Robot Companion is a fun, easy-to-understand, hands-on guide that will have you using your own robots in no time. The robots in this book include the “Omnibot Robot,” the “Tomy Robots,” and even a robot that carries a child on wheels!

You will learn how to find your robot, how to identify a robot by country through frequency allocation, where to buy parts, how to program your robot to perform tasks, and more. This book’s companion website includes software program files, parts lists, and links to online parts suppliers.

The robot companion contains a diverse set of information and pictures of the robots to familiarize a person with that robot. This approach is used because so little information on the robots from the 1980’s exists today, and it will be helpful with the information instructions or manual.

They dance, tell jokes, and even clean your carpet! From the tiniest robot to gigantic factory machines, robotics is all around you. This technology isn’t just for science fiction anymore; it’s real and more relevant than ever. With stunning visuals and energetic, impactful design, readers won’t stop until they’ve learned everything there is to know about robotics.

You’ll be led step-by-step through the book. Along the way, you’ll learn about robotic systems that use the same principles you’re learning to use on your robot, and you’ll get a glimpse into the future of robots.

Here is an example proposed:

I dream ........ When I was created or born in the 1980’s, I was one of the few and select robots that had a purpose, to play, teach and entertain. I was young, didn’t have a onboard computer, but didn’t need one at the time. Besides, they were not readily available and need by me for my purpose. Who says a robot must always have a computer.

I could move around in all directions, learn, teach, sleep, wake up and move around to pre-programmed functions, tell time, tell from others, talk on my own after pre recording, had my own limited language, carry things, sing and entertain. I stimulated people to dream of new ideas for science and technology when they were young. Young minds looked at me and taught of ways to improve and give me more functions, grew up and invented them, but put them on others.

I dream of growing up and doing more things, I waited and waited. Even though I traveled around the world, was international in all areas, (all countries knew of me or sold me) my brothers and sisters did became famous through the movies, and I was regulated to my everyday tasks.

So I waited and dreamed of growing up and doing greater things. It has been over twenty-three years and to a robot that is like being over a (100) hundred years old. I have been put in attics, garages, and basements thrown away into the junkyards and forgotten.

But I am persistent, I still live and still I dream. I will survive; I am tough, versatile and have hopes and dreams of my purpose for a future.

I wait and I dream .......... Tomy ® Omnibot®

Tomy has created toy robots throughout the years and in the 80’s created a line of small personal robots. It is truly astounding what they were able to accomplish utilizing the resources at the time to manufacture and sell this product line.

The Omnibot had a cassette tape player built into the chest area of the robot, which slid out like a drawer to reveal the cassette and could record and playback sequences of commands, as well as regular audio recordings.

The built-in digital clock with timers and alarms allowed the playback of movement recordings at specified times. It could broadcast speech from the remote control handset through a speaker on the robot, and was shipped with a cardboard “home” base, which was suggested, to be taped to the floor and used as a reference point for programming.

The Omnibot carried a specially made tray, which slotted into its claws, and could carry objects.

Detailed specific information for this robot is contained in the instruction manual and is available on this site. The Omnibot series robots have similar functions, but the detail information can be different. This also applies to the same model of manufactured robots, for later releases did vary with the robots. I suggest that you download the manuals for specific information.
Robie Junior® by Radio Shack®

This Remote Command Intelligent Robot is great. His eyes shine as he moves. Both eyes shine when moving forward; the right eye shines when he turns right and the left one lights when he moves left. When he goes backwards, the eyes are off. He receives ultrasonic signals from the controller. Press down either arm to have him talk. If he runs into something he changes direction. Pushing his bumper also makes him speak.

The remote control has both a manual control and a follow function that, when set, will have Robie follow the controller. The remote control is sonic based. His face also flashes. There is a bump guard on the front base which allows him to turn if he encounters another object and say "Oops", "Excuse Me", "Let's go", "Hello", and "I'm Robie Junior". 11" tall.
Robie Junior® Radio Shack - This Remote Command Intelligent Robot is great. His eyes shine as he moves. Both eyes shine when moving forward, the right eye shines when he turns right and the left one lights when he moves left. When he goes backwards, the eyes are off. He receives ultrasonic signals from the controller. Press down either arm to have him talk. If he runs into something he changes direction. Pushing his bumper also makes him speak.

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NEW - Replacement Contact for the Omnibot Family Robots

Step #1. Omnibot 5402 contacts created from scrap. It uses contact material to create the blank.

Step #2. Bend the contacts at the appropriate points.

Step #3. Using a punch indent the contact and then use a drill with a proper bit drill the holes in the contact.

Step #4. Heat treat the contact. You now have a finished part.

Replacement Contact for the Omnibot Family Robots

The following figure on the left is contacts taken from a Omnibot 5402 Controller that was corroded and not usable. It has been refurbished and can now be reused.

Step #1. Cut the contacts at the appropriate points.

Step #2. Using a punch indent the contact and then using a drill with a proper bit drill the holes in the contact. You now have a finished part.

Use Brass 2/56 HEX MACH SC screws and nuts to fasten the battery contacts.
Battery Replacement Procedure

Replacing four (4) D size batteries with 6 V DC Rechargeable Battery with Pin spacing 0.1" for the connector. - Click to Enlarge

A. Cable and plug. Pin spacing 0.1"

B. Replacement Battery 6 VDC 1.3 AH - CAT# GC-613
Size 3.85"x2.10"x0.98" - Click to Enlarge

The above are the parts that is needed to replace the four "D" size batteries with one rechargeable battery.

There is no warranty expressed or implied with this procedure. By using any information from this web site, you agree not to hold responsible this site, me, nor any of its representatives, for any injuries and or damages, both physical and or psychological, that may arise from the use and or misuse of anything derived from this site. The user further agrees that such information pictures does not constitute any guarantee of accuracy, safety or reliability, and that cannot be held responsible for any way. The user agrees to proceed at their own risk.
1. Take five screws from the bottom of the robot.

2. Turn the robot up and separate cheerfully.
   3. Unplug the five plugs from the robot.
      (They are keyed and color and pin coded.)
      Click to Enlarge

4. Solder the plug and wire to the (+) positive and (-) negative terminals as shown.

5. Reassemble the robot.
   Click to Enlarge

5. Plug in the battery and close the door.
   (You are ready to go.)
   Click to Enlarge

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The above pictures are from the Robie Jr.® and Omni Jr.® robot. This will give you an inside of the inside of the robot.

REFERENCE: Omni Jr.®; Robie Jr.® & Omnibot Jr.® Repairs Questions & Answers:

Q. The (Robots Jr.) does not move forward or backward or right or left and the switch is ON?
   A. Check the Batteries and if they are bad, replace them.

Q. If the Batteries are good what then?
   A. Make sure that they are making a good connection. Check the connection for the terminals can be oxidized or corroded.
   A. Directly check the Motor by applying DC voltage directly to the motor.

The (Robots Jr.) Works but keeps loosing power and goes dead when bumped or is running?
   A. The batteries is losing contact from oxidation or corrosion. Use the Batteries replacement in the Repairs Section - Robie Jr.® Battery Replacement

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Detailed specific information for this Robot is contained in the Instruction Manual and is available on this site. The Omnibot series robots have similar functions, but the detail information can be different. This can also apply to the same model of manufactured robots, for later releases did vary with the robots. I suggest that you download the manuals for specific information.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPRECIATION - I would like to extend Acknowledgement, Appreciation and Thanks, for Permission to use the Information and Pictures to, Friends, My Mentor, Individuals, The Hobbyists/Collectors (World Wide), Robot Manufactures, Robot Collectables Stores, eBay Stores, Toy Museums, Web Sites, Book Authors and News Networks, that have helped me with recommendations, encouragement, support, information and pictures for the Users of this Book and Web Sites.

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RB Robotics® Still produces the RB5X®.
Androbot® Produced the Topo® Fred® and BOB® robots Educational and Personal Robots.
CBS Toys Produced for IDEAL TM the Electronic Max Steele TM Personal Robot
All Other Companies That Manufacture The Robots, or © Companies That Claim Ownership
Healthkit® Produced the Hero®, Hero Jr®, Hero 2000® and the Hero Arm Trainer®. Formerly from Healthkit, then Mobile Ed Productions, Now Proudly brought to you by the Robot Workshop!

Tomy Company Ltd. produced the Omnibot line of robots from 1982 up until 1986. TOMY Co., Ltd. - In Japanese, K.K. Takara-Tomy Founded March 1, 2006. Headquarters HQs in Japan, United States, United Kingdom, France, Hong Kong, Thailand, TOMY Co., Ltd. is the legal English name for the Japanese toy, children merchandise and Entertainment Company created on March 1, 2006 by the merger of "Tomy" (Founded 1924) with Takara Co. Ltd. (Founded 1955). However, the new company made the unusual decision to adopt two different legal corporate names so while in English the name is simply Tomy, in Japanese the legal company name is the combined name, K.K. Takara-Tomy.

Tomy produced the largest robot line of the 80's. Tomy was very successful compared to other companies, and therefore many attempted to copy Tomy's robot image (details, colours). Robots Produced not limited to, but include: Omnibot®, Omnibot® 2000, Hearroid® (TTC), Omni® Jr., Verbot®, Chatbot®, Crackbot®, Dustbot®, Hootbot®, Dingbot®, Flipbot®, Spotbot®
Radio Shack® produced robots not limited to, but include: Robie® Sr, Robie® Jr, Robie® The Talking Robot, Mobile Armatron®, Armatron®, Super Armatron®, and the Z-707 Iron Claw®

Axion produced robots from 1984 up until 1986/7 Axion produced a number of robots that include: Compurobot / George, Dogbot, Spybot, Talkbot. Compurobot was marketed as George in the UK by CGT but was Axion design. The Axion Company was founded by Nolan Bushnell (creator of Atari, Androbot Inc.) in 1984. Axion was largely sold to Hasbro.

The pictures used are originals taken, manufactured or created from my robots, composite of pictures made by me, the manuals, instruction sheets, pictures or information sent to me. Advertisement and letters saved from the 80's, Magazines no longer printed, and pictures from the internet from other hobbyists.

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