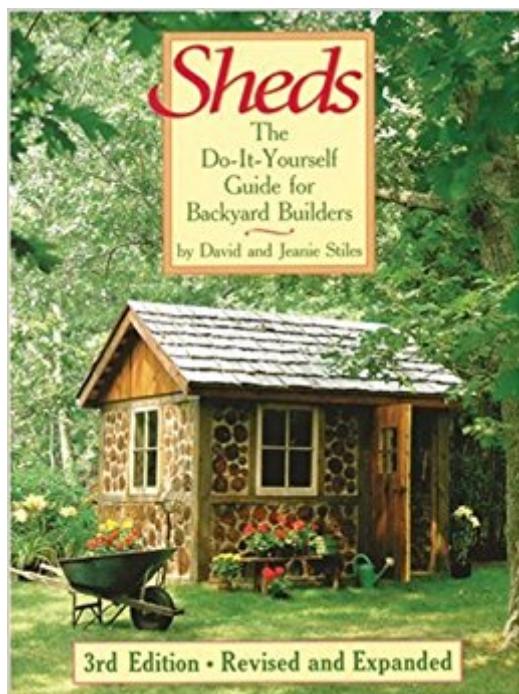


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# Sheds: The Do-It-Yourself Guide For Backyard Builders



## **Synopsis**

Easy-to-follow shed designs with loads of color examples. The new edition of this classic do-it-yourself guide for backyard builders now contains more material and photographs than ever. Sheds helps the do-it-yourself builder think through all the issues involved in designing and building a shed: intended use, size, cost, placement, degree of construction difficulty, and much more. Following a chapter on construction basics, the authors preview each step of building a beautiful and useful shed -- from foundation to cupola, and everything in between. Sheds contains: Material lists Cost estimates Step-by-step illustrations New tips and hints Detailed instructions Schedules 16 pages of color. Packed with detailed illustrations, plans and commonsense advice, this new edition of the classic book on building a shed is like having a professional carpenter beside you, making the project easy to control and successful.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The use of the term sheds in this book's title is a misnomer, given that a dictionary defines sheds as small, rough shacks for storage. Except for a lean-to type wet/dry garbage shed and a firewood shed, the construction plans, directions, and many illustrations in this guide are for attractive and even fancy units ranging from 80 to over 350 square feet. The purposes range from storage, work, and gardening to poolside, boat storage, and pavilion entertaining. After introductory information on designing and building techniques, fairly detailed directions are given for building a basic 8 x 10 shed.

From there on directions are less complete, on the assumption that the builder is experienced or will contract the more difficult work. Suggested only for collections with subject demand.- W.T. Johnston, formerly with Coastal Plain Regional Lib., Tifton, Ga. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Step-by-step advice on planning and building sheds ... along with dozens of hand-drawn illustrations, safety tips, advice on tools and materials and a labor schedule. (The Modesto Bee 2007-04-08)Step-by-step advice on planning and building shed, from a simple home for tools to an elaborate Japanese boat shed with a veranda. (Staten Island Advance 2007-04-05)Covers all project parts from the foundation to the crowning cupola with everything in between. (Joy Kraft Cincinnati Enquirer 2007-04-28)Even if it's never before occurred to you to build [a shed], reading this book may provide a sudden rush of inspiration. (Carolyn Leitch Globe and Mail 2007-08-24)You'll get the materials lists, estimated costs, and step-by-step, illustrated instructions to build a truly attractive outbuilding for gardening, storage and more. (From House to Home)It would be great to see what the Stiles' own backyard looks like, since they're the prolific authors of several books on building playhouses, treehouses, sheds, etc. (About.com: Pool and Patio)Procrastinate no more: Sheds: The Do-It-Yourself Guide for Backyard Builders will get you fired up and hammering before you're even back from a lumber-shopping spree. (Shari Kulha National Post 2013-06-13)

I purchased this book, Sheds: The Do-It-Yourself Guide for Backyard Builders Paperback Â£Â£Â£ January 11, 2007, from and used for \$9.28, for price and shipping included, New it would be \$17.01 delivered free. It is a nice book containing layouts and plans of several sheds with pictures and drawings to add some useful planning to the basic designs. Any shed can be modified and this book offers up some suggestions for a few. I like it well enough for four stars.

Out of all the shed books I have read, this book stays by my side while I hammer in the yard. The book is well written by what appears to be a non professional book writer (A Good Thing). It reads as if you are getting advise in laymans terms from your neighbor "The Craftsman", a welcome change from the DIY books, that assume a level of expertese. The level of detail is high and discusses gotcha's, advise, and trade "secrets" that could have only come from years of personal experience building sheds.Every aspect of shed building for the DIY'er is covered from different types of foundations and how they work, to different types of structure building such as stick, or

mortise joint traditional. Options for each step are thoroughly discussed and weighed, such as type of shingles, types of siding, types of lumber, and even types of style. All this information before you get to the shed designs, so when you're browsing the designs you can apply the knowledge against them. The author included several basic designs, all with thorough enough plans and documentation, which you can use right away to start building. These designs can be combined, or modified easily to suit your needs. The author even includes color pictures of existing sheds, that can be built all using the basic principals from previous chapters. If you're the handy DIY'er that has tackled a few home remodeling projects, this is your book. If you just have a few basic carpentry skills and are not afraid of using a circular saw, and miter saw, then this book is for you. Don't know the difference between a cripple stud and a top plate? Don't worry, this book will teach you.

Gives you more than a general idea of how to build a shed. I purchased to gain a better understanding of shed construction so that I could build an 8' x 6' garden style shed. I used this book to guide me through the process. I found it informative, well written and logical (easy to understand for a lay person). It includes illustrations and photos of many different styles of sheds. It will remain in my library until we retire to Maine where I plan to construct a small boat shed, firewood shed and garden tool shed. Highly recommended.

It's a decent book with good pictures

[Summary: I really wanted to like "Sheds" a lot. The book has an excellent beginning and the first project has good attention to detail. It's unfortunate that most of the book, including the project featured prominently on the cover, has a much lower quality level; the author frequently omits mention of some or all the materials, hardware, and tools needed for the various projects. "Sheds" includes a wide range of construction types, and is an excellent book for shed IDEAS. But as a shed construction manual it's pretty frustrating.] The author is up-front in saying that this isn't a book for novices; here's the last paragraph of the Introduction: "SHEDS is written for creative, hands-on homeowners with do-it-yourself experience in weekend projects and basic home repair. You should have at least a few building and repair projects under your tool belt, be ready to tackle medium-sized, challenging projects and be willing to stretch your carpentry skills for worthwhile accomplishments." The first three chapters of this book are very good, covering design, a general shed construction primer, and a basic 8'x10' shed with step-by-step instructions. After that, though, there are six more chapters that aren't up to the same level of quality. The first project (the basic

8'x10' shed) is quite thorough. It has blueprint drawings (one plan and two sections). There are lists of materials, hardware, and tools needed. There's a construction schedule (8 days' worth). The step-by-step instructions are accompanied by 26 drawings to show construction details. This is an excellent start. The very next chapter is a letdown, and the book never comes back to the level of quality set in the first project. For instance there's a section that tells you how to install Plexiglas windows, with a figure insert showing one of the screws holding the Plexiglas to the stud. But there's no mention of what size screw you need in either the text or the illustrations. Also in this chapter is a plan for a simple garden shed, with a list of materials -- but no list of hardware. The text tells you to nail the pieces together, but doesn't say what type of nails or what quantity is required. The "Irish Garden Shed" project is quite inventive, featuring walls constructed of locust logs set in mortar. This is the project prominently featured on the book's cover, and you would (mistakenly) expect it to be covered in loving detail. But you get one plan and two section drawings, and not much more. There are no lists of materials, hardware, or tools required for the project. The text includes many instructions that just don't have enough attention to detail. An example paragraph: "In a mortar pail, combine 6 parts sand, 6 parts sawdust, 3 parts Portland cement and 2 parts lime. Measuring accurately is critical." It would have been easy for the author to write whether he meant parts by weight or parts by volume; if by volume, specify whether to compact the sawdust; or give an idea of what size "part" would be appropriate to fit in a mortar pail. But he didn't specify any of these things. While "Sheds" is hit-or-miss when it comes to construction details, it's really very good when it comes to construction ideas. The foundations covered include pressure-treated skids, posts, poles, and concrete slabs. Wall types include the standard stick-built form, timber frames, and mortared logs. Roofing materials detailed are limited to asphalt and cedar shingles, but the text does mention that you need to use rolled roofing for shallow-pitched roofs. Windows include round and rectangular, either prebuilt or made from scratch. The author is even inventive when it comes to door handles, suggesting using a wooden mason's float -- which I'm using on my own shed project!

very unique sheds, and the author designed and built each one, with a finished photo.

I am building a new shed. Haven't do so in over 20 years, so I wanted to see what kind of ideas I could find. Very detailed drawings, and lots of pictures of finished projects. I plan to incorporate some elements from this book and the Truini "Building a Shed" book, making a unique product.

A good book for ideas and some basic plans but not really thorough in the instructions department.

The Build like a pro book on sheds is much better for that. The two go very well together though!

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