



Constructing the World (Hardback)

By David J. Chalmers

Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 2012. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. David Chalmers develops a picture of reality on which all truths can be derived from a limited class of basic truths. The picture is inspired by Rudolf Carnap s construction of the world in Der Logische Aufbau Der Welt. Carnap s Aufbau is often seen as a noble failure, but Chalmers argues that a version of the project can succeed. With the right basic elements and the right derivation relation, we can indeed construct the world. The focal point of Chalmers project is scrutability: the thesis that ideal reasoning from a limited class of basic truths yields all truths about the world. Chalmers first argues for the scrutability thesis and then considers how small the base can be. The result is a framework in metaphysical epistemology : epistemology in service of a global picture of the world. The scrutability framework has ramifications throughout philosophy. Using it, Chalmers defends a broadly Fregean approach to meaning, argues for an internalist approach to the contents of thought, and rebuts W.V. Quine s arguments against the analytic and the a priori. He also uses scrutability to analyze the unity...



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