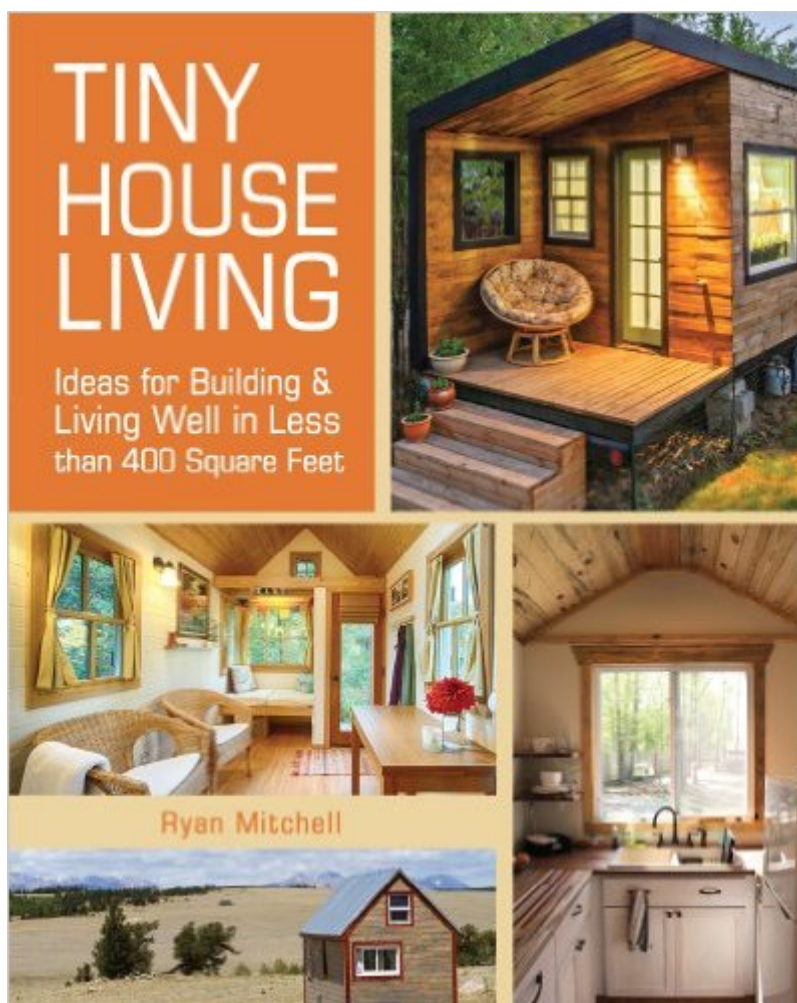


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Tiny House Living: Ideas For Building And Living Well In Less Than 400 Square Feet



Synopsis

Tiny House, Large Lifestyle! Tiny homes are popping up across America, captivating people with their novel approach not only to housing, but to life. Once considered little more than a charming oddity, the tiny house movement continues to gain momentum among those who thirst for a simpler, "greener," more meaningful life in the face of society's "more is better" mindset. This book explores the philosophies behind the tiny house lifestyle, helps you determine whether it's a good fit for you, and guides you through the transition to a smaller space. For inspiration, you'll meet tiny house pioneers and hear how they built their dwellings (and their lives) in unconventional, creative and purposeful ways. They'll invite you in, show you around their cozy abodes, and share lessons they learned along the way. Inside you'll find everything you need to design a tiny home of your own: Worksheets and exercises to help you home in on your true needs, define personal goals, and develop a tiny house layout that's just right for you. Practical strategies for cutting through clutter and paring down your possessions. Guidance through the world of building codes and zoning laws. Design tricks for making the most of every square foot, including multi-function features and ways to maximize vertical space. Tours of 11 tiny houses and the unique story behind each. Tiny House Living is about distilling life down to that which you value most...freeing yourself from clutter, mortgages and home maintenance...and, in doing so, making more room in everyday life for the really important things, like relationships, passions and community. Whether you downsize to a 400-square-foot home or simply scale back the amount of stuff you have in your current home, this book shows you how to live well with less.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Tiny House Living is a treasure trove of information that strikes a healthy balance between imagination/creativity/go-get-^{em} and practicality/day-to-day considerations. It is well-written and compiled with great care. I came to this book as a complete newbie and left wanting to join the bandwagon^{that} TMs a lot to accomplish in 173 pages! There are eight chapters with concise, focused titles, such as ^{Why Choose Voluntary Simplicity?} and ^{The Path to Living Tiny,} covering just about any topic you could think of regarding a tiny house^{from deciding if tiny home living is or isn't for you, preplanning stages, and preparing to live in a tiny home through construction and living in the home.} This is a book that will appeal to many demographics: those readying for retirement, those wanting to pare down their belongings into a more meaningful and streamlined life, those just starting out in life post-college, those dedicated to living green, those excited by alternative housing and/or repurposed construction, those anticipating a mid-life career or housing change, those interested in cutting expenses, and many others. I love the balance between basic information about zoning and laws, expenses, and reasons for building a tiny house alongside the wonderful interviews and full-color photographs of various people who constructed and/or live in the homes. Even if living in a small house is not for everyone, the organizational tips alone make this book well-worth a careful read; I began downsizing my clothes closet and donating items (a process I^d been putting off) while reading the author^s suggestions! I love the book^s focus on personal choice and personal change. I found myself sharing excerpts and tips from the text with family and friends. While there aren^t floor plans in this text^{there are plenty of other books that focus solely on floor plans} I cannot think of a single thing this book is missing. The tone is informative and friendly, reminding me of taking a tour with a good friend through the homes. Those interviewed are honest about considerations and drawbacks as well as the great benefits they^{ve} experienced from living in tiny homes. The three-page appendix of tiny house blogs, builders, books, and websites is fantastically helpful and encouraged me to keep exploring this topic. Kudos, Ryan Mitchell! As a writer myself, I know how much love, passion for subject matter, and dedication goes into compiling such a beautiful book that invites readers back again and again. I^{ll} surely keep this one handy on my shelf and recommend it to friends.

I am fascinated with tiny or small house living. This is now one of my favorite books. Great pictures and ideas. A small or tiny house must be less than 1000 square feet to me, and I favor 650 to 850 square feet. I think that's the first thing to learn ... what constitutes a small or tiny home to you. For

me I need a reasonable bedroom, comfortable living room, kitchen with breakfast nook, full bathroom, and ... here's the biggy ... an office. Even if that office is only 9x9, I need it! That meant I needed a minimum of 650 square feet and really 900 square feet could prove excessive. That surprised me. In fact I reevaluated my total space and made several important decisions not only regarding space but things I wanted or needed in my living space. No, I don't have a small house nor will I be moving any time soon. In fact I have a great old California craftsman that totals nearly 2,000 square feet. But there's only me and my large dog and two cats. And I work and live on the premises. For the first time I realized I could physically afford a roommate. But the great thing about reading this book and others on small or tiny homes is that I am using my space so much more effectively and green. I've learned a lot. In fact I've redesigned my bedroom, kitchen and bathroom ... next is my office. I was surprised with what small changes I could make and enjoy the space so much more. I questioned why I was keeping furniture that actually didn't suit my habits. For example I have a solid oak school teacher's desk I was thrilled to find 20 years ago. But what do I use it for? Well, I'm not getting rid of it ... my first thought. But I am getting rid of two other pieces of furniture in my office to better use the desk and give me more floor space for an Ikea "rocking" chair which has proved a necessity for reading long works. Finally I think this book helped me see different ways to live in my space as one example is a small home with lots of art. That example meant a lot to me. All these books made me stop looking at total space and turn to living space. I really don't live in a lot of space but the space I live in needs to suit me and support my creativity and living style.

This is a great book. It is not just about building a tiny house, but includes a lot of information about the steps prior to a build, including information on code, where to park, etc. What I find most helpful though is information on downsizing, the psychology of it, the obstacles, the difficulties and the resulting freedom or problems. The profiles of tiny house people and builds are informative - and the pictures are vivid, clear and inspiring. One of the best tiny house books on the market - especially for those of us who are still puzzling out our options and dreams.

Lots of good pictures, with lots of ideas from the pictures, but too much information about who built them and not enough information describing how they designed their houses and how they made decisions on what square footage to include and what could be done without and why. Each house, however, had only one or two pictures which gave you only a glimpse of the livability. Worth buying for the pictures that were included.

Good book for learning about the process. I'm still looking for the book that really dives into the issues that come up. I've built 5 large houses, and I know there are plenty of issues with those. I suspect there are just as many trying to scale everything down. It would be nice to find one that talks more about plumbing, electrical, appliances, etc and really provides recommendations or how it can be done better.

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