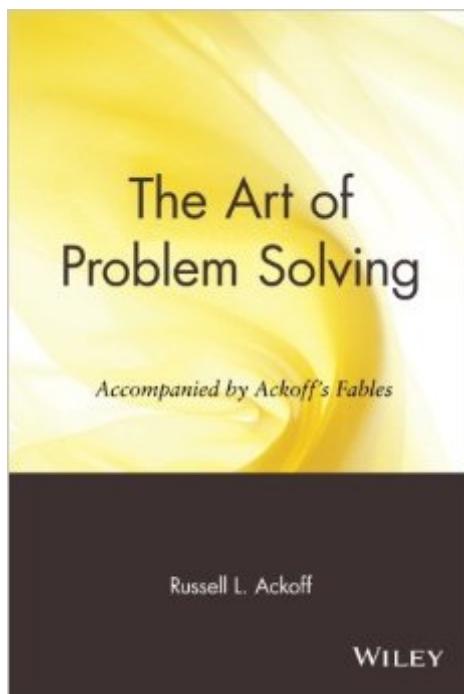


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The Art Of Problem Solving: Accompanied By Ackoff's Fables



Synopsis

"A witty, literate and, most of all, convincing reflection.[Ackoff] shines an often bright light into corners where problems hide, showing the manager how to understand the consequences of his own behavior; identify real, rather than supposed, elements of problems; perceive another's aims; determine what is controllable; and deal with other nettlesome factors." --Inc. The Art of Problem Solving Russ Ackoff--author, consultant, and teacher extraordinaire. During his long career, he has shown thousands of managers, architects, engineers, attorneys, advertising people, software developers, and scientists the way to more creative, artful problem solving. This new paper edition of The Art of Problem Solving is perhaps the best example of Ackoff in action. Step by step, this practical guide shows you how to develop an understanding of the art of creative thinking and the design of creative solutions. Using "Ackoff's Fables"--humorous yet eminently practical parables, based on real problems by real managers--you'll see why solving a problem seldom solves the problem, but why approaching it from a new, unorthodox angle often does. The result is vintage Ackoff--controversial, funny, and always on target. If you like to dig beyond simple solutions--to imaginative solutions that work--this book is for you.

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Customer Reviews

A good balance of short, easily-digested messages and more in-depth studies that require careful attention. The many short fables are described (on page 120) as making "the creative part of problem solving look either too easy or too mysterious. Creativity is not just a flashing insight. Such

insights are nurtured in soil prepared by hard and time-consuming work". This is a lead-in to the remaining 80-odd pages of more-realistic detailed examples. I bought this book while doing the hard work of successfully solving engineering problems at a major corporation. The book helped me to broaden my outlook. I weeded my problem-solving library when I left engineering. This was one of two such books I kept -- the other was Are Your Lights On? by Gause and Weinberg, ISBN: 0932633161. I wrote this review because I wanted people to know that I found Ackoff's book as useful as Are Your Lights On?

Great book at great price

Thanks

I prefer a book that goes straight to the point. Actually I gave up reading the book fairly in the beginning of the book. Personally I think there are too many unnecessary sentences/paragraphs which should be unnecessary to make the points. Perhaps 80% of the contents of the book could be removed to still make the book have a sense.

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