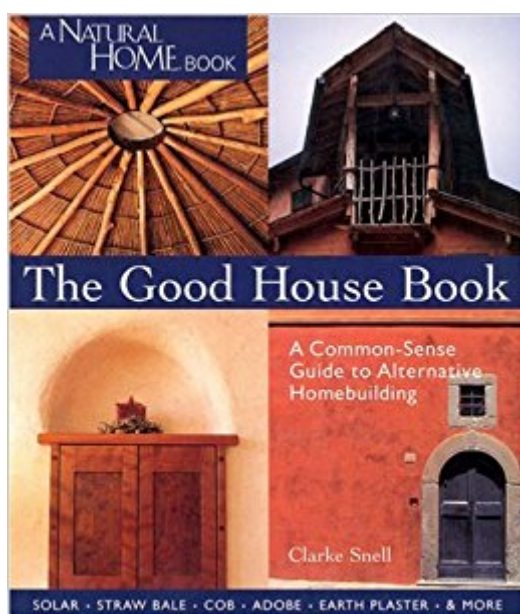


The book was found

The Good House Book: A Common-Sense Guide To Alternative Homebuilding Solar * Straw Bale * Cob * Adobe * Earth Plaster * & More (A Natural Home Book)



Synopsis

From Lark Books and Natural Home magazine's, which has a circulation of 200,000, comes an illustrated, unique guide to building an earth-friendly home. To create a dwelling that's both ecologically sustainable and attractive, Natural Home magazine is the place to go. With this exquisitely illustrated guide, packed with 400 photos and illustrations, anyone can put environmentally friendly ideas into beautiful practice. Here's an intelligent look at how a home is supposed to function and a variety of different building approaches. What's important is finding the right solution to fit your individual needs, local climate, and natural resources. The broad range of topics covered include choosing a site; selecting materials; building with straw bale, cob, adobe, or rammed earth; and plugging into alternative home power systems. Interviews with six homeowners, and photos of the dream homes they built, provide invaluable insight.

Book Information

Series: A Natural Home Book

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Lark Books (April 1, 2004)

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #306,921 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Energy Efficiency #577 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Sustainable Living #739 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Design & Construction

Customer Reviews

Clarke Snell is a builder with experience using a wide variety of materials and techniques, both conventional and alternative. The construction project closest to his heart is his own partially bermed, passive solar house, which he built in the mountains of western North Carolina.

I've seen all of the other eco-house books (really!) after months of reading. This is the best I've

seen. I could have missed the philosophy lesson in the first half easily, but the second half of the book more than made up for it. The author gives good detail on foundations, building types and solar gain, as well as other practical aspects to a green house. My favorite part of the book was the in-depth interviews and descriptions of alternative home builders and their houses. The answers to the question: "What was your greatest mistake?" was in every case eye-opening. This book goes far beyond the usual "naive couple building a straw-bale" kind of book. Every useful kind of alternative construction is discussed from a builder's point of view. The photos are wonderful and appropriate. You might not want to live in their houses, but it gives you an idea of what has been done and why it worked and ways it could be improved.

I'm pleased with this purchase. This book covers and compares lots of different types of alternative homebuilding and different issues with each, though obviously not in the level of detail the books do that are focused exclusively on one type of construction. But does better job than those more focused books on comparing pros and cons. Most of the single-construction-type books evangelize for their particular favored types, and gloss over potential problems. Good illustrations, too.

Superlative well-balanced, insightful, entertaining, stimulative text, superlative graphics/layout with an abundant and marvelous and beautiful and very effective array of color photographs, superlative resource section, superlative physical book quality including stay-open binding. If you're thinking of building a house or if you're interested in alternative housing possibilities (solar, etc.) or if you're interested in the topic of housing in general or if you'd like an ideal coffee table book, you will probably find this book a delightful fulfillment. (Thank you, , including reviewers, for helping me to discover this book.)

I swear Clarke Snell wrote this book for me - or at least for people like me!! - non construction folks, but handy with a hammer. You won't be able to build your house with only this book, but he presents a very user-friendly introduction to all the requisite concepts, then offers a wonderful reference section for more great info. A very realistic approach, and a very approachable writing style. Other green writers I've found to have a more textbook cadence, but Clarke Snell sounds as if he'd jump right in and help you. Thanks!!

This book is great for inspiration .

This is a great book to introduce the topic of building strawbale, cob etc. homes. The wonderful point about it is that it details the pros and cons of each building style and lets you compare each method carefully so that you are able to next select a more detailed book about a particular style. It has beautiful colour photos and lots of information. Highly recommended.

good

i freaking love this book. like, its so great that ive already bought one for my friends who have showed interest in building.

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