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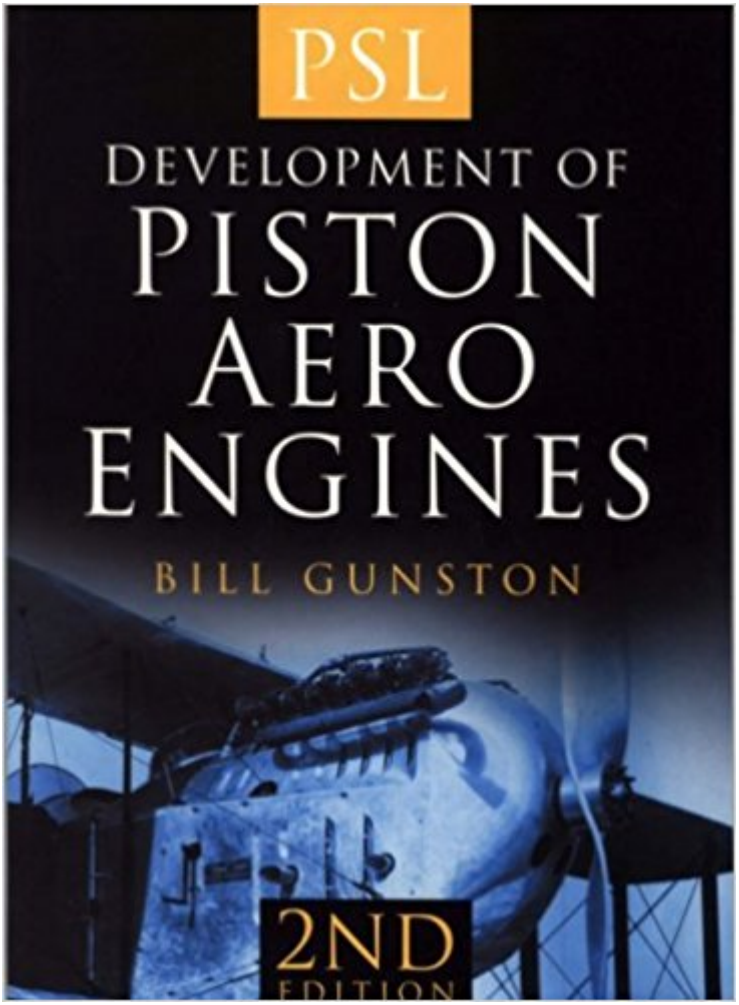
Development Of Piston Aero Engines



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Synopsis

Bill Gunston takes a thorough look at the theory, history, development and application of piston aero engines, from those used by the Wright Brothers for their pioneering flightsÂ right up to the small engines fitted to micro lights today. Illustrated throughout, this classic aviation title is available in paperback for the first time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Bill Gunston, a former RAF pilot and flying instructor, is perhaps the best-known aviation writer in Britain today, with some 300 books published in a fifty-year writing career. His recent books include Night Fighters: A Development and Combat History (2nd edition, 2003) and World Encyclopedia of Aircraft Manufacturers: From the Pioneers to the Present Day (2nd edition, 2005).

All in all, a very good introduction to aircraft piston engines. Provides a basic technical description of basic design and operation of piston engines, then moves into the history and development. While there is little detail on most engines discussed, it does cover most of the different designs manufactured over the years. It has some mention and coverage of non US/Brit/German engines (i.e. Russian), which is not something you see too much of else where. Throughout the book, there should be enough technical details to make any but a hard core engineer happy, but it is very readable for those who would define themselves as "interested novice". It does get slightly wordy and dry at some points, but not much. My only real critisism would be that it’s shorter than I’d like,

and really should go into more detail on some of the engineering aspects of some of the designs.

This book assumes nothing and starts with a quick basic course in engine physics. Then Gunston proceeds to the development of the problems and engineering solutions in designing aircraft engines entailed. It really sets the stage for the piston engines of WWII and then steps through their evolution. Really a terrific history of aircraft piston evolution. What not 5 stars? The binding really sucks. Everytime I turn a page it falls out. Very aggravating.

A nice book, wich give technical courses without beeing too heavy.It helps to understand the genesis of every family of engines, radial or in line. All the points of physics are introduced : thermodynamics, mechanics.Lots of drawing are helping to understand how an engines works.Hours of reading pleasure, in action.

If the evolution of piston engines is what you want, this is the book to have. If your into cars boats or anything with a piston this book gives you an understanding of how things came to bein the modern piston engine. Good casual reading for the gear head. I especially like the part on oil and gasoline.

Bill Gunston is extremely knowledgable about his subject and explains things very clearly.As he says this is not a book that lists all aircraft engines but traces the technical development of the aircraft piston engine.Anybody interested in engines would like this book.

This is an outstanding book that is the bible for information on the piston era of aviation. It is an outstanding book on this subject.

An excellent, in depth, study of piston aero engines. If you think you know piston engines, read this study. It'll show you how much you don't know, in detail. Well put together, from the earliest to current engines, including the no longer used hyper engines.

Another fine offering from Bill Gunston. This author has the experience and knowledge to cover this topic well. Enough technical detail, yet easy to follow, and maintain interest.Recommended.

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