

How to Build a Time Machine

By Paul Davies

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With his unique knack for making cutting-edge theoretical science effortlessly accessible, world-renowned physicist Paul Davies now tackles an issue that has boggled minds for centuries: Is time travel possible? The answer, insists Davies, is definitely yes—once you iron out a few kinks in the space-time continuum. With tongue placed firmly in cheek, Davies explains the theoretical physics that make visiting the future and revisiting the past possible, then proceeds to lay out a four-stage process for assembling a time machine and making it work. Wildly inventive and theoretically sound, **How to Build a Time Machine** is creative science at its best—illuminating, entertaining, and thought provoking.

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How to Build a Time Machine By Paul Davies Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Is time travel possible? If so, what manner of machine would one need to traverse this fourth dimension? Covering ground similar to J. Richard Gott's Time Travel in Einstein's Universe, this slim, tongue-in-cheek treatise invokes the primary tenet of Einstein's special theory of relativity that both time and space are elastic to illustrate that time travel, while impractical, is definitely possible. The time travel mechanisms Davies (The Fifth Miracle) envisions are dramatically different from the devices that SF authors H.G. Wells and Ray Bradbury have employed in their fiction. All that's needed to travel to the future, noted theoretical physicist Davies asserts, is a little help from gravity and a spaceship that can reach speeds just under the speed of light. Traveling to the past is a trickier task, however, and Davies spends the bulk of his book explaining the components needed to construct a wormhole (a black hole "with an exit as well as an entrance"). Despite the author's penchant for diagrams and his habit of highlighting and repeating his major points, readers will struggle to accept some of his more difficult and extreme propositions such as the existence of an exotic matter possessing antigravitational properties, which is vital to his construction of a wormhole. While Davies's discussion of the paradoxes inherent in time travel and of the physical laws that seem to prevent it is both thought provoking and accessible, his limited focus on wormholes may disappoint those hungering for a broader discussion of time travel technology.

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From Scientific American
Is time travel possible? Yes, says Davies, who recently retired (in his early 50s) as professor of mathematical physics at the University of Adelaide in Australia to concentrate on his writing. But "a moment's thought uncovers some tricky questions." Whereupon he discusses lucidly and engagingly both the concepts of physics that establish the possibility of time travel and the tricky questions. You could reach the future "by simply moving very fast." For visiting the past, the most popular proposal is a wormhole, "a sculpture in the structure of space that provides a shortcut between two widely separated spaces." There may be "cosmic taboos," though, that make time travel forever elusive.

Editors of Scientific American

From Booklist
A time-traveling machine *can* be constructed--provided one rotates a superdense cylinder of infinite length or locates a wormhole. Such are the contraptions contemporary physicists such as Frank Tipler and Kip Thorne (*Black Holes and Time Warps*, 1994) have conceived in their explorations of whether it's possible to build a time machine. Davies, also a physicist, has an impressive track record of writing popular titles about space-time (e.g., *About Time*, 1995), and he opens up the fascinating yet weird concept of time travel to readers new to the basic features of space-time. That does not mean his precis is simple, but it is lucid throughout, even sketching out the four technical parts required in a time machine that exploits quantum effects. And if a machine were actually built, many paradoxes would arise, which Davies explores in an inventive manner. An excellent explainer, Davies will well reward the curious bent on bending space-time.
Gilbert Taylor
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Users Review

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Tammy Booker:

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Harrison Colon:

The book untitled How to Build a Time Machine contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains the girl idea with easy technique. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read that. The book was authored by famous author. The author will bring you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice examine.

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