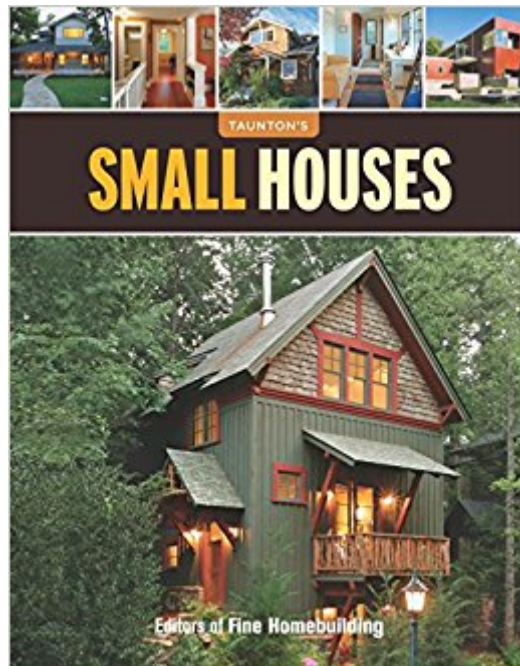




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Small Houses (Great Houses)



Synopsis

So long McMansions and rambling square footage! Small homes are in! Easier to maintain and more affordable in hard economic times, small houses are gaining popularity in the housing market after nearly 60 years of trending up in size. Small Houses capitalizes on this shift with an all-new collection of small houses from Fine Homebuilding magazine. The featured writers, well-respected authors in their fields, look at houses ranging from less than 1,250 sq. ft. to upward of 2,250 sq. ft. that are both new and remodeled, urban and rural, traditional and modern. Homeowners will be pleasantly surprised that these small homes are big on charm, style, and quality and offer all types of exciting possibilities and energy efficiencies to mesh with and improve their lifestyle.

Book Information

Series: Great Houses

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Taunton Press; 1 edition (October 30, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1600857655

ISBN-13: 978-1600857652

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.6 x 10.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 56 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #84,572 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > House Plans #64 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential #184 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Design & Construction

Customer Reviews

All contributing authors are seasoned professionals whose articles have appeared in Fine Homebuilding magazine. Since 1981 Fine Homebuilding has been providing information and inspiration to everyone who cares about quality home improvement and construction. the magazine is the best source of home improvement information and helps readers build projects better, faster, and more efficiently.

It's a nice book to look at, but most of the "small house" are rather expensive which somewhat

defeats the purpose of staying small. They could have done a better job; they will not compete with Sara Susanka on details or use of space with most of these plans.

This is a pretty neat book with one exception: Small houses to me are less than 1100 square feet. Only five of the many in this book are less than 1100 square feet. Some exceed 2000 square feet. The middle category is large indeed. BUT the book is interesting and well assembled. It's just not for me. I returned it for another book that looks more promising. Also online Tumbleweed.com has some really small homes both on wheels and foundations. These start really small--130 square feet. The site is really helpful in organizing thoughts about living small. The videos can seem corny but I found them helpful. Oh, and check out Sunset and Dwell magazines for more ideas. Then when you know more about what you're looking for, I do think a good book with lots of pictures and floor plans is an absolute delight in developing these ideas. So I will review the next book I get too. The concept of small-house living is really intriguing, especially if you are like me with a larger than needed home that is too economical to leave currently.

Pics are wonderful. There are many of most houses. House plans of each house. Overall the best book I've seen yet for small house plans and designing efficiency. I'm very appreciative of efficiency in a house, no matter the size.

Notice that the authors define small as "upward of 2,250 sq. ft." They must live in Texas. Nonetheless, I like the layout of the book and enjoyed reviewing the floor plans.

This is a good book; but a bit deceiving, as I was looking for a book with small house floor plans and this is not what it says. The houses in this book (for the most part) are quite large. Hence, do not judge a book by its cover.

Yet another good book for inspiration. Some good pictures and design ideas that will help you if you are considering shifting gears and moving into a smaller house that doesn't require you to spend 30-40% of your waking moments trying to pay for it. It has some interesting details from a builder perspective but not quite as inspirational as the books by Susan Susanka.

Many of the detailed projects aren't that interesting architecturally. I think they could have chosen a more diverse set. The image quality is also mediocre. Otherwise provides a few useful insights and

floor plans concepts..

Small is the new "big", "grand", "palatial" and this text opens the eyes and mind to the possibilities of living large in well designed smaller spaces.

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