



Tiny Homes: Simple Shelter (The Shelter Library of Building Books)

By Lloyd Kahn

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Tiny Homes: Simple Shelter (The Shelter Library of Building Books) By Lloyd Kahn

There's a grassroots movement in tiny homes these days. The real estate collapse, the economic downturn, burning out on 12-hour workdays -- many people are rethinking their ideas about shelter -- seeking an alternative to high rents, or a lifelong mortgage debt to a bank on an overpriced home.

In this book are some 150 builders who have taken things into their own hands, creating tiny homes (under 500 sq. ft.). Homes on land, homes on wheels, homes on the road, homes on water, even homes in the trees. There are also studios, saunas, garden sheds, and greenhouses.

There are 1,300 photos, showing a rich variety of small homemade shelters, and there are stories (and thoughts and inspirations) of the owner-builders who are on the forefront of this new trend in downsizing and self-sufficiency.

At the heart of our 1973 book *Shelter* were drawings of 5 small buildings, which we recommended as a starting point in providing one's own home. Now, almost 40 years later, there's a growing tiny house movement all over the world -- which we've been tracking over the past two years.

Many people have decided to scale back, to get by with less stuff, to live in smaller homes. You can buy a ready-made tiny home, build your own, get a kit or pre-fab, or live in a bus, houseboat, or other movable shelter. Some cities have special ordinances for building "inlaw" or "granny flats" in the back yard. There are innovative solutions in cities, such as the "capsules" in Tokyo. There are numerous blogs and websites with news, photos, and/or plans for tiny homes, documented here.

If you're thinking of scaling back, you'll find plenty of inspiration here. Here's a different approach, a 180° turn from increasing consumption. Here are builders, designers, architects (no less), dreamers, artists, road gypsies, and water dwellers who've achieved a measure of freedom and independence by taking shelter into their own hands.

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Editorial Review

Review

"...a cornucopia of 1,300 photos featuring 150 different tiny homes, showing how they were built, giving resources and helpful tips of construction, supplying design solutions and inspiration for others, but also conveying WHY they were built. Tiny though they are, they are much more than mere shelter."

-Kevin Kelly, CoolTools.org

"Gives me chills, it's so inspiring." - Cheryl Long, Editor, *The Mother Earth News*

A "...photo-packed new volume ... (by) Shelter Publications founder and green architecture pioneer Lloyd Kahn..." - *Publishers Weekly*

"The book arrived today, all I can say is Wow! It's beautiful and another one of your masterpieces." - Kent Griswold, *Tiny House Blog*

"...a dream book...the scale is humble, but the architectural detail is rich..."

-Michael Tortellero, *New York Times*

"...our friend Lloyd Kahn's beautiful book, *Tiny Homes*."

—Mark Frauenfelder, BoingBoing

"*Tiny Homes* is an amazing collection. ...The homes might be tiny but your inspiration is huge."

—Richard Zanuck, Film Producer

"...a quirky photo-rich book that preaches the benefits of a 'grassroots movement to scale things back.'"

—Jeffery Trachtenberg, *Wall Street Journal*

"...a glorious portfolio of quirky makers and dreamers..."

—Penelope Green, *New York Times*

"Before McMansions, before the counter culture was granite and marble, there was Lloyd Kahn, champion of the hand-built house . . . progenitor of the new do-it-yourself movement"

—Patricia Leigh Brown, *New York Times*

"The common thread that weaves between the stories is the builders' immense pride of place, a drive for independence and a vision that, when little goes to waste, life can have greater meaning."

—HomeGrown.Org

" ...a refreshing view into the wonderful world of small houses."

—*Watershed Sentinel*, BC, Canada

"...splendid photos of home exteriors, interiors and landscapes..."

—*Urban Times*

"What these structures might lack in square footage they more than make up for in economy, character and appeal..."

—U-T San Diego

From the Author

TINY HOMES is especially timely due to the current grassroots movements in small homes. The real estate collapse, the economic downturn, layoffs, scarcity of good jobs - these things have many people rethinking their ideas about shelter - seeking an alternative to high rents, or a lifelong mortgage debt to a bank on an overpriced home.

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"Scaling back in the 21st century"

From the Inside Flap

Shelter Publications, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2011, has published a total of 30 books (this is the 31st). Our production studio, built of recycled lumber, is in the middle of a vegetable (and flower) garden in a coastal town about an hour north of San Francisco, and we are hooked into the world with five Mac computers and a DSL connection.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Timothy Patrick:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book can be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the e-book untitled Tiny Homes: Simple Shelter (The Shelter Library of Building Books) can be great book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Leroy Ange:

Does one one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Try and pick one book that you never know the inside because don't ascertain book by its handle may doesn't work the following is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside search likes. Maybe you answer is usually Tiny Homes: Simple Shelter (The Shelter Library of Building Books) why because the great cover that make you consider about the content will not disappoint

you. The inside or content is usually fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly direct you to pick up this book.

Henry Perry:

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 or maybe 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind expertise or thinking skill also analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book in comparison with can satisfy your limited time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be learn. Tiny Homes: Simple Shelter (The Shelter Library of Building Books) can be your answer given it can be read by you actually who have those short free time problems.

Carmela Martin:

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