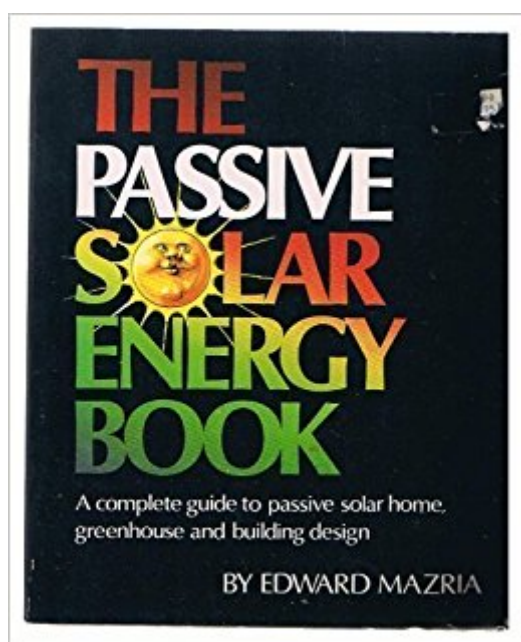


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The Passive Solar Energy Book: A Complete Guide To Passive Solar Home, Greenhouse And Building Design



Synopsis

Book by Mazria, Edward

Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Rodale Pr; First Edition edition (May 1979)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0878572376

ISBN-13: 978-0878572373

Package Dimensions: 9 x 7.4 x 1.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #966,890 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Energy Production & Extraction > Alternative & Renewable > Solar #156 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Plumbing & Household Automation #2887 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Construction

Customer Reviews

Book by Mazria, Edward

I had this book years ago, and got to missing it as I plan some new projects. I bought it back in the days of Rodale Press' "New Shelter" magazine (I miss those very much now.) So is it still valid? Yes, because much of it hard science and facts and sufficiently illustrated with tables, diagrams, maps. Same sun. Someone not afraid to do hands on planning and building will like it. It's not so much a 'hippie book.' If you have use standard architectural guides as a designer or draftsman, etc. back in the day as I have, it will reach you. This edition as far as I can tell, is the same from the 80s except the original had a pocket in the back board of the book with transparencies to make measurements by sight (for your site). Now I believe they are within the book toward the center. I guess you could still make them into transparencies with a scanner or copy machine (with tsp sheets--if there still available!). Once upon a time people didn't have as much access to such. I have a neighbor who built a semi-tiny home with solar panels mounted. I wish he might have consulted this old book or similar (and had not put the gear under trees???)

I've been planning a project for a greenhouse, and passive solar house for a few years. I've read many books on green building and passive solar designs, as well as greenhouse construction. This book by far is the best hands down that I've come across. Written over 20 years ago Mr. Mazria with his team of experts has put together a well informative guideline to successfully construct any solar building. This book is a must have for anyone in the design or construction industry, or anyone who wants a real understanding of how to design and build a passive solar building. Mr. Mazria has made this book vary easy to read, and understand. Anyone with common understanding of the English language will easily read and comprehend all the subject matter.

I paid about \$10 for mine used. This book has everything you need to know about passive solar. It's well organized. It has detailed examples and illustrations (all black and white, but easy to read). 99% of the material is still relevant today, 30 years after the publishing date. Its amazing to me this information has been around for 30 years and still not put to use. If you are building a green house, you need this book. If you want to lower your heating bill, you need this book. If you want to build a green building you need this book. This book does not have actual building code though, like how many 2x4's you need for a sod roof, but it has detailed sun charts, latitudes, longitudes, thermal conduction of various materials, insulation rating of various materials, real world examples, and much more.

Passive solar technology has changed little since the first edition of this book was published in the 70's and Mazria is the man. You can, and should, design your next house using the principles and calculations in this book. Everything you need to know is explained, and anyone who got a C or better in high School algebra can do the math. It's an empowering book, and a great dream piece. It's testimony to the folly of our age that, 30+ years after the publication of this book, we're not all living in houses designed according to its principles. you still have time.

As everyone else has indicated, this is by far the best passive solar design book in our library. It contains all the information necessary to properly design a solar passive house. The only negative is that it is 1979 Copyright, out of print, and may therefore be hard to acquire. The best current book that we have is by Daniel D. Chiras, "The Solar House". James Kachadorian's "The Passive Solar House" is also an excellent current book in terms of the excellent engineering information provided although some of the slab construction recommendations may be somewhat dated and not in line with current best practice. The worst book we have encountered was Debra Coleman's "Sun

Inspired House". This book is merely an advertisement of the plans she sells and we would definitely advise applying due diligence if considering to do business with her. For those interested in doing passive solar design, we added some calculators to our website that you can find by Googling Borst Engineering & Construction LLC.

WOW!!!! Old book but still very relevant, Sun did not move much in 40 years :)

Concepts presented very clearly with excellent illustrations, the full run-down on various passive solar strategies, comprehensive but doesn't feel overly technical, easy to understand why this stands as a classic on passive solar design.

Pretty outdated at this point, but still full of very pertinent information.

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