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## The Sharing Economy

The End of Employment and the Rise of Crowd-Based Capitalism

By [Arun Sundararajan \(/contributors/arun-sundararajan\)](#)

The wide-ranging implications of the shift to a sharing economy, a new model of organizing economic activity that may supplant traditional corporations.

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## Review

 [\(#\)](#)

So all in all, a very interesting book by one the most knowledgeable researchers on the sharing economy. Well worth a read.

*The Enlightened Economist*

## Award

∨ [\(#rail-awards\)](#)



Bronze Medalist in Economics, 2017 Axiom Business Book Awards

## Resources

∨ [\(#rail-resources\)](#)

### Reader Resources

[Author Site \(http://s12y.com\)](http://s12y.com)

[Appearance on PBS's The Charlie Rose Show \(https://charlierose.com/videos/28419\)](https://charlierose.com/videos/28419)

## Endorsement

∨ [\(#rail-endorsement\)](#)

Information technology is disrupting a host of industries including transportation, hotels, banks, and marketplaces. The very nature of work is changing. Sundararajan offers an insightful guide to the forces shaping our economy today—and tomorrow.

Hal Varian, Chief Economist, Google

## Online Attention

∨ [\(#rail-altmetric\)](#)

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## Overview

## Author(s)

## Praise

## Summary

The wide-ranging implications of the shift to a sharing economy, a new model of organizing economic activity, and the challenges it poses for traditional corporations.

Sharing isn't new. Giving someone a ride, having a guest in your spare room, running errands for someone, or joining a club – these are not revolutionary concepts. What is new, in the “sharing economy,” is that you are not providing these services to a stranger for money. In this book, Arun Sundararajan, an expert on the subject, describes the transition to what he describes as “crowd-based capitalism” – a new way of organizing economic activity that challenges the traditional corporate-centered model. As peer-to-peer commercial exchange blurs the lines between the professional and the amateur, how will the economy, government regulation, what it means to have a job, and our social fabric change?

Drawing on extensive research and numerous real-world examples – including Airbnb, Lyft, Uber, Etsy, TaskRabbit, BlaBlaCar, China's Didi Kuaidi, and India's Ola, Sundararajan explains the basics of crowd-based capitalism and the challenges it poses. He demystifies emerging blockchain technologies, and asks: How will the economy change? How will we live in a world of empowered entrepreneurs who enjoy professional flexibility and independence? Or will we live in a world of disenfranchised digital laborers scurrying between platforms in search of the next wedge of piecemeal work? He discusses important policy choices and suggests possible new directions for self-regulatory organizations, labor law, and social safety net.

## Hardcover

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