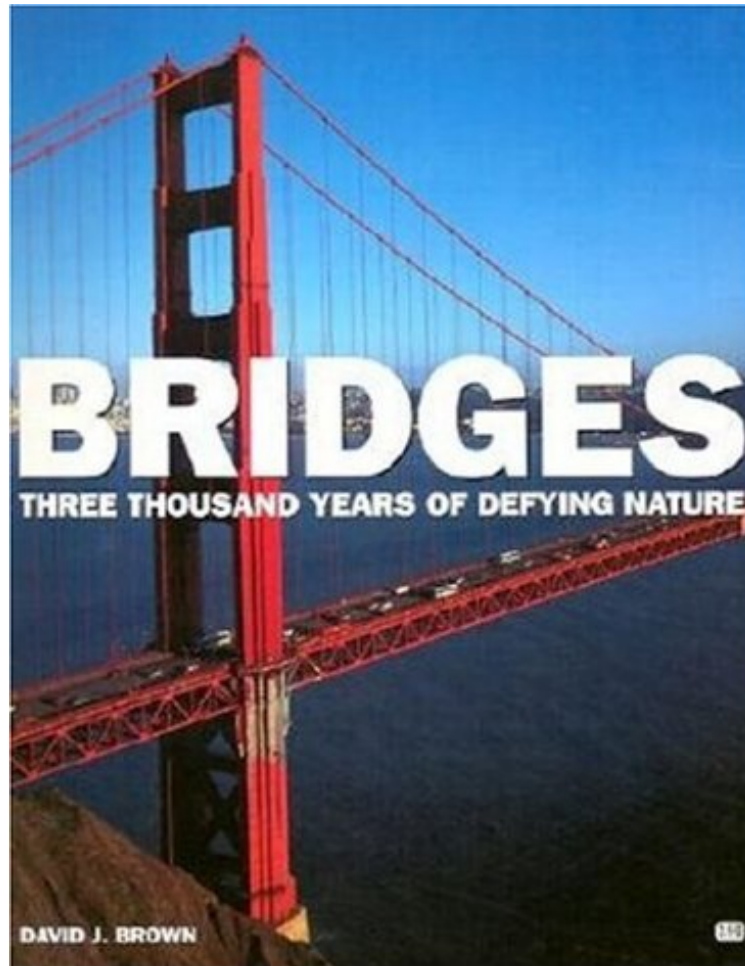


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Bridges: Three Thousand Years of Defying Nature

David Brown

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This stunning visual presentation, filled with photographs and illustrations depicting the world's greatest bridges, explains the manners in which laborers, engineers and architects have surmounted the problem of spanning the seemingly impassable from ancient times to the 21st century. A brilliantly written text explains in understandable terms the physics of different bridge types, while fascinating histories describe the "hows" and "whys" behind the world's most recognizable structures.

From BooklistBrown offers a history of more than 100 of the world's greatest bridges, organized chronologically. He explains their origins and structure principle, beginning with the ancient world (Rome and China) and the medieval period (France, Italy, and the Czech Republic). Chapters deal with bridges of iron and stone, steel, concrete, and those with stay cables. Each chapter has an introduction, and vital statistics are given for each bridge--location, date of construction, and its designer. Brown writes that from prehistoric times to the present, the line of technology is unbroken; what has changed is its level of sophistication and comprehensibility. There are more than 300 color and black-and-white illustrations in this very informative account. George CohenCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved The world's greatest bridges, organized chronologically... the line of technology is unbroken, what has changed is its level of sophistication and comprehensibility. There are more than 300 color and black-and-white illustrations in this very informative account. (George Cohen Booklist 2006-02-01)A wonderful coffeetable book for architecture and civil engineering buffs... this one is truly global in scope. (Denise A. Brush Science Books and Films)Exceptional clarity of form and superb color photographs... written in clear, complete and suitably journalistic prose... Essential for undergraduate design collections. (Paul Glassman Library Journal 2006-04-01)Full of beautiful color photos and diagrams, the book offers a detailed and affectionate look at these construction marvels. (Science News 2005-12-17)About the Author David J. Brown is an author, editor and librarian. He is the author of How They Were Built, a children's book of architecture.