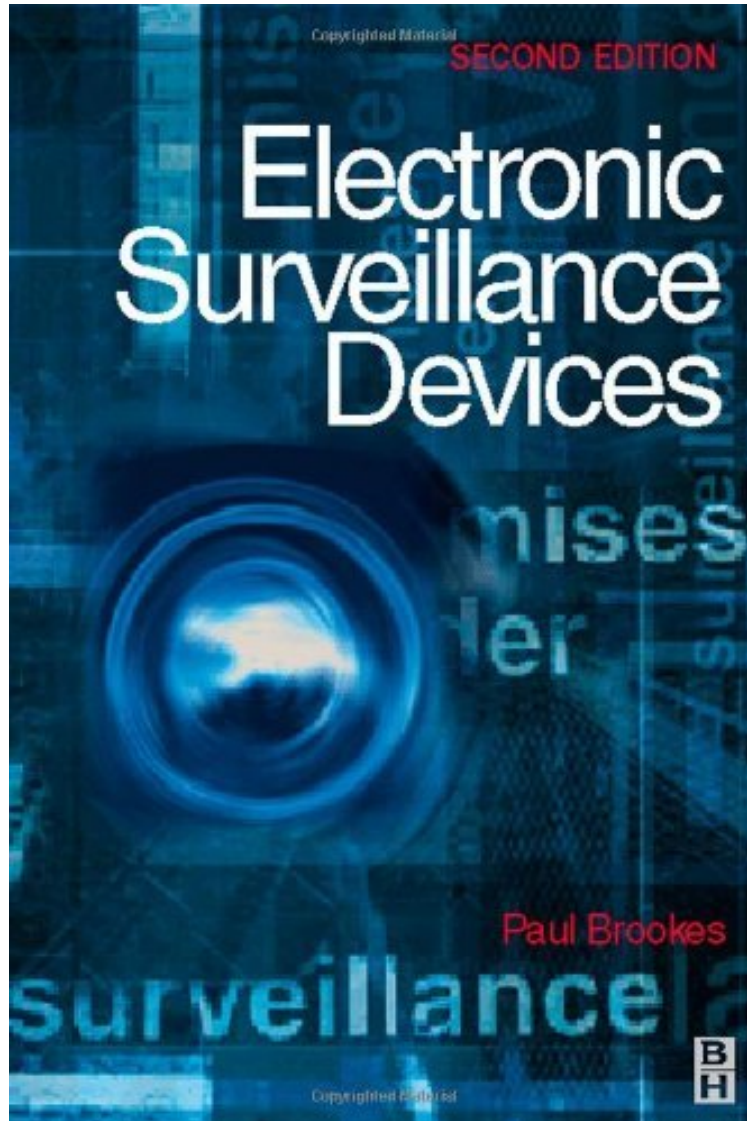


(Download pdf) Electronic Surveillance Devices

Electronic Surveillance Devices

Paul Brookes

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Paul Brookes : Electronic Surveillance Devices before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Electronic Surveillance Devices:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent beginners' text. By John A. Faulkner
Brookes, Paul
Electronic Surveillance Devices
Newnes 1996 reprinted 1997, 1998, 1999 Second edition 2001, reprinted 2002.
(2002 version reviewed.) You will be interested in this book if you
o Want an entry-level text on this topic;
o Are looking for something to interest and motivate students at high school or polytechnic level (eg: TAFE);
o Are running a hobbyist's class. It is not suitable for
o Complete beginners. You need some basic knowledge of electronics;
o Someone looking to rip off a few circuits;
o Anyone looking for advanced techniques. You may want to check your legal position

under your local laws. Surveillance technology is always of interest, especially to young people developing an interest in electronics. A reputation that you can build cool or sinister devices that are beyond the comprehension of the adults around you is good to have when you lack money or power. Building eavesdropping devices is a great motivator for students who have no strong direction but who might fancy themselves as evil geniuses. This book provides a path into the technology for a reader who has a basic knowledge of electronics. The circuits are simple to construct, robust in use and can be guaranteed to work, providing they are properly constructed. However, you cannot just sit down and start building as there is little information on layout and parts placement. You need some initial experience. To assist the beginner only easily available components are used, such as TTL ICs, the BC547, 1N4007, OA91, 2N3819, NE555, CA3140 and uA741 as well as standard passive components. You might need to look for a good VHF transistor for a couple of the projects since the BFY90 and BFR96 can be difficult to find. Some inductors might be hard to locate, so a knowledge of coil construction would help. Of course using better quality components would enhance these devices, but that is not the object - this is a teaching text. All projects are constructed on Veroboard and sometimes a placement diagram is included. Topics covered:

- o Mains and battery powered devices compared;
- o Serial and parallel phone line taps;
- o There is a useful description on how to connect electret microphones;
- o Contact and spike mikes;
- o A wide variety of audio amplifiers from simple pre-amps up to very sensitive hard-wire systems;
- o Simple FM transmitters including crystal controlled models
- o Telephone taps;
- o Mains powered devices for permanent placement, including how to build small mains PSUs;
- o Remote controlled and VOX switching for tape recorders (this is a bit dated - who sells tape recorders these days?);
- o Analogue video transmitters. (There is some mention of digital video but most surveillance cameras are analogue.);
- o There is a small chapter on counter-surveillance devices and techniques which mostly emphasises the difficulties, as well as a dated chapter on receivers and one on the dangers of self-bugging;
- o There is some mention of software based techniques, but this is superficial.

A word of caution here. Most governments have made illegal the construction, possession, distribution (by sale or otherwise), use or use of material obtained from eavesdropping devices except in special circumstances so you are advised to check your local laws if you want to do more than read this book. On the other hand, successful prosecutions are rare and similar devices are openly advertised for sale. Detection of these devices is difficult. Any competent hobbyist could produce this equipment from readily available components or by disassembly of consumer items. But before you go into business consider this. Whether your clients are cops, spies or gangsters, they are eavesdroppers and conspirators - they are inherently untrustworthy. They don't regard you as an electronic genius - you're just the hired help, some geek who is useful but expendable. Look after number one! The smartest player is often the one who does not join the game. The review copy was a trade paperback of about 150 pages, of the high quality typical of Newnes. "Paul Brookes" is the pen name of Paul Benton who has written extensively on electronics since the 1980s, often for the magazines Electronics Today, Practical Electronics and Everyday Electronics. He is a lecturer at the university and polytechnic level and works for a major electronics company in Britain.

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A disappointment even for wannabe spies

By G. Mitchell

The author presents dozens of circuits for audio surveillance devices many feature obsolete components like 741 operational amplifiers. They have such poor stability and noise poor performance that they have not been used for many years. Others use design techniques that were abandoned long ago such as transmitters made from one-transistor oscillators. Basic physical principles are ignored. A diagram of a laser for eavesdropping through a window shows a collimated beam passing through a simple convex lens without being spread. The laser beam bounces off the glass at an angle defying explanation. Who can remember vidicon TV cameras? This old design is featured as one of two main types of cameras. The section on countermeasures misses most useful techniques for finding bugs. For example, if any of the circuits shown in this book were hidden under a board room table a nonlinear junction device location technique would be most commonly used to discover it. This technique is not discussed by the author, however.

[exerpted from a review for Security Management all rights reserved]

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A true Benchmark for anyone interested in Surveillance

By A Customer

Although interested in electronics for many years, I thought that devices for electronic surveillance were complicated until I read this book. The book has loads of circuits diagrams that are easy to build, with a good write-up on how they work. Despite the physically small size of the book (only just over one hundred pages), this goes to show that size is not everything! There is no waffling or unnecessary photos of obsolete or irrelevant material, and is an excellent reference guide for any person interested in electronics. Excellent.

Electronic Surveillance Devices is the book that security professionals, security system installers and hobbyists have been waiting for. Paul Brookes launches straight into the practicalities of electronic surveillance with plenty of clear, detailed information on building the devices that are at the heart of surveillance and counter-surveillance. Self-build electronics projects are supported by principles and a brief survey of each type of device. The second edition of this popular handbook has been extended with new material on microphones, amplifiers and transmitters. A step-by-step cookbook of electronic surveillance devices and techniques

Requires only a basic electronics background

Practical applications and guidance for security professionals

"Although interested in electronics for many years, I thought that devices for electronic surveillance were complicated until I read this book. The book has loads of circuits diagrams that are easy to build, with a good write-up on how they work... There is no waffling or unnecessary photos of obsolete or irrelevant material, and is an excellent reference guide for any person interested in electronics. Excellent.' Reader's review from .com of the first editionParticularly strong on worked examples.,Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers,034067699XA practical and straightforward handbook, complete with circuit diagrams, ideal for security ststem installers. Containing detailed material for building your own surveillance devices- making you wonder why you hadn't tried it before!.."nbsp;-- International Security Buyers Guide 2002From the PublisherChapter One is an introductory chapter outlining why various types of equipment are used, illustrated with two case histories. Chapter Two describes all types of device available, their performance and potential uses. The remainder of the book deals with actual circuit diagrams and construction techniques of various transmitters, recording switches and counter surveillance devices, and provides information on receiving equipment.About the AuthorPaul Brookes has written several articles for magazines such as Practical Electronics, Everyday Electronics and Electronics Today International. For many years he designed, manufactured and retailed electronic kits for hobbyists specializing in radio communication and security devices.