



## Free Innovation

By Eric Hippel

BRILLIANCE AUDIO, 2016. CD-Audio. Condition: New. Unabridged. Language: English . Brand New. In this book, Eric von Hippel, author of the influential Democratizing Innovation, integrates new theory and research findings into the framework of a free innovation paradigm. Free innovation, as he defines it, involves innovations developed by consumers who are self-rewarded for their efforts, and who give their designs away for free. It is an inherently simple grassroots innovation process, unencumbered by compensated transactions and intellectual property rights. Free innovation is already widespread in national economies and is steadily increasing in both scale and scope. Today, tens of millions of consumers are collectively spending tens of billions of dollars annually on innovation development. However, because free innovations are developed during consumers unpaid, discretionary time and are given away rather than sold, their collective impact and value have until very recently been hidden from view. This has caused researchers, governments, and firms to focus too much on the Schumpeterian idea of innovation as a producer-dominated activity. Free innovation has both advantages and drawbacks. Because free innovators are self-rewarded by such factors as personal utility, learning, and fun, they often pioneer new areas before producers see commercial potential. At the same...

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