

Review: The BrickGun Book

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Pictures by No Starch Press

The BrickGun Book

Author: Jeff Boen

Pages: 232, paperback

Publisher: No Starch Press

In the last few years many of the most renowned LEGO® fans and builders have decided to publish their techniques or constructions in book format. In this case we are reviewing a book related to the building of 5 different handgun models with LEGO® parts in a real 1:1 scale. We know that some readers are not comfortable with this subject, but we will focus in the fact that we are talking about constructions with LEGO® pieces, not real weapons, and a lot of effort and work has gone into creating these MOCs..

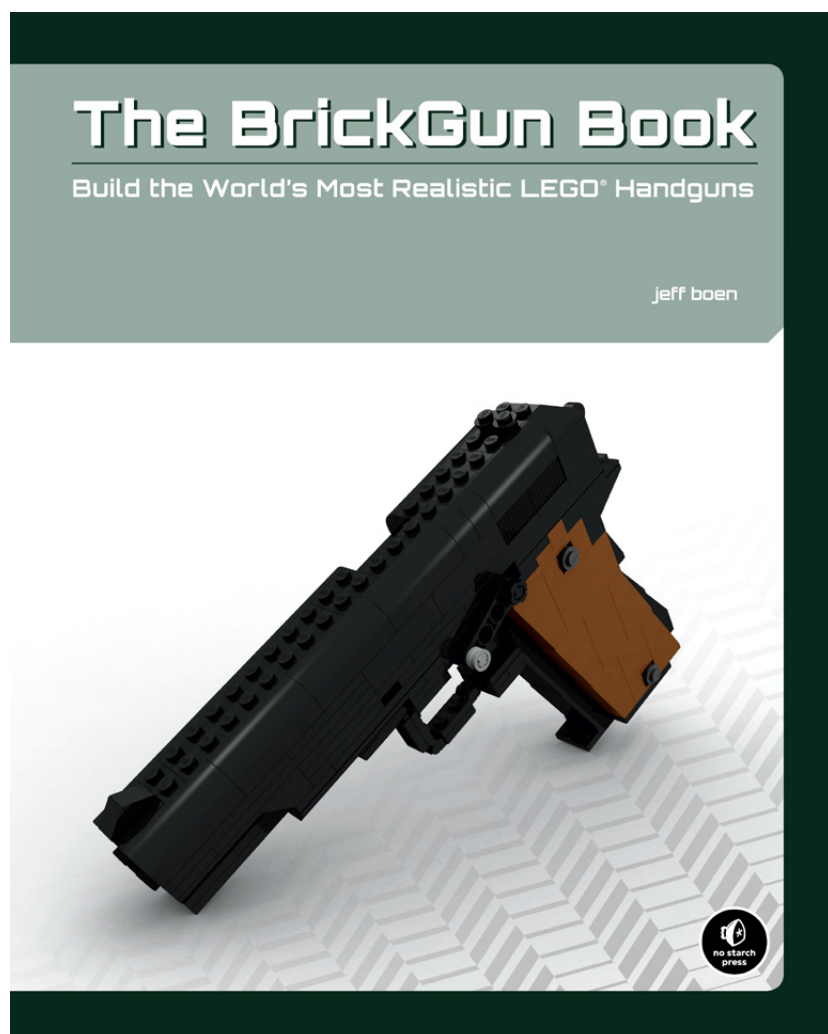
The writer, Jeff Boen, is known for running a website where he sells the kits and building instructions of his 1:1 scale guns. He has done a very good job describing the building process of these five models: the BG22, Beretta 92FS, Magnum Desert Eagle and the M1911 guns and the MAC-11 submachinegun. This book is a must have for those fans of LEGO looking for realistic weapons to build.

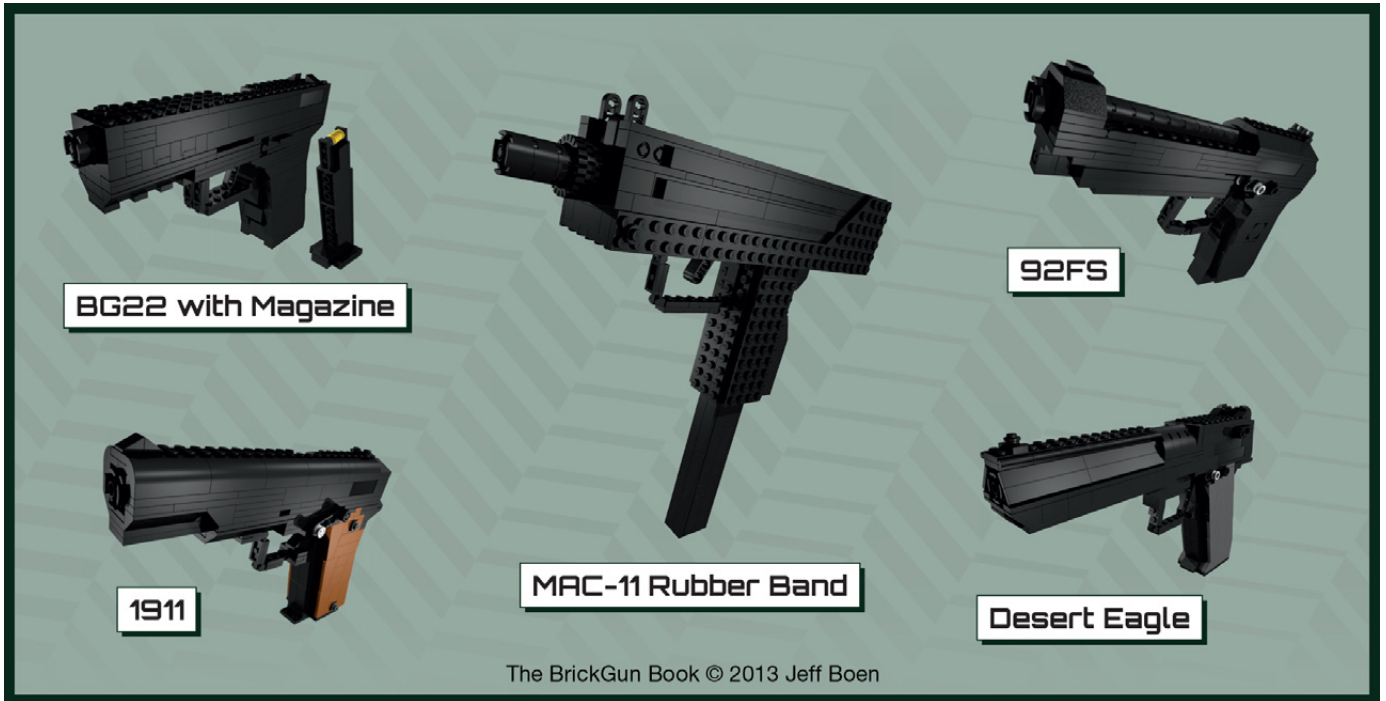
This book has 232 pages, and five models are described in its pages, so you can expect to find a very complete description of the five models and lots of images of the steps for building every gun. The book starts with a small introduction by the author, in which he makes a brief description of the origin of the models. The author also gives some building tips and clarifies

some details of the pieces used in the models. After that we have a section with the 5 models. Each model has a detailed parts list, with the nomenclature used by Bricklink. Then comes the part all fans of weapons of LEGO® pieces are waiting for: the detailed instructions to build the model step by step. The parts used to build the models are mainly black, but this is not a problem to follow the instructions, because all the images are very clear and detailed. The building process is described carefully with many steps, so it is not necessary to be very skilled to complete your own gun.

One detail that stands out is that the models depicted are not static replicas, each of the models has a number of mechanisms that allow you to operate the trigger, the slide or cock the hammer. The first four models are guns that have these features. Furthermore, the BG22 also has a magazine which can be removed from the weapon. The models are increasing in complexity, and although it is not necessary to be an expert in LEGO construction techniques, some steps in which rubbers bands are included must be performed carefully in order not to spend the day collecting the rubbers on the floor. The last model, the MAC-11 submachine gun, is designed to fire rubber bands. It has more playability than the other guns but has a less realistic appearance in order to attach the system for firing rubber bands.

This is a very interesting book for all those AFOLs or TFOLs who like the world of weapons. It is a compendium of instructions to build the five different models of guns





mentioned before in 1:1 scale. The building process is very well documented and it is easy to follow. So, if you are a (LEGO®) weapons fan, start collecting large amounts of black pieces to build the realistic models described in the book.

Acknowledgements: No Starch Press for the sample of the book.
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