Who knew proton torpedoes were so expensive? Apparently, that's why Luke only had one pair when he set out to take down the Death Star. And that's not the only bit of trivia you'll bring away from this aptly subtitled Ultimate Guide to Star Wars Vehicles and Spacecraft. Whether you're looking for the bathroom on Jabba's sail barge or you just want to see where Boba Fett catches a few winks on Slave I, this is the book for you. In Star Wars: Incredible Cross-Sections, author-archaeologist David West Reynolds zooms out from cataloguing minutiae as he did in Star Wars: The Visual Dictionary, and instead takes apart the big toys of Star Wars, from AT-ATs to X-Wings. Full-color, exploded technical illustrations get you under the hood of every noteworthy ship in the Star Wars trilogy, from a grand tour of a Jawa Sandcrawler to a sprawling, four-page foldout of (what else but?) the Death Star. Detailed labels and realistic, miniature depictions of crew and characters roaming around each ship are so engaging that you may find yourself imagining you're on the Millennium Falcon giving Chewie a hand with the power couplings. --Paul Hughes

My Personal Review:
These books are huge A3 sized, the drawings are mostly of very good quality, and the amount of information packed into them is huge. They are a wonderful addition for any sci-fi fan.
This edition for the original three films is probably the best, it covers the machines in amazing detail and the technical detail fits reasonably well with what's on the (huge) official website.
Of particular note is the double sized page on the Death Star which is absolutely amazing.
Criticisms
There are two big criticisms with all these books, the main one is that they are far too thin. There are many things in the films that are simply missing, how about cross sections of R2D2, a light sabre, a speeder bike, or things like the ion cannon. Even worse ships like the Star Destroyer although wonderful could benefit hugely from a page or two extra on them.
The second criticism is technical, in some ways things here dont entirely mesh with the movies, although the problems are very subtle and very minor. The films are extremely careful and clever technically, the enormous attention to detail separates the best from the rest. Ok I am a scientist and engineer who has taken an interest in exotic space craft designs for real. Some of the details in the first film in particular are quite staggering, it is obvious that some of the technical people involved had done some real work on the subject. Sadly the people behind all these `technical books are not always quite so knowledgeable, but they are still very fascinating.

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