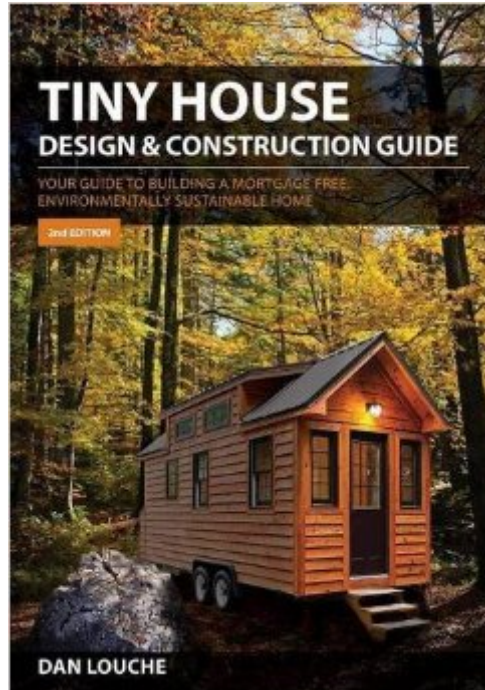


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Tiny House Design & Construction Guide



Synopsis

Take the first step to achieving your dream of building and living in your very own tiny house! The Tiny House Design & Construction Guide is your road map to the entire build process. This guide will help you to understand each step that needs to be taken and, more importantly, give you the confidence to start building your own tiny house. This is the expanded, 2nd edition of the Tiny House Design & Construction Guide. This latest edition contains over 50% more content and over 38 more images and illustrations. I listened to my reader's feedback and added much more information into the framing, electrical, and plumbing sections of the book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this guide to help with my own tiny house build and it has been a great reference during the entire process. It is easy to understand even for someone with no building experience. The guide is not specific to any plans. Though, Dan Louche sells them for a great price on tinyhomebuilders.com. The guide takes you through the entire process from scratch including what tools and materials you will need, what kind of trailer to buy, anchoring to the trailer, framing, roofing, siding, plumbing, electrical, and all the finishing touches. The photos and illustrations (such as the electrical diagrams) are especially helpful. You can also subscribe to his videos on his website for even further instruction. I highly recommend this to anyone considering building a tiny house. I love his designs and it has inspired the design of my own house.

I just attended Dan's most recent workshop north of Atlanta. I bought the book, assuming it would be very similar to all of the other Tiny House books I have. I WAS WRONG. This book passes the Tiny House concept from an idea to REAL. Dan guides the reader through the details such as tools needed and why, best way to order material, the details of the trailer and weights, framing, flashing, sheathing, wrapping, hardware, layouts, etc. This book is for those who are READY to really do it! I have dozens of books on Tiny Houses and there is no book like this one. Someone who has never seen a power tool can build a tiny house with the guidance of this book. I am an experienced carpenter and I learned a LOT including techniques specific to Tiny Houses. What is really important that Dan covers is the WHY he does each step the way he does. That's the difference. A lot of carpenters can build a house on a trailer, but will not think of what it takes for it to GO DOWN THE ROAD, (ie- the tongue weight of vehicle, towing weight, how to bolt it to the trailer, strap it down, best support configuration of trailer and why, etc.) I would suggest attending one of his workshops, especially for beginners, to SEE the safest way to use power tools and to USE it while Dan supervises. The icing on the cake for me, is that Dan's company sells the trailers, so you can buy one already correctly put together. (I also learned that he is now offering a place to build your tiny house if you don't have enough room or are forbidden to build one in your yard.) I give this book a huge applause!!!

This is an excellent guide for designing and building a "tiny house" on a trailer chassis. From these semi-general, semi-specific guidelines, anyone who is fairly competent with handtools and home repairs can create a movable home of their own that can be as green as they wish. I read one review that said roughly "He only give a guide for one specific home on one specific trailer", well he might not have actually taken the time to read the words !? I say if someone needs more of a guide than this, perhaps Bagawino or some other RV purveyor could serve them better. As for me I prefer a guide like this that tells me what works, what does not. He explains pros and cons of different options for different scenarios. With the tools provided in this guide, I can use what I know, learn what I don't know, and make decisions on the construction of my place. Does it have shortcomings? Well, yes...I had to pay money for it, He didn't hand deliver it to me with a free trailer, He didn't read my mind ahead of time and write it for the exact application I envision, and worst of all, He didn't bring this book to my attention a long time ago. Good info guide, very well illustrated, quite detailed and helpful. Highly recommended.

At this time, this book is the best around, I guess. It's a rather thin book, actually---3/8". I felt that the explanations could have been better. There were many pages of photos of tools you'll need, which looked like space-filler. There needed to be more diagrams, I felt and the only ones were those the author took from elsewhere, like electrical diagrams. There were many details the author glossed over seemingly because HE understands the process. He's a traditional builder, apparently, so he approaches Tiny House building from that standpoint. He uses tar paper under the roof and in my experience tar paper is virtually worthless as it is not waterproof and it rots. I also didn't like that he built a flooring platform on top of the Car trailer, losing 3.5" of height. I know this is a standard practice, even in traditional house building, but it always seemed dumb to me because then your joists are just stuck on. But in a TH, you should try to integrate the floor into the wells of the trailer. Anyway, I think the author is a builder, not a writer and may have benefitted from some outside assistance. But in closing, if you want an overview of all the processes this is the best for what's around at the moment.

Personally I was disappointed in this book. It was only marginally helpful and left out a number of items I really wanted to learn about tiny house design. The book says nothing about a furnace or how to heat a tiny house, says nearly nothing about water heaters, and is generally weak on details. The only electrical diagrams are for lighting switch loops. The book shows a picture of the shower trap underneath the trailer but says nothing about what to do if you live where winter weather regularly goes below freezing. (Ice will burst the trap). I was hoping the book had more details on the systems of a tiny house but found it lacking. This book isn't what it's hyped up to be. Even with this book in hand expect to do a lot of research on your own. If you really want to build your own tiny house then get "Go House, Go" by Dee Williams. Williams is much more specific and informative by leaps and bounds over Louche. Williams goes into details where Louche glosses over or omits a topic all together. Williams says you need to do your homework but she lists the books and websites to go to for more specific information. Now that I've read "Go House, Go" I really wish I hadn't wasted my money on "Tiny House, Design & Construction..."

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