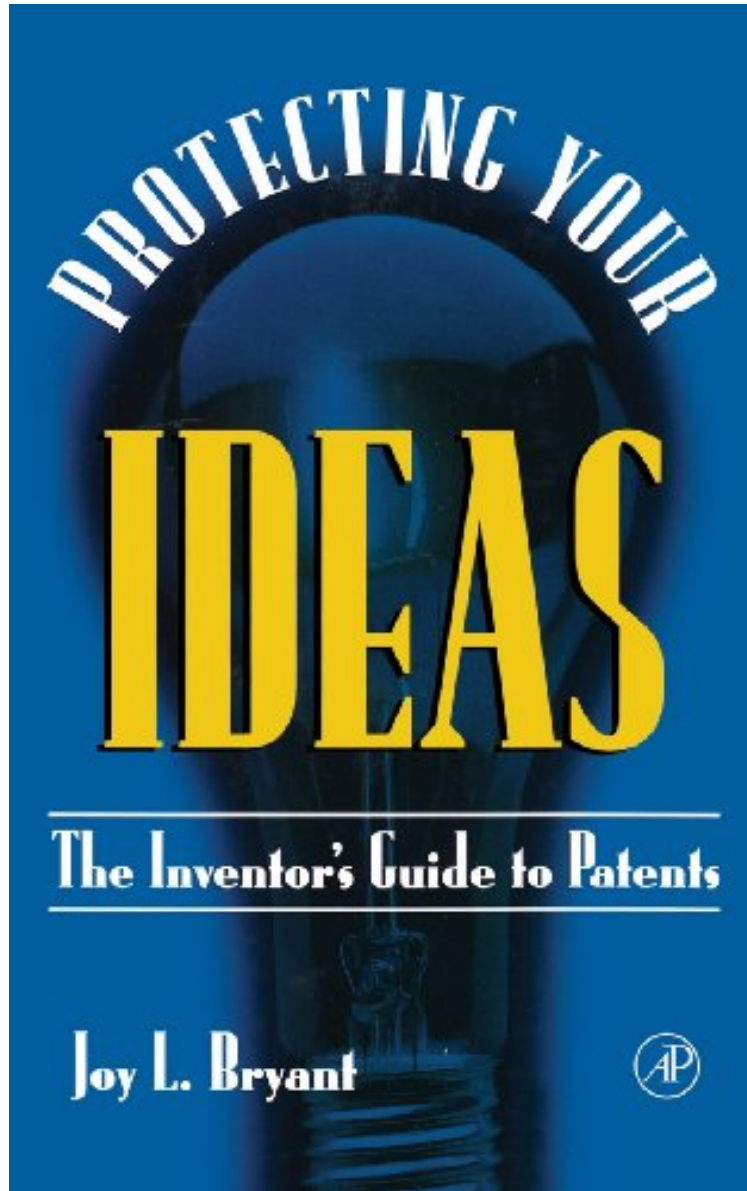


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Protecting Your Ideas: The Inventor's Guide to Patents

Joy L. Bryant

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my idea a reality in spite of having a prototype. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Serge Yevmineffok 12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. helpful guide on patents By G W Thielman One of the most complete and up-to-date books for inventors is *Protecting* by Mrs Bryant, who is a patent agent. After distinguishing patents from copyrights and trade secrets, she outlines a roadmap for inventors and identifies many of the pitfalls likely to be encountered. As a collateral benefit, she also summarizes the process for initiating foreign applications through the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The intended audience is predominantly engineers (both regarding personal inventions and those assigned to their employers) with suggestions on documentation and diligence along with expected costs, but patent agents and attorneys can also benefit from the overview on statutory intent and court interpretation. The figures showing the relevant forms are an added benefit. One unintentionally amusing comment was her observation that "many lawyers" do not satisfy the requirements to register before the US Patent Trademark Office. Actually, only a tiny handful of attorneys qualify to formally prosecute patent applications (although registration is not needed for litigation or licensing, and in fairness the author probably means "intellectual property" lawyers of whom patent attorneys are a subset). Hopefully a revised edition will address publication of patent applications from the American Inventors Protection Act and the impact of *Festo v. Shoketsu* on the Doctrine of Equivalents - both developing after the book's publication - as well as correct the assertion that PTO registration is available only from passing the (rather difficult) patent exam - the alternative method is to work as a patent examiner. Otherwise, *Protecting* presents a valuable and recommended resource to engineers and scientists.

Intellectual property law is currently exploding, as demonstrated by the growth of technology transfer offices in universities. More and more scientists, companies, and institutions are rushing to secure intellectual property rights for their ideas and inventions. This process frustrates many people; patent laws are constantly changing, and most books about them are either overly technical or boring. *Protecting Your Ideas: The Inventor's Guide to Patents* is a succinct, straightforward guide to the system. This guide presents the steps involved in obtaining patent protection for inventions. It is easy to read and brimming with essential information and advice compounded from FAQs posed by the author's academic and industrial clientele. The text includes tips, warnings, and examples that guide the reader through the invention process so patent rights are not jeopardized. Checklists and other helpful information are provided to assist the inventor preparing to enter the patent process. The book includes valuable resource information and business guidance to protect the inventor from consumer fraud that is sometimes associated with the patent process. *Protecting Your Idea* is a must read for every engineer, scientist, or amateur inventor. Simple, easy-to-read format demystifies the patent process. Numerous example patents help to illustrate the issues involved. Provides an overview of the types of intellectual property protection. Incorporates up-to-date information about U.S. patent laws. Advises inventors about the do's and don'ts of patenting. Includes useful resources for helping inventors safeguard their ideas.

"Protecting Your Ideas is the entrepreneur's step-by-step guide for safeguarding intellectual property." --Robert G. Templin, Jr., Virginia's Center for Innovative Technology "Rarely does one find a book that has so much important information on a subject so vital to the creative or inventive mind. Ms. Bryant has built an important bridge for the inventor on the long road to success." --Joe East, President, PAR Technologies "More useful information per square inch than any other book I have seen on this subject." --Shelia Marsh, Principal Attorney, The In-House Advantage "Joy Bryant has the rare ability to translate very complicated and weighty stuff into immediately understandable and even interesting information." --Anne Womack, Director of Sponsored Programs, College of William and Mary "Joy Bryant's book is a clear and concise description of the IP (intellectual property) maze; it defines and describes IP and how to protect it. The book is for everyone on your team; it is an essential tool for the preservation of your ideas and your future. Buy this roadmap and use it." --Dr. Kent A. Murphy, President, FS, Inc. From the Back Cover Inside Jacket Flap copy *Protecting Your Ideas* is a succinct, straightforward guide to the patent system. This guide presents the steps involved in obtaining patent protection for inventions. It is easy to read and brimming with essential information and advice compounded from FAQs posed by the author's academic and industrial clientele. It includes tips, warnings, and examples that guide the reader through the invention process so patent rights are not jeopardized. Checklists and other helpful information are provided to assist the inventor who is preparing to enter the patent process. The author has included valuable resource information and business guidance to protect the inventor from consumer fraud associated with patenting inventions. This book is a must read for every engineer, scientist, or amateur inventor. Features Simple, easy-to-read format demystifies the patent process. Numerous example patents help to illustrate the issues involved. Provides an overview of the types of intellectual property protection. Incorporates up-to-date information about U.S. patent laws. Advises inventors about the do's and don'ts of patenting. Includes useful resources for helping inventors safeguard their ideas. Back Jacket Flap copy Author Biography Photograph Registered to practice as an agent before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Joy L. Bryant is currently in private practice in Virginia and is the Founder and President of the National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP). The NAPP is a nonprofit professional association for patent agents and attorneys. Prior to starting her own practice and founding the NAPP, Ms. Bryant was

employed under contract as a patent agent in the Office of Patent Counsel at NASA Langley Research Center. Before beginning her career as a patent agent, Ms. Bryant was employed by several chemical companies as an industrial polymer chemist. During this time she developed three commercial products, one of which is patented. This background as an inventor has helped her better understand the needs of inventors. Ms. Bryant has lectured extensively on the subject of patents and has provided oral testimony before the US Patent and trademark Office on behalf of the NAPP. Her work with the NAPP has helped to foster communication and to promote high professional standards amongst patent practitioners. She holds an M.A. degree in Applied Science - Patent Practice from the College of William and Mary, an M.S. degree in Polymer Science from the University of Akron, and a B.Sc. degree in Chemistry from Valparaiso University. About the Author Joy L. Bryant holds an M.A. in Applied Science-Patent Practice from the College of William and Mary and an M.S. in Polymer Science from the University of Akron. She is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as an agent. Bryant is currently in private practice in Virginia and is the Founder and President of the National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP), a nonprofit professional association for patent agents and attorneys. Prior to starting her own practice, Bryant was employed as a patent agent in the Office of Patent Counsel at NASA Langley Research Center and an industrial polymer chemist. She has also developed three commercial products, one of which is patented.