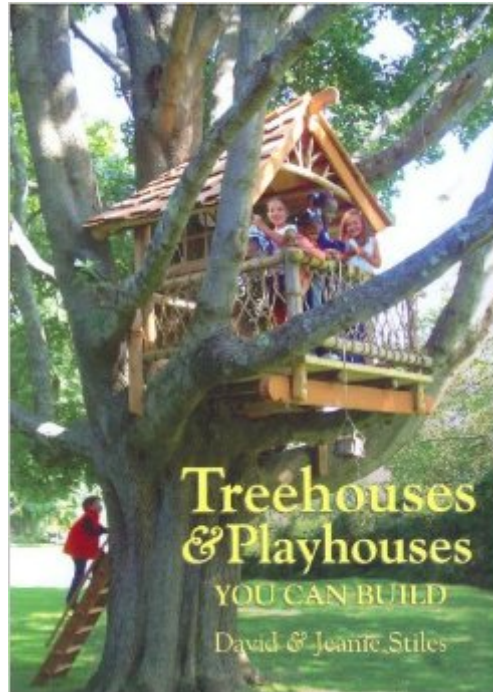The book was found

Treehouses & Playhouses You Can Build

Synopsis

Treehouses & Playhouses You Can Build shows how average "do-it-yourself" families can easily and affordably bring to life a "Hobbit's Treehouse," a "Pirate's Playhouse," or a "Crow's Nest" in their own backyards! There are a lot of books out there filled with enchanting photos of elaborate treehouses and playhouses built by professionals and costing tens of thousands to build. For the rest of us, there's bit of elbow grease, a lot of imagination, a trip to the hardware store-and Treehouses & Playhouses You Can Build.

Book Information

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Gibbs Smith; 1 edition (August 10, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1586857800

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Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (45 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #83,102 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #16 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Decks & Patios   #27 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Small Homes & Cottages #33 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas

Grade Level: 5 - 6

Customer Reviews

This review is one star for bad structural advice. Let me provide one example. In the section about chain, page 57: "5/16 inch chain (actually 5/8 inch when you add the other side of the link) has a working load of only 1,900 pounds, whereas 5/8 inch Dacron rope has a breaking strength of 8,910 pounds, more than four times the strength of chain."NO! WRONG!5/16 inch chain has a cross sectional area of .153 inches squared. (Each side of the link has a cross sectional area of .0767 inches squared). 5/8 inch rope has a cross sectional area of 0.306 inches squared. That is twice as much area as the chain.Second, they compare WORKING load of chain to BREAKING strength of rope. That is incorrect. 5/8 Dacron rope has a WORKING load of 1100 pounds. (http://www.boatsafe.com/marlinespike/safeload.htm). Thus one can see that the chain is stronger.

In basic terms, the difference between working load and breaking strength is a factor of safety. Do not confuse them. Someone may die.Finally, not all 5/16 chain has a working load of 1,900 pounds. Chain is available in various grades. The grade is a measure of the strength of the steel. Grade 30 5/16 chain is commonly available with a working load of 1,900 pounds; however, it is also readily available in higher strengths (e.g. grade 43 has a working load of 3,900 pounds).In another entry in the book, they mention 3/4" Dacron rope has a breaking strength of 11,000 pounds. A safe working load might actually be as low as 1375 pounds.These are just two examples of incorrect use of capacities. There are a lot of good ideas in the book and I appreciate the authors' efforts to economize. I am usually not an alarmist.

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