What is D.I.Y.?

Do-it-yourself is a broad term that can enclose everything from home renovations to crafts. Here, DIY refers to a subculture encouraging the idea of personal projects and creations, particularly focusing on crafts, fashion and self-publishing. These three books will help you understand the meaning and history behind DIY:

§ DIY: The Rise of Lo-Fi Culture by Amy Spencer (2008) - This book traces the DIY subculture across the globe. While it tends to focus on the music scene and self-publishing, it is filled with interesting and historical facts.

§ Handmade Nation by Faythe Levine (2008) - A must-have for all crafters, this book takes us across the US, following the new wave of crafting and DIY.

§ The Big Book of Pop Culture: A how-to Guide for Young Artists by Hal Niedzviecki (2007) - This Canadian book provides a brief history and evolution of the entertainment industry, followed by inspiring personal projects and ideas for all young artists and DIYers.

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A Guide for Girls, 16 and up.
Crafty Links and Movies!

- [http://www.instructables.com/](http://www.instructables.com/) - This popular DIY site offers a wide variety of projects, arranged by category. If you have a project in mind, try searching it up!

- [http://www.gurl.com/topics/diy](http://www.gurl.com/topics/diy) - A place where like-minded girls share their own DIY tips, ideas and design. This site also carries DIY resources.

- [http://www.craftster.org/](http://www.craftster.org/) - This website not only carries hundreds of DIY craft projects and articles, but also a forum community for all of your questions and ideas!

- Beautiful Losers (2008) - This documentary follows the 90's DIY arts movement and its inspiring collective and community of artists.

- Be Kind Rewind (2008) - After an incident in which all tapes have been erased, a movie store worker and his buddy decide to remake and film classic movies to their own styling. DIY and great laughs are a perfect match!

Guide Books

- D.I.Y: Design it Yourself by Ellen Lupton (2005) - This inspiring book has a great variety of design tips and ideas for a wide audience, encouraging all things DIY.

- Fashioning Technology: A DIY Intro to Smart Crafting by Syuzi Pakhchyan (2006) - This tech-savvy book transforms traditional electronics into fun crafty projects.

- Sew Subversive: Down and Dirty DIY for the Fabulous Fashionista by Melissa Rannels (2006) - This guide, written by owners of a drop-in sewing centre, provides many ideas and tutorials on DIY fashion for young women of all styles.

- Watcha mean, what's a zine? By Esther Watson (2006) - An introduction to 'zines (hand made magazines or comics), topics include ideas for zine subjects, how to copy, bind and print a zine and much more!

- Knitty Gritty Knits by Vickie Howell (2007) - Based on DIY network's popular TV show, this book contains fresh and fun projects for all knitting levels and styles.

do-whatever-you-want!

Use these images to print a sticker, a button, on a T-shirt or poster...whatever you like!