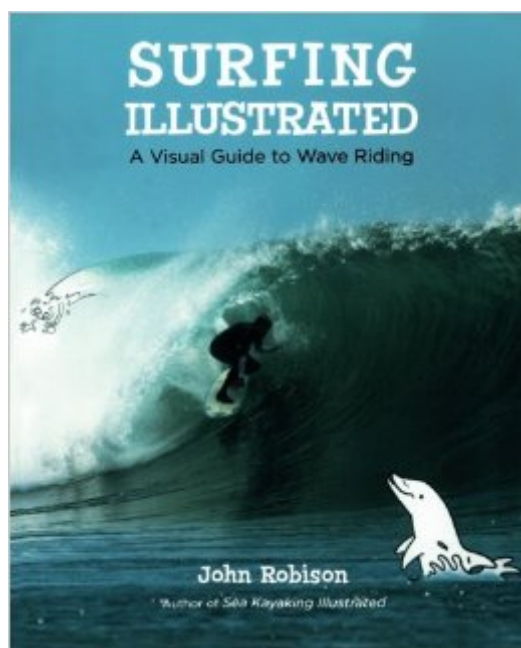


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# Surfing Illustrated: A Visual Guide To Wave Riding



## Synopsis

Expert instruction you need to take your skills from kook to boss Author John Robison uses hundreds of pictures-- comical, cartoon-like drawings--to clearly illustrate every aspect of surfing: wave dynamics, riding techniques, etiquette, logistics, and more. This entertaining, easy-to-understand visual presentation makes it easy for you to pick up his techniques and use them on the waves. Robison covers every aspect of the sport, from paddling out through the surf zone and catching and riding that first wave to nose riding, acrobatics, shortboard riding, and to equipment repairs.

## Book Information

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press; 1 edition (May 7, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 007147742X

ISBN-13: 978-0071477420

Product Dimensions: 7.3 x 0.4 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (48 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #253,636 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Surfing](#) #749 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#) #47326 in [Books > Textbooks](#)

## Customer Reviews

What fun! A friend gave me this book when he heard I was going to try surfing on a recent trip to Hawai'i. It was indispensable! I took a lesson, and though the instructors were great, they couldn't possibly pack in as much information as Robison's book does. While there is a ton of information here, it's easy to find and digest: the book is well-organized and easy to read. The cartoons are charming and funny, but also do a great job of illustrating surfing concepts (we're all visual people, right?). The author explains everything from wave physics to surfing etiquette (and of course how to surf). His clever drawings and witty sense of humor kept me turning the pages. Even if you're not about to hit the waves, it's a fun and interesting read. Highly recommended!

John Robison has a way with pictures. When I read his sea kayaking book I was the perfect audience, an inexperienced sea kayaker in need of tips about tie downs and peeing while on the

water. But Surfing Illustrated is different. I've been surfing for nearly 15 years and figured that although I'm no expert, I know pretty much all I need to know. Well maybe I do know all I need to know but I had no idea how much I wanted to know. Surfing is a physical sport, so is waxing a board and tying on a leash. Text with photographs simply doesn't bring these basics home the way text and drawings do: step-by-step. And while Robison has a knack for blending humor into his teaching, it's clear after even a brief perusal, this guy knows a lot about the ocean, surfboards, and surfing. And I'm talking not just about wave riding and stoke, it's about being safe in the water, understanding tides and their effect on your local break, and yes, noseriding and pretty much everything else you can imagine on a surfboard. Of all the surf how-to books I've seen, Robison's is by far the most accessible. It's simple but has enough to keep even experts interested. And for all you beginners out there dreaming of catching your first wave, this is the book that will get you there. From figuring out where to surf to managing yourself in the lineup to getting your first ride, it's all packed in with ample humor to keep you interested and to keep the sport fun, the way it's supposed to be.

This book seemed a little cheezy at first with the corny illustrations. I think when you buy a surfing book, you want a lot of awesome photography of surfers, surfboards and beaches. Not this one. What it DOES have though is a lot of really valuable information. Page after page. Some of it I'll go back to later because it does get pretty detailed, especially with weather, currents etc.. Do buy this book if you're a beginner or novice surfer looking for something to read in between learning.. I think you'll get something out of this one.

I bought this book to read up on "how to surf" before taking a lesson and it was very helpful. However if all you wanted to know was that, you need to skim the first 100 pages and just read the basics. On the otherhand I found those first chapters interesting and when I get my surfing act together I'll go back and study up before buying a board. Also if you've never surfed, I recommend a lesson first before renting a board and just trying it. You'll be much happier. And if you get this book and practice "pop ups" at home on the carpet you'll be even happier at your first lesson. Recommended.

This is an indispensable book on surfing. It is packed with all the essential information about surfing that anyone needs to know when learning to surf. It is also really easy to read with fun illustrations. I loaned mine to a friend who never returned it so I decided to gift it to him and get a second

copy. Every chapter has useful information. In particular the chapters on wave dynamics and surf etiquette are excellent. The book contains a lot of subtle tips and should be read again and again. On a side note, Ed Guzman, the surfer on the cover, was my first surfing instructor and the writer's instructor when he learned. How cool is that? Ed and Club Ed are great. Look them up if you are in Santa Cruz and want to learn to surf.

Absolutely the best guide for novice to intermediate surfers, covering every topic that's required to get someone going on the sport as well as improving one's understanding of the water and waves. The drawings are whimsical but very easy to understand, and the text is written in a very straightforward and clear manner. Highly recommended.

Very cool and fun to read. The authors personality really comes through. I have it on a coffee table in anticipation of an upcoming trip. My kids keep picking it up and poking through it. Cute illustrations and photos throughout. A good buy.

Just started surfing and picked this up to understand some of the science that goes with the sport. The illustrations are helpful and it's easy to read. Definitely recommend it if you're just starting out.

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