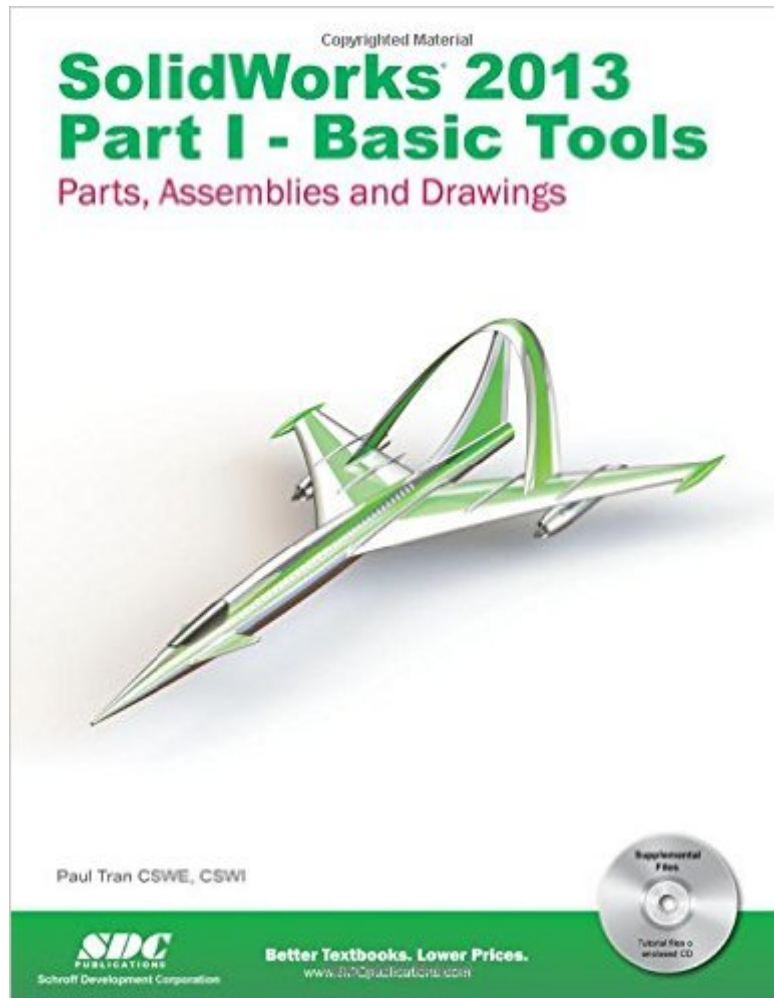


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# SolidWorks 2013 Part I - Basic Tools



## Synopsis

SolidWorks 2013 Part I - Basic Tools introduces new users to the SolidWorks interface, SolidWorks tools and basic modeling techniques. It provides readers with a strong understanding of SolidWorks and covers the creation of parts, assemblies and drawings. Every lesson and exercise in this book was created based on real world projects. Each of these projects have been broken down and developed into easy and comprehensible steps for the reader. Furthermore, at the end of every chapter there are self test questionnaires to ensure that the reader has gained sufficient knowledge from each section before moving on to more advanced lessons. This book takes the approach that in order to understand SolidWorks, inside and out, the reader should create everything from the beginning and take it step by step.

Table of Contents

Introduction: SolidWorks 2013 User Interface

Setting the System Parameters

1. The system settings

2. Document Templates

Basic Modeling Topics

3. Basic Solid Modeling - Extrude Options

4. Basic Solid Modeling - Extrude & Revolve

5. Revolve Parts - Ball Joint Arm

Derived Sketches - Center Ball Joint

6. Rib & Shell Features - Formed Tray Using Shell and Mirror

7. Linear Patterns - Test Tray

Circular Patterns - Spur Gear

Circular Patterns - Circular Base Mount

Curve Driven Patterns & hole Wizard

8. Part Configuration - Machined Block

Contour Selection Understanding and repairing errors

9. Modeling Threads - Threaded Insert

10. Bottom Up Assembly - Ball Joint Assembly

Bottom Up Assembly - Links Assembly

11. Using Advanced Mates Using Limit Mates and Cam Mates Using Cam Followers Using Smart Mates

12. Layout Assembly

SolidWorks Animator - The Basics

13. Working with Sketch Pictures Using PhotoView360

The Basics

Drawing Topics

14. Drawing Preparations

15. Assembly Drawings - Links Assembly

Assembly Drawing Alternate Position View

16. Drawing Views - Machined Block

17. Detailing - Machined Block Details

18. Sheet Metal Drawings - Post Cap

2D to 3D Convert AutoCAD into SolidWorks e-Drawings - Soft Lock Assembly

19. Configurations Part I: Button Assembly

Configurations Part II: Assembly & Drawing

20. Part - Design Tables

Assembly - Design Tables

Level 2 final exam CSWP Core Preparation Practice Glossary Index

SolidWorks 2013 Quick-Guides

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a hands-on workbook style tutorial. I have worked through the first five chapters, and I think this manual deserves five stars. Although the author states in the preface that the book is intended "for the mid-level" user, I found that it is basic enough to be good training material for beginning through novice and intermediate level users alike. The book is all about learning by doing. The author does not overwhelm you with details you may never ever use. Rather, he gives you just enough instruction for you to complete each tutorial. Although each tutorial is fairly small, it demonstrates a key command or concept. Tutorials are presented as a sequence of a step-by-step actions. If you do exactly as the text states, you will arrive at the intended result. By going through the exercises in chronological order, the student very quickly learns the core of how to get around and do things in Solidworks. At the end of each chapter, an exercise or two is presented as a test to see if you can work out the solution without step-by-step instructions. Having knocked my head against Solidworks for months without getting anywhere, I am relieved to have finally found this well written manual. I only wish I had found it sooner!

I originally learned SolidWorks almost 15 years ago, but have not used it since, so I needed a refresher. This book is quite inadequate for that, and it forces me to buy a Part II. I found the structure of how it took you through the functions of SolidWorks very haphazard, non-sequential, and incomplete. The worst part is that if you run into any sort of trouble, the book does not lead you out. The book is also rife with errors, and worse, provides a whole tutorial based upon an printed outline that is too small to read and without enough detail to reproduce, (the soda bottle). I expect much more for a book costing over \$50. A great deal of the book is devoted to producing drawings, (of which I care not at all), and in practicing for the Certified SolidWorks Professional core examination, (also something I could not care less about). You may appreciate the book more than I did if learning those things are your goal.

I bought this book after a recommendation from a friend. I found it to be very helpful and I liked that the steps were straight-forward and clearly comprehensible. The layout of the text was organized and made everything easy to understand. There are also reviews at the end of every chapter to help you make sure you understand the current topic prior to moving to the next. I gave this book a 5 stars because it felt to me like the work we were doing in the book could actually be applied to real life situations, unlike what you would normally find in a textbook, which usually consists of adequate examples but no real world experience or applications to contribute. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone that is looking to take that extra step and further their SolidWorks knowledge.

I am only a quarter of the way through and I'm finding errors in the book all over the place. It's mostly a lack of clarity or indicating the wrong sketch surfaces or incomplete dimensions. Prime example, page 6-6 showing the wrong sketch surface. This has caused hours of trying to figure out what exactly they were doing. Poor proofing but good content. I would give this a much better review but the additional exercises are just horrible with documentation and inconsistent units...

My company purchases these manuals annually for use as reference / training materials in our Engineering department. I visited today to look up the 2013 version from this same author and were stung with some of the attacking reviews from someone who was clearly trying to bring down the rating stars, and in turn make theirs shine. I thought it would only be fair to share my thoughts with you and hope to clear up some of the confusion. Not only have we been using these manuals for several years and love them, we keep coming back for more. They were recommended by many of our contract professors, as well as our in-house trainer. We thought the books were very well written, easy to follow, and covered a wide range of different and important topics. Just browse through the Table of Contents and see for yourself the in-depth quality of each topic as well as the real-world techniques shown. They are some of the best books ever made available for the SolidWorks users. Let me just leave it at that. I hope the author will not be too discouraged about those negative reviews and continues to share with us his knowledge and expertise. Regards, Dave W.

I actually have the 2014 version of the book, but am using the 2013 training files (the book is practically the same, but with a new cover) and experiencing problems such as files refusing to open or the assemblies being already finished. Instructions are such: "open file X, and do Y" except

Y has already been done. Another issue I ran into was following the book verbatim and having parts being overdefined and underdefined. I got it eventually, but this issue has rendered several chapters completely useless and I am unable to do any work. Very frustrating. I have files that won't open, how am I supposed to actually use this book?

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