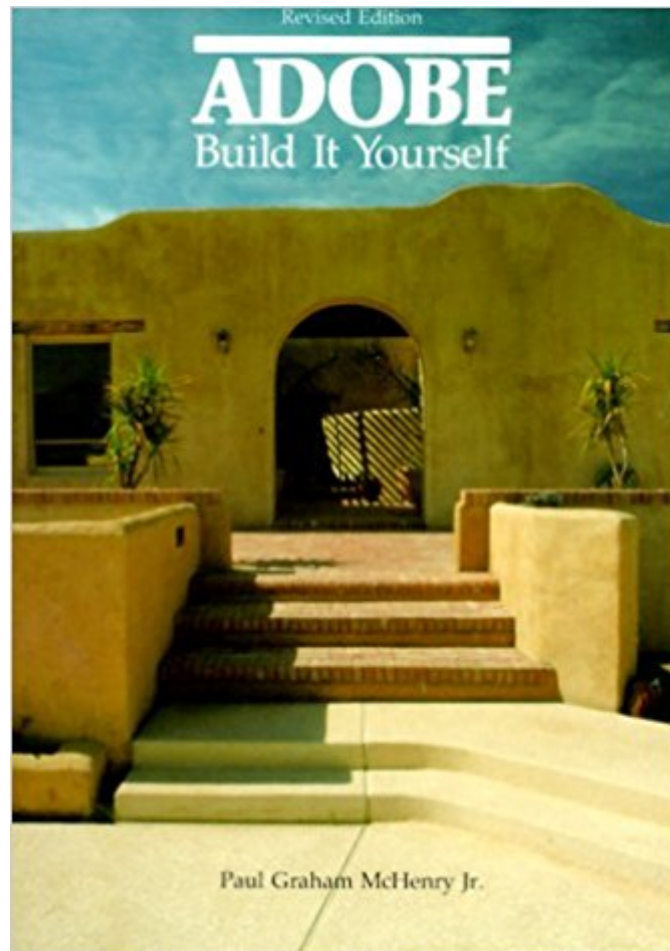




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Adobe: Build It Yourself, Revised Edition



Synopsis

This book explores the depths of adobe and enables the reader to build their own home intelligently and realistically. With an emphasis on adobe construction, McHenry discusses the planning of every aspect of one's home from the financing to the foundation, the floors to the fireplaces. The prospective builder must be prepared for a long period of frustration, doubt, worry, and plain hard work, but the helpful ideas found on the pages of this book will encourage readers to build despite the challenges. McHenry describes this process as a tremendous puzzle, for which one must create and arrange all the pieces, and then live with the result. McHenry begins with a brief history of adobe and then moves on to the planning of the home, emphasizing the influence of individual ideas. The intention of this book is to help bridge the gap between architects, builders, craftsmen, and the unskilled but determined individual who wants to build their own home. This book outlines the technical aspects of adobe construction with several pictures and figures to simplify production. The creation of a home, from the earliest design concepts to successful completion, is one of the most rewarding experiences one can ever have. McHenry's Adobe offers a realistic and straightforward guide to "doing it yourself." His advice regarding adobe is useful for professionals and amateurs alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Unquestionably the best how-to-do-it book on all aspects of adobe construction, the updated

version covers changes that reflect evolving environmental attitudes and recent shifts in building codes and energy requirements. Now better than ever."•Books of the Southwest "Covers every imaginable problem involved in building with adobe."•New Mexico Magazine "A very competent book about adobe construction written by an adobe builder. . . . Whether one is contemplating or already planning to build in the Southwest this book is a must."•El Palacio "This revised edition includes the modern with the ancient; energy efficiency and code-meeting along with the traditional techniques and aesthetic considerations."•Essential Whole Earth Catalog "Practical and informal, this book succeeds in its purpose: to inform, instruct and inspire confidence in the homebuilder•edging him delightfully into adobe territory."•Journal of Arizona History

This book explores the depths of adobe and enables the reader to build their own home intelligently and realistically. With an emphasis on adobe construction, McHenry discusses the planning of every aspect of one's home from the financing to the foundation, the floors to the fireplaces. The prospective builder must be prepared for a long period of frustration, doubt, worry, and plain hard work, but the helpful ideas found on the pages of this book will encourage readers to build despite the challenges. McHenry describes this process as a tremendous puzzle, for which one must create and arrange all the pieces, and then live with the result. McHenry begins with a brief history of adobe and then moves on to the planning of the home, emphasizing the influence of individual ideas. The intention of this book is to help bridge the gap between architects, builders, craftsmen, and the unskilled but determined individual who wants to build their own home. This book outlines the technical aspects of adobe construction with several pictures and figures to simplify production. The creation of a home, from the earliest design concepts to successful completion, is one of the most rewarding experiences one can ever have. McHenry's Adobe offers a realistic and straightforward guide to "doing it yourself." His advice regarding adobe is useful for professionals and amateurs alike.

I'm clearly neither young nor strong enough for such a project (and a nice one is out of my price range) but it was fun to read and fantasize.

It seemed to cover everything and gave many illustrations of pitfalls to avoid. HEADS UP Could have given some additional definitions, but at least I could find answers here in most cases.

Very informative & easily understandable!

This is a great book for people who want to build an adobe. I got this book as part of my long process to build my own house.

1. Don't buy two books by the author. They are the same thing maybe said a different way. 2. After reading a great amount of the latest available research on adobe and rammed earth my take away message was that it isn't worth the bother. A. Earth is not an insulator. A 12 inch thick wall puts a 12 hour phase delay on thermal transfer. A three foot wall is more phase delay. B. Any time the thermal cycles are not optimal then you need a real insulator. Think of a week of really hot or cold weather. Since a real thermal insulator is required anyway why bother with a building material that the inspectors don't like and has a hard time meeting code.

Very detailed. Still reading it. Almost ready to build an Adobe home. Good for your library. Great gift. Would like more pics of finished homes.

After reading all the reviews, this was definitely what I was looking for. Since it was a revised edition, you know the author was sharing new info with you.

This classic book is the widely regarded as "the best adobe book ever." An experienced DIYer could take this book and build his/her own home. Very comprehensive coverage would allow a person to take any floor plan and execute it in any of several adobe styles, from Pueblo to Territorial to Modern or Post-modern. McHenry is chock full of wisdom and practical experience.

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