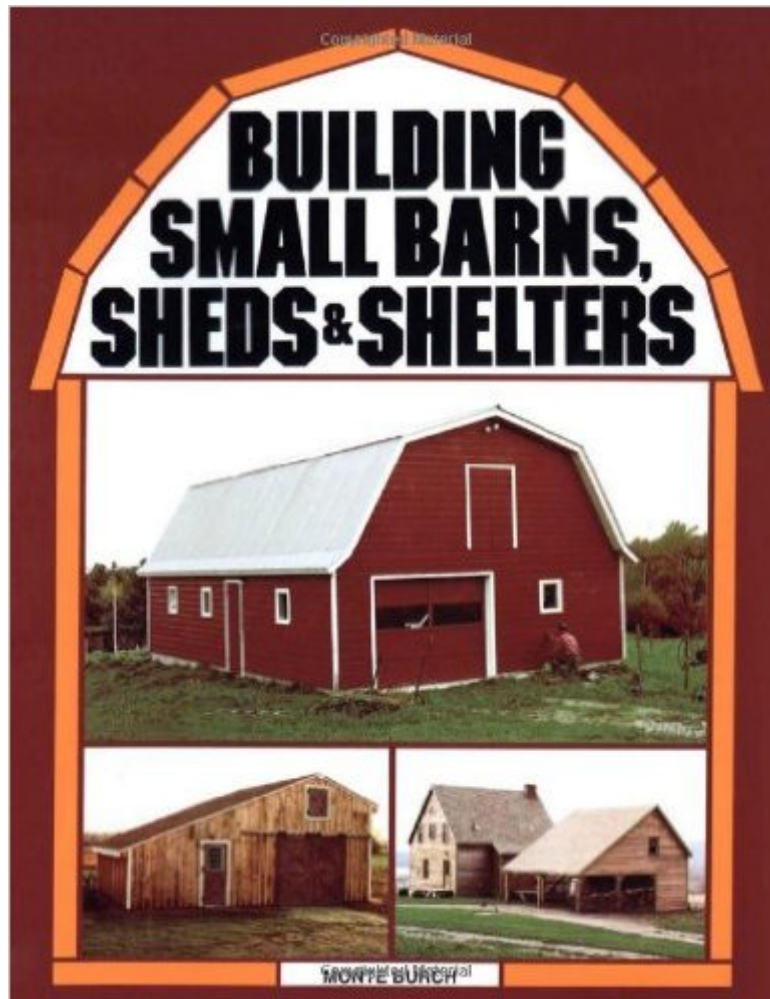


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# Building Small Barns, Sheds & Shelters



## Synopsis

Build your own outbuildings and enjoy the space to do more of what you love. From simple toolsheds and animal shelters to smokehouses and low-cost barns, Monte Burch guides you through everything you need to know to make your small building projects a reality. Detailed blueprints, easy-to-follow instructions, and expert advice are suited to even the first-time builder. Discover how easy it is to create your own customized spaces that will allow your passions to grow.

## Book Information

Paperback: 248 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (37 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #153,419 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #121 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Home Repair](#) #208 in [Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry](#) #356 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Design & Construction](#)

## Customer Reviews

If you are a "do it your selfer" you need this book. In my opinion, the title is no accurate. This book contains much more than just info on how to build small buildings. It includes how to build a good fence, how to build a smoke house, how to wire a two way switch, ect. It contains everything that is not common knowledge to the common man, and it has lots of pictures. If you live on the farm and do most things yourself, this book is a required tool.

From permits to the finish coat of paint, this book will guide you through your building process. Burch describes the advantages of different framing methods, roof styles and materials and backs his text with useful reference tables and concise construction details. The book presents plans for five small barns, two two-stall stables, a root and storm cellar, a carport, a tool shed, a woodshed, a smokehouse and shelters for hens, pigs and rabbits.

This is not a bad book, but about half is on basic building skills which anyone who is going to build a sizable structure ought to have acquired first. You can get that from a Time Life or Readers Digest 'Home improvement' book on basic carpentry skills. Very general instructions without a lot of detail- for example, window finishing details, roof details- you have to figure out the details yourself, and everyone knows that is where the devil is! And when the chapter on electrical wiring starts out by recommending that you shouldn't do it yourself, well... it's just a sign of too many lawyers in the USA. The sections on barns and other structure are interesting, with lots of ideas that one can adapt to your specific needs. Most are reworked from USDA Cooperative extension plans- which you can view a huge number for free from Univ of North Dakota at this link-[...] Since I found this website, my opinion of the book has gone down a lot, since so much is not original material. The other challenge I would have is on pole frame construction- all his plans show huge concrete footings 16-24" dia 8-12" thick under poles for his buildings. Digging/drilling and pouring these negates the advantage in work/cost saving of pole frame building. In the area where I live, poles are commonly set in our heavy clay with a little cement or just well tamped soil around them. I understand the concern about bearing ability, and I'm not an engineer, but these poles function as pilings- they hold up the load not just from their bottom surface area, but also from the friction of the post in the ground. Any professional can correct me if they feel otherwise. All in all, it is an interesting book but he could omit the first half and flesh out the rest.

I learned how to build a shed, and a small barn with this book. I have never built anything before. This is a must for anyone that wants to build their own building. I bought the first one and someone talked me out of it, as I would take it to my site. I had used it so much that it was getting really tattered, and gave it away, and bought myself a new one. It was worth every cent, and then some.

For years I checked this out of libraries until I got tired of someone checking it out ahead of me and just went ahead and bought a copy. Unless you're a city dweller, I can't imagine you not needing to eventually build a building. THIS is the book you need to make your building life simpler. Complete, well-and-clearly written, with a friendly tone, it is a 5 if there ever was one.

Full of good information and detailed illustrations. Wish I found this before I started building instead of on the home stretch. If you are doing your own building and have drive but little know-how, this book is a great one to have. Right now I am using the section on how to hang doors. Everything is

easy to understand. Examples of information: characteristics of different wood types, rafter lengths, space requirements for various livestock, how much different feeds and bedding weigh, fencing requirements, how to build fences and gates, every aspect of building animal shelters, how to do electrical wiring, etc. Best of all, lots of helpful detailed illustrations.

Good book on basics of building out buildings. Doesn't really have detailed plans for anything, more of a general knowledge book. Keep in mind it was written in 1982, so the building codes may have changed since then.

I bought this book for my Dad when he wanted to build a new lean-to for his tractor. He read it cover to cover and then used it many times for a manual. A very well spent investment that paid out many times over.

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