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,” the “Tony 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 devise set of information and pictures of the robot 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, talk 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 dreamed 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 become 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 . . . . . . . Tony ® Omnibot®

Tony 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 slatted into its claws, and could carry objects.
Talking Robie® and Robocom® - Voice Recognition Robot from 1984

Talking Robie® by Radio Shack® - You are now in total control of your very own robot. And, what is more, you can make it say anything you want! Your talking Robie responds to your radio control signals and goes where you wish. Then by pressing the voice transmit button on your hand-held control unit, while you speak into the built-in mic, Robie will broadcast your robot's voice through its speaker. Robie's eyes will light for special effects. And its arms can be positioned so its grasping hands hold objects, too.

Robbie the Robot by Radio Shack® - Comes complete with original remote microphone controller.

Robocom 1000 by Robocom® - 6 commands which are voice activated - Go, Stop, Reverse, Lights (makes main 'eye' light blink on off a few times), turn left and turn right. Comes complete with original remote microphone controller. Measure 9" tall.
Talking Robie® and Robocom® - Voice Recognition Robot from 1954, Talking Robie® made by Radio Shack®. You are now in total control of your very own robot. And you can make it say anything you want! Your talking Robie responds to your radio control signals and goes where you wish. Then by pressing the voice transmit button on your hand-held control unit, while you speak into the built-in mic, Robie will broadcast your robot’s voice through its speaker. Robie’s eyes will light for special effects. And its arms can be positioned so its grasping hands hold objects, too.

Robie the Robot® - Comes complete with original remote microphone controller Talking Bot by Robocom®. 6 commands which are voice activated - Go, Stop, Reverse, Lights (makes main “eye” light blink on off a few times), turn left and turn right. Comes complete with original remote microphone controller. Measure 9” tall.
Talking Robie® and Robocom® - Voice Recognition Robot from 1984, Talking Robie® made by Radio Shack®. You are now in total control of your very own robot. And you can make it say anything you want! Your talking Robie responds to your radio control signals and goes where you wish. Then by pressing the voice transmit button on your handheld control unit, while you speak into the built-in microphone, Robie will broadcast your robot’s voice through its speaker. Robie’s eyes will light for special effects. And its arms can be positioned so its grasping hands hold objects, too.

Robie the Robot® - Comes complete with original remote microphone controller Talking Bot by Robocom - 6 commands which are voice activated. Go, Stop, Reverse, Lights (makes main “eye” light blink on off a few times), turn left and turn right. Comes complete with original remote microphone controller. Measure 9” tall.
PlayBot 600 Remote Control Robot "Steve The Butler", made in Hong Kong in 1986 for Playtime. Part no. 710600. PlayBot 600 is a 9" (23 cm) tall plastic battery operated robot with remote control. During operation, Steve The Butler's hands hold objects as he moves around with a serving tray and lights up. Includes instructions.

Talking Robie® and Robocom® - Voice Recognition Robot from 1984. Talking Robie® made by Radio Shack®. You are now in total control of your very own robot. You can make it say anything you want! Your talking Robie responds to your radio control signals and goes where you wish. Then by pressing the voice transmit button on your hand-held control unit, while you speak into the built-in mic, Robie will broadcast your robot's voice through its speaker. Robie's eyes will light for special effects. And its arms can be positioned so its grasping hands hold objects, too.

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Rebie the Robot® - Comes complete with original remote microphone controller Talking Bot by Robecom - 6 commands which are voice activated - Go, Stop, Reverses, Lights (makes main "eye" light blink on off a few times), turn left and turn right. Comes complete with original remote microphone controller. Measure 9" tall.
Detailed specific information for this Steve The Butler Robot is contained in the Instruction Manual and is available on this site. The Playtime series robots have similar functions, but the detail information can be different.

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

Tomy Co 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 "former" Tomy® (Founded 1824) 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 (decals, colours). Robots Produced not limited to, but include: Omnibot®, Omnibot® 2000, Hearoid® (TTC®), Omni® Jr., Varbot®, Chiatbot®, Crackbot®, Dustbot®, Hootbot®, Dingbot®, Flipbot®, Spottobot®

Radio Shack® produced 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 includes: Compurobot / George®, Dogbot®, Spybot®, Talkbot. Compurobot was marketed as George in the UK by CGL 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 original 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 1980's, Magazines no longer printed, and pictures from the internet from other hobbyists.

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