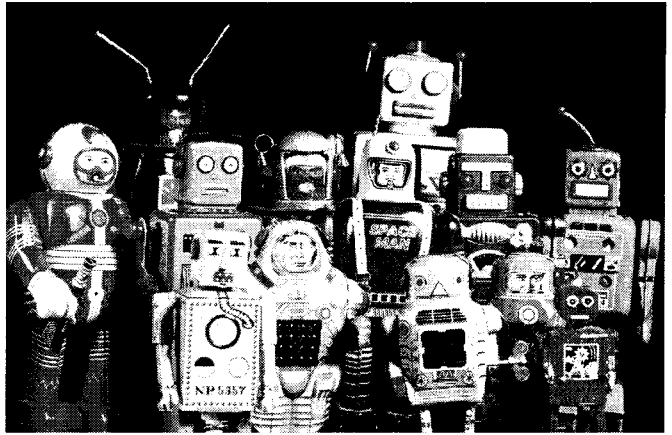


/ Cyber-eye for the Hard Up Guy



Dear Editors,

I am concerned about the technologically and financially elitist aspect of cyborg culture and was wondering if there is an everyman version that could be cultivated in some sort of "Do it your self," arts and crafts manner. I address these theoretical questions to Cyborg Expert readers in an attempt to glean a way to democratize this culture and open it up to those of humble means. Thus ...

CAN YOU BE OR OBTAIN A CYBORG BY:

- Wearing a bunch of cables as one would wear a mink coat?*
- Concealing a battery-operated toy in an inner pocket and setting it off surreptitiously at parties?*
- Worshipping your iPod like a god?*
- Shoving a keyboard down your trousers and punching in commands that you then follow?*
- Gluing wires to the insides of your nostrils?*
- Covering your children with glue and rolling them in 'Mecano' pieces?*
- Taping a speedometer to a pigeon?*
- Attaching the intercom to your wife's head so that she never has to go see who is at the door again?*
- Fixing yourself to the inside of your refrigerator door to surprise your spouse, partner or roommate? (Not recommended for those who live alone).*
- Painting yourself completely in hypertext blue?*

Most excellent cyber fellows, I am sure you are sensitive to the alienation one may feel being excluded from such a promising culture. If you have any further practical suggestions about how people of modest income might actively participate in cyber culture, (i.e. any Unabomber style tips) or any recommendations regarding the above interpretations, those of us concerned would be ever grateful. If not, I would appreciate any financial donations you might be able to make to a marginal admirer.

*Yours sincerely,
Daniel A. Bastard.*

Daniel A. Bastard believes poverty will end if the poor adopt a pro-active, DIY culture inspired by Vaclav Havel's "living as if" principle. This will create virtual equality, nullifying ostentatious commodity culture through DIY genius. He is currently serving a six month term on Ryker's Island for hoarding email.