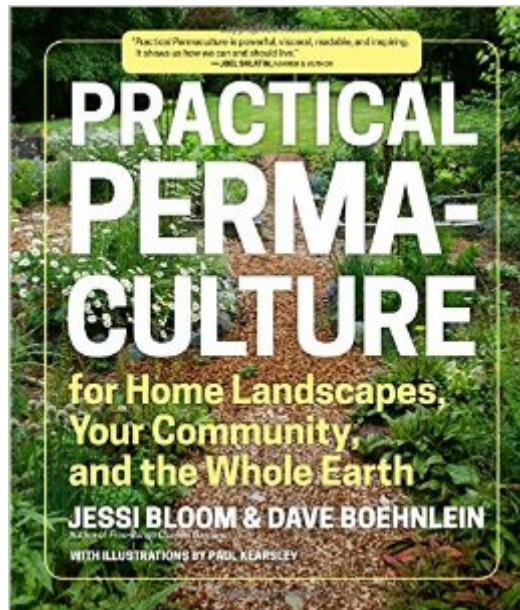


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Practical Permaculture: For Home Landscapes, Your Community, And The Whole Earth



Synopsis

Practical Permaculture is powerful, visceral, readable, and inspiring. It shows us how we can and should live. Joel Salatin, farmer and author Jessi Bloom and Dave Boehnlein, two dynamic leaders in the permaculture community, offer authoritative, in-depth, hands-on advice that shares a holistic approach to sustainable living. Permaculture is a growing trend, but still a daunting concept to many. New to permaculture principles and techniques? The guesswork will be eliminated by paging through this invaluable resource. Already an expert? This guide will surely make an important addition to your sustainable agriculture reference shelf.

Book Information

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Landscape Design > Garden Design #20 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening &

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Customer Reviews

Permaculture is a fascinating agricultural practice that seeks to recreate the effortless efficiency and balance of natural ecosystems with human-designed systems aimed at food production. The texts in this growing genre tend to fall into two broad categories: well-intentioned but slightly loopy tomes that are equal parts landscape planning and New Age philosophy, or technical manuals that often suggest the need for a great deal of land contouring and environmental engineering in order to build your utopian homestead. Practical Permaculture strikes an excellent balance between the two by clearly introducing basic concepts and providing excellent examples but not suggesting a multitude of projects that are beyond the reach of the average gardener or homeowner. Beautifully laid out and illustrated, it makes permaculture accessible to the average person who merely wants to lessen their impact on the natural world and experience the excitement of creating a beautifully diverse

polyculture rather than a sterile suburban lawn. If you have any interest in permaculture this book is a great place to start and, if we're lucky, change the world one plant guild at a time. (Read it and you'll understand the reference.)

The book is really thoughtful, practical, and excellently produced and written. It starts with a brief introduction to permaculture that builds on historical origins but avoids being a repeat of Mollison's visionary work. Practical Permaculture gives very clear examples, bases information on science, and modernizes concepts appropriately for 2015. The framework of the book is a step by step, well thought-out process to designing a site using permaculture principles. "Designing a site" is one of the most important permaculture activities - the book helps you learn the important characteristics of your farm/backyard/community garden, deciding your goals, and placing elements such as plants, orchards, households, coops, ponds etc so they can reinforce each other following the dynamics of nature. It teaches the use of design tools such as sectors, zones, edges, and patterns in non-nonsense, approachable style. By following this book you'll have learned a lot and taken many of the important first steps in setting up a sustainable and enjoyable system. While many other other general permaculture books may be a repeat of Mollison's "Designer's Manual", the authors here provide genuine value and insight into the process of design, considering modern tools and options, and focusing on the actionable and pragmatic aspects of implementing a permaculture project. They also bring experience applying permaculture in colder climates and can put forth relevant species and examples of techniques to the table. The quality of the book is very high - materials, design, layout, illustrations are great. Having read many (most) of available books on the topic, and as a holder of a Permaculture Design Certificate I find myself recommending and gifting this book again and again for those who are new to Permaculture, and to those that are more aware of Permaculture generally but ask "so... how do I start"? This has been a great addition to my library - even though it ends up open on my desk most of the time. I hope the authors consider embarking on additional writing projects.

I'm so happy that I picked this book up during the Permaculture Voices conference in San Diego. The writing is so clear and concise and the illustrations are fabulous! I've read and browsed through many permaculture themed books over the years, but few have grabbed me like this one. This book guides the reader through the important concepts, strategies and considerations for planning and implementing a permaculture plan and it does so very efficiently and effectively. From my perspective, this is a great book for everyone: from novices wanting to learn about and implement

permaculture on their properties to experienced permaculturists seeking guidance on ways improve their systems. It covers a broad range of scenarios, from permaculture homesteads to broad acre permaculture. It is also up to date on the latest and greatest methods and is exceptionally well illustrated. If you are looking to purchase your first permaculture book, I highly recommend "Practical Permaculture!"

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