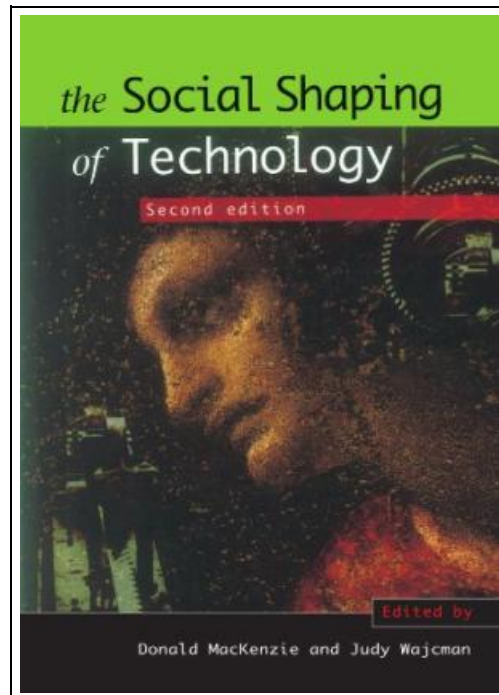


## The Social Shaping of Technology



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McGraw Hill Education / Open University. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 480 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.7in. x 1.3in. Reviews of the 1st Edition: . . . This book is a welcome addition to the sociology of technology, a field whose importance is increasingly recognised. - Sociology . . . sets a remarkably high standard in breadth of coverage, in scholarship, and in readability and can be recommended to the general reader and to the specialist alike. - Science and Society . . . This remarkably readable and well-edited anthology focuses, in a wide variety of concrete examples, not on the impacts of technologies on societies but in the reverse: how different social contexts shaped the emergence of particular technologies. - Technology and Culture How does social context affect the development of technology What is the relationship between technology and gender Is production technology shaped by efficiency or by social control Technological change is often seen as something that follows its own logic - something we may welcome, or about which we may protest, but which we are unable to alter fundamentally. This reader challenges that assumption and its distinguished contributors demonstrate that technology is affected at a fundamental level by the social context in which it develops. General arguments are introduced about the relation of technology to society and different types of technology are examined: the technology of production; domestic and reproductive technology; and military technology. The book draws on authors from Karl Marx to Cynthia Cockburn to show that production technology is shaped by social relations in the workplace. It moves on to the technologies of the household and biological reproduction, which are topics that male-dominated social science has tended to ignore or trivialise - though these are actually of crucial significance where powerful shaping factors...



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