

Building With Cob A Step By Step Guide 1 Sustainable Building

Build Your Own Earth Oven
Earthen Floors
Cottage Building in Cob, Pisé, Chalk & Clay;
A Renaissance
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Building Your Straw Bale Home
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Cordwood Construction: Best Practices
Building with Straw Bales
Straw Bale Building Details
Handbook for Building Homes of Earth
The Hand-sculpted House
The Art of Natural Building
Essential Light Straw Clay Construction

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Build Your Own Earth Oven

You can build your own earthen home with your own hands and feet, with materials that are available almost everywhere for cheap or for free, without power tools or previous building experience. Earth is one of the oldest building materials on the planet and still the most common. Thousands of picturesque cob homes in England, Ireland and Wales have withstood centuries of rain, snow, and gales, and remain comfortable and joyously inhabited today. Currently, cob is enjoying a revival of interest both in Britain and in North America. This book tells you how to: -- build with cob, a traditional mixture of earth, sand and straw; -- select building materials and determine the best mixture for a given soil; -- sculpt a personalized house with built-in seats, counters, shelves, and niches -- evaluate natural alternatives for roofs, floors, plasters, and insulation -- reduce your dependency on money and environmentally harmful practices -- avoid the costly mistakes made by many novice builders. Michael G. Smith was a founding director of the Cob Cottage Company for four years and has taught over 30 week-long workshops on cob and other natural building techniques. He is a founder and organizer of the Natural Building Colloquium.

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Earthen Floors

Earth is the mother of all construction materials. For thousands of years, people have dug up the clay-soil below their feet and transformed it into the most versatile building material. Worldwide, people are rediscovering the advantages of earthen construction, and for good reasons: its easy to work with, extremely affordable, environmentally friendly, non-toxic, durable and beautiful! A few simple tools, such as buckets, shovels and a wheelbarrow is all you need to get started. By describing how to combine and process the basic ingredients of clay-soil, sand and straw, this book makes it clear and simple on how to make earthen building something you can start with the moment you put down the book! You will learn how to build with the most popular and time-tested techniques: Cob Adobe Light straw-clay Earth bags Earthen plasters Earthen floors Clay paints These techniques are being used to build entire houses, as well as for smaller projects, such as backyard sheds, cabins, outdoor fireplaces, garden walls and play houses. As a bonus, the appendix has complete instruction on how to build an earthen bread- and pizza oven, using the techniques described in the book. This makes for a great starter project! An often overlooked possibility is using earthen building methods to renovate existing homes on a shoestring budget,

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transforming run-down houses into earthen homes, without having to work with toxic or environmentally harmful building materials. After reading this book, you will realize how simple it is to integrate earthen materials with conventional building materials. The book covers everything, from identifying the right materials, to how to build arches and niches and incorporate plumbing and electric. It is also supported by YouTube videos and photos, which can be found at www.HouseAlive.org, adding additional clarity to the writing. "Conrad Rogue is a great builder, teacher, and philosopher. He is original in his thinking, skilled in his techniques, and passionate about the beauty and potential of earthen construction. And above all, he has the rare ability to skillfully convey all of that in his writing." ~ Mother Earth Magazine Conrad Rogue has been teaching earthen construction since 2001. He is the founder and director of House Alive. (www.HouseAlive.org). He has taught workshops in the United States, Mexico, Spain, Italy and India.

Cottage Building in Cob, Pisé, Chalk & Clay; A Renaissance

This practical guide is written especially for the owner-builder and provides step-by-step instructions supported by diagrams and photographs. It covers the construction process from site preparation

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through to foundations, concrete slabs, strip footings and stumps. Special techniques for straw bale construction and the integration of these techniques with those of conventional house building are also covered, including floors, timber wall-frames, ceilings and roof framing. Advice is offered on plumbing and electrical work in a straw bale house. Written with first-hand knowledge of the challenges that face the owner-builder, the author explores local council issues and requirements, the potential pitfalls of building and what to look for when ordering second-hand material, aided by a useful glossary of terms. The book concludes by covering the various safety issues that arise during construction, including fire prevention, equipment usage and the working environment.

Tiny Homes

A photographic survey of adobe buildings throughout West Africa, including the great mosque at Djenne (the largest mud building in the world) ordinary houses and huts, arches, domes, colonnades, grillwork and other architectural feats. The text by Blier covers the history, technology and cultural significance of adobe in West Africa.

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House of Earth

This book was previously published under the title Using Natural Finishes. With the increasing awareness of eco-building techniques alongside the desire to make our homes healthier, the historical benefits of using natural renders and paints are being rediscovered. Clay and Lime Renders, Plasters and Paints is an in-depth guide to the selection, mixing and application of lime and clay based plasters, renders, paints and washes. Step-by-step instructions for applying lime and clay based plasters, renders and paints. Information on the benefits of natural finishes for personal health, the environment, and for buildings. Drawing on traditional methods & materials for using lime & clay finishes on new and historic buildings. A comprehensive and up-to-date online resourceguide to suppliers, practitioners and courses. Easy to follow DIY projects guide the reader through all aspects of using these natural finishes, with beautiful photographs of techniques and examples from the UK and abroad.

The Green Self-build Book

CONTENTS: Introduction--Types of Earth Houses Soils and What Can Be

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Done with Them Soil Stabilizers Site Preparation Foundations
Lightweight Roofs Getting the Soil Prepared Making Adobe Blocks Making
Pressed Earth Blocks Making Walls of Pressed Blocks Making Walls of
Rammed Earth Roofs for Earth Houses Floors for Earth Houses Surface
Coatings

Building Your Straw Bale Home

Essential reading for anyone planning to design an eco-home Designing an eco-house is as much about working with your natural surroundings as it is about planning to use the right materials for your building. In this book, Christopher Day draws on his extensive experience to explain the key principles of ecological house design. Beautifully illustrated, it highlights how aesthetics arise from eco-responsible design: they are not add-ons, nor are ecology and art in conflict. This book will give you essential guidance in working with your surroundings, understanding what you can do yourself, choosing your materials, making sure your eco home suits your needs, eco-building without relying on technology, and refitting an existing building. This book is essential for anyone who wants to create a beautiful home that is in harmony with its location, is a healthy and pleasant place to live, and is environmentally friendly.

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Essential Rammed Earth Construction

Cob (an old English word for lump) is old-fashioned concrete, made out of a mixture of clay, sand, and straw. Becky Bee's manual is a friendly guide to making your own earth structure, with chapters on design, foundations, floors, windows and doors, finishes, and of course, making glorious cob. "I believe that building with cob is a way to recreate community and experience the joy of working together while taking back the right to build our own homes and look after our Mother Earth." She loves doing something that makes sense in a world where lots of things don't.

The Cobber's Companion

Text and illustrations take you through the construction of a small building that incorporates a wide spectrum of alternative techniques and materials.

Butabu

Cob, a structural composite of earth, water, straw, clay, and sand,

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has been used for centuries, in virtually all parts of the world, to create homes ranging from mud huts in Africa to lavish adobe haciendas in Latin America. This practical and inspiring hands-on guide teaches anyone to build a cob dwelling.

The Cob Builders Handbook

"The Rammed Earth House is an eye-opening example of how dramatic innovations frequently have their origins in the distant past. By rediscovering the most ancient of all building materials - the earth - homebuilders can now create structures that set new standards for beauty, durability, and extraordinarily efficient use of natural resources." -back cover.

Building Green

Keep construction on track with helpful checklists Turn your dream of a custom home into reality! Thinking about building your own home? This easy-to-follow guide shows you how to plan and build a beautiful home on any budget. From acquiring land to finding the best architect to overseeing the construction, you get lots of savvy tips on managing

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your new investment wisely -- and staying sane during the process!
Discover how to: * Find the best homesite * Navigate the plan approval process * Obtain financing * Hire the right contractor * Cut design and construction costs * Avoid common mistakes

Builders of the Pacific Coast

Cordwood building—log-ends set in insulated mortar—is a versatile, economical, low-impact, and beautiful building method. Its durability and performance has been proven in beautiful, centuries-old buildings in North America and Europe. Yet until now, there has been no trusted, practical guide to cordwood construction using the material in a wide variety of construction projects. Distilling decades of experience and best practices, *Essential Cordwood Building* is the first fully illustrated, step-by-step guide to cordwood building. Ideal for the DIYer and professional designer and builder alike, it covers: Wood species selection, log-end length, and seasoning Cement, lime putty, and cob mortar options Wall cavity insulation options Budgeting and estimating Highly illustrated, step-by-step building techniques Window and door frame installation, pointing and chinking, finishing, and plastering Special designs and decorative features Code references, compliance, building science, and best practices Troubleshooting and

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maintenance Essential Cordwood Building is part of New Society's Sustainable Building Essentials Series. Series editors Chris Magwood and Jen Feigin have scoured the world of sustainable building to bring you the techniques and systems that deliver measurable benefits in terms of greater efficiency and reduced environmental impacts. Written by the world's leading sustainable builders, designers, and engineers, these succinct, user-friendly handbooks are indispensable tools for any project where high performance and low impact are key goals. Get the essentials! Rob Roy is widely recognized as a world leading authority on cordwood construction. He is Director of Earthwood Building School in West Chazy, New York, which teaches owner-builders how to build with cordwood masonry. Rob has authored and edited fifteen books, including Cordwood Building, Timber Framing for the Rest of Us, Earth-Sheltered Houses, and Stoneview.

Building Your Own Home For Dummies

Learn how to identify, locate, and effectively use alternative building materials, including cob, adobe, rammed earth, bamboo, cork, wool carpeting, and more. You will also learn about the structure, climate control, siting, foundations, and flooring options you gain when using these materials. Ultimately, you will come to understand

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that these materials are cheaper, easier to build with, stronger, more durable, and more fire resistant.

The Rammed Earth House

In 2004, Lloyd Kahn discovered a group of unique carpenters along the Pacific Coast of North America. Over a two-year period, he made four trips north from his home in the San Francisco Bay Area, up the coast, shooting the photos that appear in this book. To preserve homeowners' privacy, specific locations are not given, but suffice to say this book focuses on the Pacific Coast north from San Francisco up to and around Vancouver Island, British Columbia, latitudes 37 to 49 degrees. There's been a vortex of creative carpentry energy in this part of the world over the last 30 years. Many of the builders shown here got started in the countercultural era of the '60s and '70s, and their work has never been shown in books or magazine articles.

Straw Bale Construction Manual

Building with straw bales is a technique pioneered a century ago in the state of Nebraska. In recent years there has been a renaissance in

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the use of straw as a building material largely in the American Southwest, but also in Canada, Australia, France, Holland, Germany, Austria and China. Straw is a renewable resource with excellent insulating properties. It is a cheap and easy-to-use option for self-builders, and even large-scale structures can be erected using timber framework filled with straw. This book is a practical, hands-on guide to building with straw. Fire safety, protection against moisture, damp, pests and parasites are treated in detail. Numerous on-site photos document the process of assembly and construction step by step. 30 exemplary international projects illustrate the wide spectrum of design possibilities with straw.

The Natural Building Companion

In *Building a Low Impact Roundhouse*, Tony shares his many years of experience, skills, and techniques used to build this unique and affordable low-impact home. Always witty and inspiring, the author explains the process of visualizing and designing a house through to the practical side of lifting the living roof, infilling the walls, laying out rooms, and adding renewable, autonomous technology. *Building a Low Impact Roundhouse* has become a classic text sold all over the world. Tony's home and lifestyle have attracted much media

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interest, and he and his partner continue to inspire many individuals and communities to seek out ways of living more sustainably. Now in its third edition, with a fascinating ten-year update including a major new section on the couple's marvelous straw bale den, Tony also includes sections on the physical design, and he writes about the lifestyle required for living in a roundhouse. He offers advice on roofs, floors, walls, compost toilets, wood stoves, kitchens, windows, and planning permission. There are additional photographs of life in and around the dwelling and illustrations from the construction plans for one of the UK's most unique homes. This true and captivating story covers the realizing of a lifetime's dream as well as being a practical how to manual for anyone who loves the idea of low-impact living and wants to self-build an affordable, organic home.

The Complete Guide to Alternative Home Building Materials & Methods

The devil is in the details—the science and art of designing and building durable, efficient, straw bale buildings. Straw bale buildings promise superior insulation and flexibility across a range of design aesthetics, while using a typically local and abundant low-embodied

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energy material that sequesters carbon-an important part of mitigating climate change. However, some early straw bale designs and construction methods resulted in buildings that failed to meet design goals for energy efficiency and durability. This led to improved building practices and a deeper understanding of the building science underlying this building system. Distilling two decades of site-built straw bale design and construction experience, *Straw Bale Building Details* is an illustrated guide that covers: Principles and process of straw bale design and building, options, and alternatives Building science of straw bale wall systems How design impacts cost, building efficiency, and durability Avoiding costly mistakes and increasing construction efficiency Dozens of time-tested detailed drawings for straw bale wall assemblies, including foundations, windows and doors, and roofs. Whether you're an architect, engineer, contractor, or owner-builder interested in making informed choices, *Straw Bale Building Details* is the indispensable guide to current practice in straw bale design and construction.

Earthbag Building

The only comprehensive, illustrated, step-by-step guide to building with earthbags. Over seventy percent of Americans cannot afford to own

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a code-enforced, contractor-built home. This has led to widespread interest in using natural materials—straw, cob, and earth—for building homes and other buildings that are inexpensive, and that rely largely on labor rather than expensive and often environmentally-damaging outsourced materials. Earthbag Building is the first comprehensive guide to all the tools, tricks, and techniques for building with bags filled with earth—or earthbags. Having been introduced to sandbag construction by the renowned Nader Khalili in 1993, the authors developed this "Flexible Form Rammed Earth Technique" over the last decade. A reliable method for constructing homes, outbuildings, garden walls and much more, this enduring, tree-free architecture can also be used to create arched and domed structures of great beauty—in any region, and at home, in developing countries, or in emergency relief work. This profusely illustrated guide first discusses the many merits of earthbag construction, and then leads the reader through the key elements of an earthbag building: Special design considerations Foundations, walls, and floors Electrical, plumbing, and shelving Lintels, windows and door installations Roofs, arches and domes Exterior and interior plasters. With dedicated sections on costs, making your own specialized tools, and building code considerations, as well as a complete resources guide, Earthbag Building is the long-awaited, definitive guide to this uniquely pleasing construction

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style. Mother Earth News Wiser Living Series

Essential Natural Plasters

Provides step-by-step instructions for applying natural finishes, including plasters, renders, and paints.

Building with Cob

A highly illustrated, practical handbook on eco-friendly building for homeowners. Whether you want a turf roof, solar-powered hot water, a straw bale home, or a super-insulated (and cost-efficient) house, you need to know the essential elements of the process. In *The Green Self-Build Book*, Jon Broome gives an overview of the different methods of sustainable and eco-friendly construction techniques for non-professionals. *The Green Self-Build Book* gives inspiration and information to guide you through the green building process. It is intended for anyone who is planning a do-it-yourself project, and for housing professionals, students, and teachers.

Earth Architecture

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Down and dirty - a complete step-by-step guide to making, installing and living with beautiful, all-natural earthen floors For most of human history, people have lived in durable, comfortable buildings made from natural materials such as soil, sand, rocks and fiber. All over the globe, these ancient traditions persist; a quarter to a third of the world's population today lives in houses built partially or entirely of earth. Conventional Western building techniques using industrial materials may save time and create efficiencies, but these perceived savings come at considerable financial and environmental cost. As well as boasting a unique and beautiful aesthetic, natural building techniques are accessible, affordable and nontoxic. Earthen Floors: A Modern Approach to an Ancient Practice is the first comprehensive, fully illustrated manual covering the history, use and maintenance of this attractive, practical flooring option. This detailed, fully-illustrated guide explains every part of the process, including: Sourcing and harvesting materials Preparing the subfloor Pouring, finishing and sealing the floor Living with and maintaining your earthen floor. Because information on creating quality earthen floors was not previously widely available, there have been some negative experiences. Drawing on the combined knowledge of the most qualified earthen floor practitioners, as well their own substantial experience, the authors deliver the definitive resource for this

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exciting technique, perfect for everyone from the novice to veteran builder.

Alternative Construction

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Building a Low Impact Roundhouse

For builders of natural homes (straw bale, cob, adobe, rammed earth, and other natural materials), this unique step-by-step guide takes the confusion out of choosing, mixing, and applying natural plasters. From principles to practicalities, and with every stage of the process illustrated, *The Natural Plasters Book* details the entire process of plastering with earth, lime, and gypsum for a long-lasting and durable finish. Starting with an overview and history of the natural building movement, the book handles a wide variety of topics including earthen plaster versus cement stucco, tools and techniques of the trade, plaster recipes, and pigmenting plaster or painting walls with natural paints. First-time builders will appreciate tips on common mistakes (and how to avoid them) discussed at each stage of the plastering process. Special focus is paid to the importance of planning and designing for earthen plasters—before building begins. The only comprehensive guide available on natural plasters, this book is written for the growing number of people who have decided to build their own natural homes as well as for professionals. Heavily illustrated with practical drawings and photographs, it also includes an extensive resource guide listing books, magazines, videos, builders, and suppliers.

Marketing Plans: • Ads in *Natural Home* and

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Environmental Building & Design • National print review campaign to natural building, self-sufficiency, and environmental magazines, newsletters, websites. Cedar Rose Guelberth has been working with natural home construction and plaster techniques for 25 years and is a nationally recognized natural building educator and consultant. Dan Chiras is the author of fifteen books including *The Natural House: A Guide to Healthy, Energy-Efficient, Environmental Homes* (ISBN: 1-890132578, Chelsea Green, 2000). Both authors live in Colorado. Also Available *The Art of Natural Building: Design, Construction, Resources* TP \$26.95, 0-86571-433-9 • *USA Straw Bale Building: How to Plan, Design, and Build with Straw* TP \$24.95, 0-86571-403-7 • USA

The Hempcrete Book

A guide to building an eco-friendly, energy-efficient, and sustainable house that is in harmony with the local climate and site.

Essential Cordwood Building

Provides a history of building with earth in the modern era, focusing on projects constructed in the last few decades that use rammed earth,

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mud brick, compressed earth, cob, and several other techniques made more relevant than ever by ecological and economic imperatives. Features over 40 projects.

Building with Earth

A DVD/book combination that includes the award-winning DVD on building a green, straw bale, solar home. On video, watch the construction of one home from start to finish. In the guidebook, see diagrams, photographs and additional methods of building.

Clay and Lime Renders, Plasters and Paints

The first highly illustrated, comprehensive guide to light straw clay - a high performance, low-impact, durable building material Light straw clay - straw mixed with clay slip - is a versatile, easy-to-use wall building material. Also called "slip-straw", its durability has been proven in beautiful, centuries-old buildings across Northern Europe and in modern high-performance buildings in North America. Building code compliant in the US and using "waste" materials with high insulation value and excellent moisture handling qualities, it's

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both high-performance and low-impact. Yet until now, there has been no practical guide to using the material in a wide variety of construction and renovation projects. Distilling decades of experience, *Essential Light Straw Clay Construction* is a fully illustrated step-by-step guide, ideal for both the DIYer and professional designer and builder alike. It covers: Material specifications, performance, and when and where to use it Estimating quantities, costs, and sourcing Illustrated, step-by-step guidance for mixing and installation, including "slip-chip" variations Detail drawings for various wall systems including stud, timber, and pole framing, Larsen trusses, I-joists, plus retrofits Code references, compliance, and best practice Finishing and maintenance techniques Additional resources. Lydia Doleman , a licenced contractor, taught carpentry and natural building at Solar Energy International in Colorado and was lead ecological builder for Portland's City Repair project. She's created beautiful, high-performance, low-impact buildings across the Northwest, from Portland's first permitted straw bale home and The Rebuilding Center's cob entryway, to a 3,300-sq. f light clay straw brewery. She's written for *The Last Straw Journal* and *Permaculture Activist* and appeared on NBC News and HGTV's *Off Beat America* . Lydia lives in southern Oregon.

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Using Natural Finishes

Natural plasters made of clay, lime, and other materials mixed with sand are beautiful building finishes. Fun to work with, low-impact, and allowing infinite creativity, they are high performance and provide proven, centuries-long durability. Yet until now there's been no resource that has pulled together the best North American plaster recipes and how-to into one place. Essential Natural Plasters covers it all: Sourcing and selecting materials, including site-soils Clay, lime, and gypsum plasters as well as fibers and amendments Interior and exterior use and specialty plasters such as tadelakt for bathrooms Preparing substrates, from straw bales and cob to lath and sheetrock How to set-up a safe, efficient worksite Mixing, testing, tinting, and applying plasters and plaster repair Coveted recipes from leading plasterers in Ontario, Vermont, New Mexico, France, and New Zealand. Richly illustrated and deeply researched, Essential Natural Plasters is the must-have resource for owner-builders and professionals alike. Michael Henry plastered his way across Ontario for a decade. His research, attention to detail, and mad-scientist plaster experiments have made him a noted expert and teacher in the field. Michael lives in Peterborough, Ontario with his wife and two children. He shares his knowledge at thesustainablehome.net. Tina Therrien started plastering

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in 1997 with Camel's Back Construction, Ontario's first straw bale company. A founding member of the Ontario Natural Building Coalition, she is co-author of *More Straw Bale Building* and operates *Shelter By Hand*, a timber framing company, in Low, Quebec, where she lives with her partner and daughter.

The Natural Plaster Book

Everything you need to know to build with rammed earth in warm and cold climates. Rammed earth - sand, gravel, and clay or lime/cement binder packed into forms - is a low-energy, high-performance building method, yielding beautiful, sustainable results. It's thermally stable and can be insulated, can actively modulate humidity, provides a healthy indoor environment, and allows site materials to be used for major structural and building envelope elements. *Essential Rammed Earth Construction* covers design, building science, tools, and step-by-step building methods for any climate, with a special emphasis on building in cold climates of the northern US, Canada, and northern Europe. Coverage includes: Overview of earthen building Appropriate use of rammed earth walls Stabilized versus raw rammed earth Design considerations, including structural, insulation, and building envelope details Special considerations for cold and freeze-thaw

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climates Construction drawings, with step-by-step building instructions Tools and labor covering industrial methods, low-tech techniques, formwork options, mix design, budgets, and schedules Codes, inspections, and permits. This guide is an essential resource for experienced builders, DIY home owners, designers, engineers, and architects interested in learning about rammed earth construction.

The Good House Book

Updated 2015: 259 color photos, diagrams and formulas will take the novice or experienced builder from house plans to cordwood home occupancy. Sections include: mortar mixes, R-values, code compliance, types of wood, drying wood, shrinkage tables, foundations, how we became mortgage-free, post & beam framing, formulas for estimating materials, homeowners insurance, Cordwood Conferences 2005 & 2011 summary, Best Practices with cordwood construction, lime putty mortar, cob, paper enhanced mortars, Permachinking walls, building codes, color photo album, making stained glass bottle ends, how-to "mortar-up" a cordwood wall, tuck pointing, FAQ's, maintenance, weight of a cordwood wall, cost analysis, Cordwood Education Center, White Earth Reservation cordwood home, a condensed version of Cordwood Cabin is included (which is architecturally drawn and state code approved and

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now serves as a classroom for the local public school), 196 pages and much, much more. Updated and revised 2015.

The Eco-Home Design Guide

Building with Awareness

Includes step-by-step instructions for creating cob structures with detailed illustrations and photos and advice on how to ensure they comply with modern building standards. There is also information on natural finishes including lime plasters, renders, washes, home-made clay, casein paints, and earthen plasters. It also has guidance on how to restore and repair old cob structures.

Cordwood Construction: Best Practices

The popularity of natural building has grown by leaps and bounds, spurred by a grassroots desire for housing that is healthy, affordable and environmentally responsible. While there are many books available on specific methods such as strawbale construction, cob or timber

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framing, few other resources introduce the reader to the entire scope of this burgeoning field. Fully revised and updated, *The Art of Natural Building* is the complete and user-friendly introduction to natural building for everyone from do-it-yourselfers to architects and designers. This collection of articles from 60 leaders in the field is stunningly illustrated with over 400 photos of natural buildings from around the world. At 465 pages, this massive resource is over 50% longer than the original edition. Out of 64 chapters, 26 are new to this edition, and nearly all of the rest have been completely revised to reflect recent developments. Learn about: The case for building with natural materials, from the perspectives of sustainability, lifestyle and health What you need to know to plan and design your own beautiful and efficient natural home Explanations of thirty versatile materials and techniques, each with an up-to-date resource list of where to go for further information and training How these techniques are being used to address housing crises around the world, with 12 case studies from China to Argentina. Clearly written, logically organized and beautifully illustrated *The Art of Natural Building* is the encyclopedia of natural building.

Building with Straw Bales

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Straw Bale Building Details

More than 1,000 photos, along with stories and interviews follow the "tiny house" movement which is currently going on among people who have chosen to scale back in the 21st century. Original.

Handbook for Building Homes of Earth

The Hempcrete Book is a detailed practical manual for architects, surveyors, professional builders and self-builders. It explains how to source and mix hempcrete and how to use it in new builds and restoration. In colour throughout, fully illustrated with beautiful photographs, this book provides a full explanation of construction techniques, highlighting potential pitfalls and how to avoid them. It includes a comprehensive resources section and examples of completed builds, with design notes. Hempcrete is a building material with excellent properties. It's made from lime and hemp shivs (a waste product from hemp fibre growing) and can be used for walls, floors, and for roof insulation. Hempcrete is breathable, absorbing and emitting moisture; this helps regulate internal humidity, avoiding trapped moisture and mould growth, and creating healthier buildings.

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It provides excellent acoustic and thermal insulation and thermal mass. It's light-weight, reducing construction costs, and it's environmentally friendly: it locks up CO2 for the life of the building, and the hemp doesn't require agrochemicals or insecticides in its cultivation. The Hempcrete Book is a valuable tool for any eco-builder.

The Hand-sculpted House

Natural buildings not only bring satisfaction to their makers and joy to their occupants, they also leave the gentlest footprint on the environment. In this complete reference to natural building philosophy, design, and technique, Jacob Deva Racusin and Ace McArleton walk builders through planning and construction, offering step-by-step instructions on: siting and site analysis choosing materials integrating basic structural considerations into a design strategies for heating/cooling efficiency and moisture management planning for acoustics developing an integrative design navigating budgeting, code compliance, and project management creating the foundation, wall system, roof, and floors selecting and making plasters and paints evaluating options for mechanical and utility systems protecting against fire and insects integrating structures

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within landscape, climate, and human communities and more Applicable to building in climates that are cold and wet, hot and dry, or somewhere in-between, The Natural Building Companion provides the tools necessary to understand basic principles of building science, including structural and thermal engineering, and hydrodynamics. This guide offers thorough, up-to-date, and advanced installation details and performance characteristics of straw-bale, straw-clay, woodchip-clay, and cellulose wall systems, as well as earthen and stone wall systems and a variety of framing, roofing, flooring, mechanical system, and finishing options. This fully-illustrated volume informs professionals making the transition from conventional building, homeowners embarking on their own construction, or green builders who want comprehensive guidance on natural-building options. A State-of-the-Art Resource for Natural Builders The Natural Building Companion is a part of The Yestermorrow Design/Build Library and includes an instructional DVD.

The Art of Natural Building

For a number of years, the healthy and environment-friendly building material earth, in common use for thousands of years, has been enjoying increasing popularity, including in industrialized nations.

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In hot dry and temperate climate zones, earth offers numerous advantages over other materials. Its particular texture and composition also holds great aesthetic appeal. The author's presentation reflects the rich and varied experiences gained over thirty years of building earth structures all over the world. Numerous photographs of construction sites and drawings show the concrete execution of earth architecture.

Essential Light Straw Clay Construction

The first comprehensive guide to combining traditional natural materials and modern construction methods. From adobe to straw bales, traditional building materials are being adapted to meet code-required standards for health and safety in contemporary buildings around the world. Not only are they cost effective and environmentally friendly, but, when used correctly, these natural alternatives match the strength and durability of many mainstream construction materials. This book examines a broad range of traditional and modern natural construction methods, including straw-bale, light-clay, cob, adobe, rammed earth and pise, earthbag, earth-sheltered, bamboo, and hybrid systems. It also covers key ecological design principles, as well as current engineering and building code requirements. Experts on each

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building system have contributed core chapters that explore the history, development, climatic appropriateness, environmental benefits, performance characteristics, construction techniques, and structural design principles for each method. More than 200 visuals depict both construction processes and completed structures. An extensive resource guide shows where to go for further information, training, and research. In an increasingly resource-conscious era, alternative construction is truly an idea whose time has come. Whether you're an architect, designer, student, or homeowner, this book will help you to combine indigenous building materials with modern construction systems and design standards to create low-impact, high-quality buildings that meet the highest levels of comfort, health, and safety.

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