



House of Earth: A Complete Handbook for Earthen Construction

Conrad Rogue

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Earth is the mother of all construction materials. For thousands of years, clay-soil has shown itself to be a versatile building material. Today people are rediscovering the advantages of earthen construction and for good reasons: it's easy to work with, extremely affordable, environmentally friendly, durable and beautiful!

All you need to get started is basic equipment: buckets, shovels, and a wheelbarrow. This manual shares the most popular and time-tested techniques for building with

- Cob
- Adobe
- Light straw-clay
- Earth bags
- Earthen plasters
- Earthen floors
- Clay paints

These techniques can be used to build entire houses as well as for smaller projects, such as backyard sheds, cabins, outdoor fireplaces, garden walls and play houses. As a bonus, the appendix has complete instruction on how to build an earthen bread- and pizza oven that makes for a great starter project!

Earthen building methods can also be used to renovate existing homes on a shoestring budget, transforming run-down houses into earthen homes, without having to work with toxic or environmentally harmful building materials. You will realize how simple it is so to integrate earthen materials with conventional building materials.

This comprehensive volume covers everything from identifying the right materials to how to build arches and niches and incorporate plumbing and electric. YouTube videos and photos available at HouseAlive.org add additional clarity to the writing.

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