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Cabins & Cottages And Other Small Spaces

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Bigger doesn't always mean better. Especially when it comes to your mortgage payment. Unfortunately the recent real estate crisis taught us that important lesson. Cabins & Cottages: and Other Small Spaces will inspire you to think smaller and smarter. Think small! With each turn of the page you'll be captivated by gorgeous photographs of inspiring, exciting small spaces. In this collection from Fine Homebuilding magazine, the featured authors focus on homes both new and remodeled, urban and rural, traditional and modern, and even a few truly quirky spaces like: A Garden Cottage for Low-Impact LivingWatch Island RetreatDo-it-Yourself RetreatA Cottage Fit for a HobbitA New Floor Plan Saves an Old HouseCarriage-House ComebackA Better House Not a Bigger Oneplus other small structures like Stylish Sheds, Studio, Storage and More.

Smaller=Smarter. Smaller homes can serve all the purposes of a much larger home, you simply need careful planning and smart strategies. Since smaller homes are becoming more popular—due to economic factors, smaller family sizes, tighter building lots, and the desire to sue fewer natural resources—builders and designers are getting creative and employing all their best tricks to help homeowners get the most out of their tight spaces. Small in structure. Big in style. The petite, stylish homes featured throughout Cabins & Cottages are as big as they need to be and perfectly fit the lifestyles and aspirations of their homeowners. Get inspired and enjoy all design styles and construction types showcased here in hundreds of beautiful photographs. All of the contributing authors are seasoned professionals whose articles have appeared in Fine Homebuilding magazine. With a circulation of more than 200,000, the magazine has been providing information and inspiration to everyone who cares about quality home improvement and construction. From the very first issue in 1981, Fine Homebuilding established itself as the best source of home improvement information, helping readers build projects better, faster and more efficiently.

Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages
Publisher: Taunton Press (September 30, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1627107452
Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.5 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (14 customer reviews)
I think of this as an idea book in that it's more than a coffee-table book, which are all about the pictures. In this book about small structures, there are tons of ideas about design, structure, and layout. (Note that this is not a tiny house book.) The authors even offer some cutaways to reveal things like layers (framing, insulation, sheathing, vapor barrier, siding, etc.) and foundation plans. Having built a house myself and read many books of this kind, it's clear that the construction methods advocated in this book are spot on and very well conceived. I pour over a lot of books like this, always looking for new design ideas. This book is full of innovative structures, including one that uses taught cables instead of crossties to hold the rafters together on an open roof structure, and at least one timber framed house. If you're looking for a book about rustic log cabins, judging from the title, this is not it. It's also not a how-to construction book. This is an idea book with a few pointers on construction methods. High end houses that are anything but rustic are featured in this book. Everything is modern, new, simple, and minimalist. This is a great book that I'm looking forward to rereading over and over again.

... but not quite what I was looking for. It's less about using space efficiently and more about people showing off overly expensive and modish houses, many of which I wouldn't consider small at all.

I love the ideas in this book and the detailed photos. Several (but not all, unfortunately) of the houses include the cost of construction, which is very helpful. Whether you are looking for ideas when remodeling your existing home or looking to build new, there are lots of ideas here that can be adapted to one’s one home. My main criticism is that a good fraction of the featured homes are vacation homes rather than full-time residences, so are not really representative of what people would want for every day use. Still, there are also a good number that are principal residences. There are lots of great ideas regardless, and the emphasis on interior detail and multi-use spaces is helpful and welcome. (I have to admit I was baffled by the featured houses that also had guesthouses - complete with kitchen etc. Did seem to rather negate the whole point of building a smaller house in the first place, and by far the most expensive way to have extra space!)
If you’re interested in cabins and cottages then this is just a wonderful browsing book!!

A good book with useful ideas and illustrations.

A lot of good ideas to work.

Detailed nice book.

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