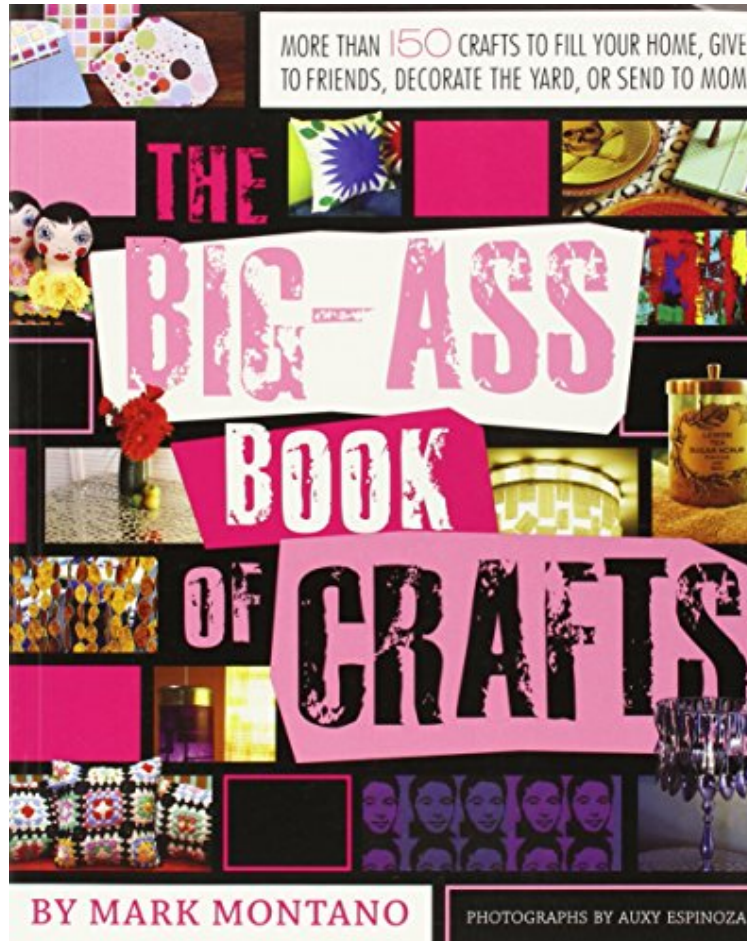


The Big-Ass Book of Crafts

Mark Montano

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Mark Montano : The Big-Ass Book of Crafts before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Big-Ass Book of Crafts:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. some cool, some silly, some hip/edgy, some cheap/trashy crafts -- and some expensive crafts more like DIY furniture By cinephiliagal Some of this stuff is cool. Some of it is silly. Some of it is a little hip or edgy. Some of it is kind of cheap and trashy (where you wouldn't actually want to have this in your home). Some of it assumes you either have unusual supplies laying around, or that want to spend a lot of money finding them in order to make something "unique" just for the sake of making something unique or personalized. The instructions are usually clear, but not with some of the longer, more detailed projects; the instructions for those start to get confusing. Some of it isn't so much crafting as it is DIY home decor/furnishing. Which I'm okay with, actually -- that's why I used to watch She's Crafty with Wendy Russell (which is how I found out about this book in the first place). There is a lot of "Mark" in this book. I think there may be more opinion than there is actual craft instruction; it starts to seem like it's all about Mark instead of all about the crafts. For those of us who don't think the center of the

world is New York City, it gets annoying after a while -- and I'm not really sure I'd want to clutter my glorified-walk-in-closet NYC apartment with most of this stuff (I say that having been known to claim furniture from alleys -- I have a slate topped oak coffee table I got that way). I think I'd rather decorate my two bedroom (for 1/5 the rent cost of a walk-in closet in NYC) with more elegant craft/decor projects from Martha Stewart's Encyclopedia of Crafts. Plus Martha put a lot less of "her" into her book, than Mark put of his opinions/style/outlook into this book. I'm glad I bought this used at a reduced price. I'm really glad I didn't pay full price for this book, new. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A huge disappointment. By Dolly Smith Unfortunately this book didn't live up to its hype. The crafts were either just something that no one would ever use or put in their house but some of them required way more time than I want to spend on any crafts I am working on. If the other really did spend a year furnishing his home with these ideas I wouldn't want to live there. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Way better than I expected. By Lisa M. W This book is really great. The clever ideas are adaptable to a variety of projects. The best part is that as a creative person, there were a ton of ideas I could implement immediately because most items I already had around the house. I would suggest this book to my friends both old and young. The variety of ideas apply to children and adults. Wonderful ideas for hand crafted presents as well as home decor! The best part is the ideas do not require an art degree to execute. Great instructions and supporting pictures. I am waiting on the Big Ass Book of Bling. Should arrive any day. If you are a Mark Montano fan - be sure to check out his weekly videos on his YouTube channel.

The Big-Ass Book of Crafts is packed with ideas for sprucing up your living space; concocting fabulous, all-natural body products; designing your own unique stationery; and creating countless other crafts that will convince your friends and loved ones that you're the secret love child of Martha Stewart (only much, much cooler). Forget crocheted doilies and itchy knit sweaters--TLC's While You Were Out top designer Mark Montano has created stylish and imaginative projects that range from a Warhol-esque Ultrasuede iPod case to photo-adorned boxer shorts to African mask patio chairs to wooden night-light boxes. Divided into sections that include Outdoorsy (ideas to enhance your backyard), Dishing It Out (decorating plates using different techniques), You've Been Framed (innovative picture framing ideas), and Can I Have a Light? (creating and decorating lamps, lanterns, and chandeliers), it's as entertaining to read as it is endlessly inspiring. With more than one hundred and fifty inventive and fun projects, The Big-Ass Book of Crafts is the perfect activity book for readers of every mood, budget, and skill level.

About the Author Mark Montano is part of the design team for TLC's While You Were Out and the host of TLC's Ten Years Younger, as well as co-host of the Style networks My Celebrity Home. He is a contributing editor to CosmoGIRL! magazine, and his weekly column, Make Your Mark, appears in more than seventy newspapers across the country. Mark is the author of Super Suite and Dollar Store Decor and co-author of Window Treatments and Slipcovers for Dummies.