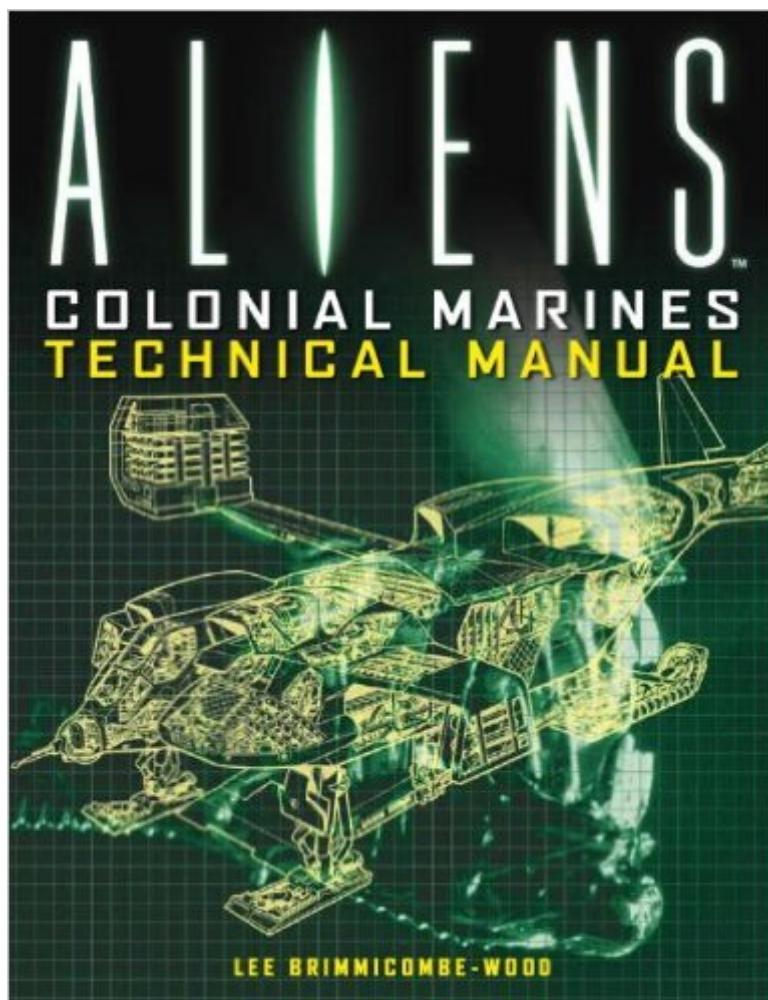


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Aliens: Colonial Marines Technical Manual



Synopsis

The United States Colonial Marines. Ultimate troubleshooters equipped with state-of-the-art firepower, capable of power projection across the vast expanse of deep space. They can sharpshoot a man at a thousand meters or obliterate an entire world from the safety of orbit. They reckon they are unbeatable. But on a dirtball colony planet known only as LV-426 the unthinkable happens. The Marines lose. The Aliens - Colonial Marines Technical Manual is your official guide to the equipment and organisation of the United States Colonial Marine Corps. Packed with diagrams, technical schematics and plans, the manual takes a detailed look at the guns, vehicles and ships of the USCMC, and the men and women who use them. A must-have book for any Aliens fan, the Aliens - Colonial Marines Technical Manual examines the technology of the movie's futuristic nightmare in every detail.

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Customer Reviews

Excellent book that goes into detail about almost every aspect of the colonial marines featured in Aliens. Also, it's clear that the creators of the game "Aliens vrs. Predator" used this book, as certain weapons, symbols, and features (such as the smartgun and SADAR) are explained in detail, and correlate with the game. If you can't get enough of an "Aliens" fix from the game and the first two movies (let's just leave Aliens3&4 alone, shall we?), then this is the book for you! On occasion, the book gets a little bit gory, with none-too-subtle allusions made to the vietnam war. This gives the book a much more realistic feel, but may make some folks uncomfortable. The Aliens section is

kinda neat; gives a little more insight into the "Weyland-Yutani" corporation, and once again demonstrates the poor judgement of this profit-seeking company. A very enjoyable read, especially to sci-fi "technophiles"!

It's a great informative book and covers USCMC tanks, ships, artillery, air-defense, personal weapons, armor, mines, spacesuits, etc...things not seen in the movie. What makes it superb is almost each weapon entry has a drawing so if you're a modeler, you can almost make a replica of the weapon or vehicle. Descriptive text accompanies each entry. And best of all, it MAKES SENSE! The drawings, ideas, and text aren't comic-book like or totally sci-fi fantasy but seemingly very real with today's weapons. I really liked the made-up Marine comments. The book's text says this missile works but then the Marine in the comment box says the opposite. You believe the Marine instead and not the engineers. Also, the book doesn't skimp...the photos aren't black and white and the drawings aren't kiddish. The book presents the USCMC in a very good light and as a true powerful force with many high-tech weapons and superior training that works (unlike the USS Sulaco Marines shown in the movie). A must-have if you're an ALIENS fan.

I only reluctantly picked up this book when I saw it in a bookshop--I figured, another cheesy fan-boy tie-in. Was I surprised! Utterly flabbergasted! The author obviously did his research. I've been in the Navy for a few years, and the Techman reads like a modern military digest. The weapons sound like plausible evolutions of modern weapons; they have their good points and kinks. They have correct military designations, even details like the naming of tanks after famous generals. An article on USCMC force resturcturing and tactics sounds eerily like something from today's "Proceedings" (the USN/USMC professional journal), including the Marines vs. Army gibes. Even the sections on theoretical stardrives and space-fighting tactics are wholly plausible. The ALIENS techman is easily the "best of the breed." You don't even have to be an Aliens fan to enjoy it.

I ordered the book right off the bat when i saw it,expecting a rich detailed book with lots of schematics and detailed info on the USCM...And im a little disappointed to be honest. Dont get me wrong,there is lots of information on the organisation of the corps,the gear used etc, but its much more text-rich than image-rich. There is almost zero schematics,aside the UD40 dropship,most of the iconic gear from the movies is unexplored in favor of less known equipment such as missiles and radar systems. A few sparse images here and there illustrate quickly the given topic but are only there to block out the walls of text contained within.If you're looking for detailed information, this

book is both good and bad. Its a strange combination of in-depth information and a lack of detail (like mentioned) on the things that made the Colonial Marines stand out. For a few quick examples, the pulse rifle and the smart gun are treated to two quick diagrams (no exploded views, just a lineart picture) and a page of text each, while complicated radar systems of the dropship get a 3 to 5 page covering. The iconic APC is glanced over in a page or two as well. Personally, its a lack of imagery and actual description of the important gear used in the films that brings points down on this book. Otherwise, i'd still recommend it to anyone looking for more insight into the heart of the USCM, just dont expect to know more than you already do. :(

This book is based off of the premise of a technical manual written as a Marine PR piece. The book is full of psuedo scientific explanations for everything that we saw in the first and second movies, from the dropship design to the actual biology of the aliens themselves. It's all complemented very well by ample pictures and quotes from "actual" colonial marines. It's addicting, I find that i pick it up every now and again and re-read it, some of the "quotes" are very funny. Even if you are only a casual fan of the series, pick it up, it's sure to get you addicted.

Ever wondered how the smartgun looks from the inside? What are the M577 APC specs? And what the HELL does the Company really want? Find out by reading this brilliant extension to the 'Aliens' masterpiece. (If you're into guns, you'll notice that the M41A Pulse-rifle is a mocked-up version of the M1A1 Thompson, and the Smartgun is based on the german MG 42...) So, you're wishes will be fulfilled, and much, much more! ;o

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