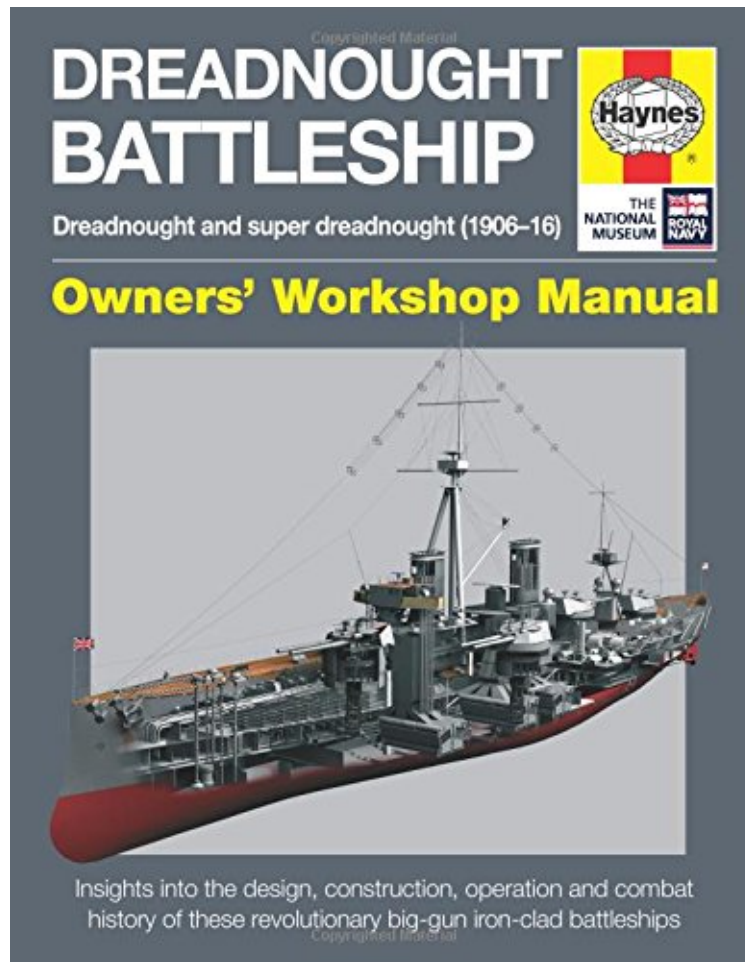


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Chris McNab

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Chris McNab : Dreadnought Battleship Manual (Haynes Manuals) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dreadnought Battleship Manual (Haynes Manuals):

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. MediocreBy Daryl CarpenterHere's the good news: this new Haynes manual is an entertaining diversion, and contains some interesting technical and operational insights. The bad news that it's too messy and unfocused to be a solid reference book, and too thin to cover any single subject to a greater than superficial extent. The quality of Haynes' maritime manuals tends to be all over the place, from the excellent (HMS Victory, A-class submarine), to very good (Titanic, Mary Rose, Great Britain), mediocre (Queen Mary 2), to awful (U-boat). This one falls somewhere in the middle.Here's the problem: British capital ships as a subject have been done to death. After the superb work of R.A. Burt, Norman Friedman, Alan Raven, John Roberts, and Oscar Parkes, a fresh approach is needed. Had this book focused solely on HMS Dreadnought, I probably would have been satisfied by it. Unfortunately, it tries to cram EVERYTHING into 156 pages - the design and construction of the ship, the evolution

of British battleship design, the roles of the crew, propulsion and electrical systems, Jutland, the restoration of HMS Caroline, the ship's guns...you get the picture. Important subjects like fire control, armor protection, ship design, and steering gear get skimmed over in a few paragraphs. Considering that it's published in cooperation with the National Museum of the Royal Navy, fact-checking is a bit sloppy in places. Here are a couple mistakes I found: -Invincible is described as having 10 12-inch guns. She actually had eight. -Two cruisers are said to have been sunk by torpedoes during the Russo-Japanese War. None actually were. -Dreadnought's armor belt is said to have provided protection against torpedo strikes. It was actually quite shallow and only extended a few feet below the water line. -The ship is described as having two boiler rooms and one engine room. There was actually three of the former, and two of the latter. -Casualties at Jutland are given as 5,069 British killed, and 2,115 Germans killed. More than 6,000 British sailors died in the battle, along with more than 2,500 Germans, unless someone's math is really bad. -The Royal Oak is described as being sunk by a single torpedo. She was actually struck by four. -Tiger, Repulse, and Hood are said to have been launched in the "20s, 30s, and 40s." They were all launched before the end of World War I. -Two different dates are given for the explosion of the HMS Vanguard. In all fairness, this book DOES contain quite a bit of good stuff that I haven't come across before. There are some excellent rare photographs and illustrations, excerpts from a number of period documents, including Captain Bacon's report on Dreadnought's experimental cruise, and some nifty cross-section diagrams from a 20s children's book (shades of Stephen Biesty!). There are some beautiful color plans of the St Vincent, although you'll need a magnifying glass to study them. In conclusion? Meh. This book is visually impressive and has some interesting insights from the period, but it's pretty watered down stuff on the whole. I'll admit to liking my naval history a bit more full-blooded than most folks, and this book attempts to be a "fun" approach to the subject, but Haynes has delivered the goods in the past. They should have done so again. If you're looking for a better book on HMS Dreadnought, try *The Battleship Dreadnought (Anatomy of the Ship)*. The level of detail is absolutely incredible, and I've spent hours poring over the plans of the ship's structure and machinery. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice. By Keith D Weaver. Nice. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars. By sherman stevens. Not worth the money. To many factual errors. To many small murky photographs.

When HMS Dreadnought was commissioned into the Royal Navy in 1906 this revolutionary new class of big-gun iron-clad warship immediately changed the face of naval warfare, rendering all other battleships worldwide obsolete. Known collectively as 'Dreadnoughts', these powerful warships from Britain and Germany fought at the Battle of Jutland in May 1916, in the greatest clash of naval firepower in history. Chris McNab gives detailed insights into the design, operation and combat history of these incredible vessels, including coverage of the restoration in Belfast of the light cruiser HMS Caroline - the only surviving Jutland veteran.

About the Author Chris McNab specializes in military history and military technology. He has published more than 100 books, including the Haynes Kubelwagen/Schwimmwagen Manual, *Dreadnought Battleship*, and the RAF Chinook Manual. Chris has also written extensively for major encyclopedia series, magazines and newspapers, and he lives in South Wales.