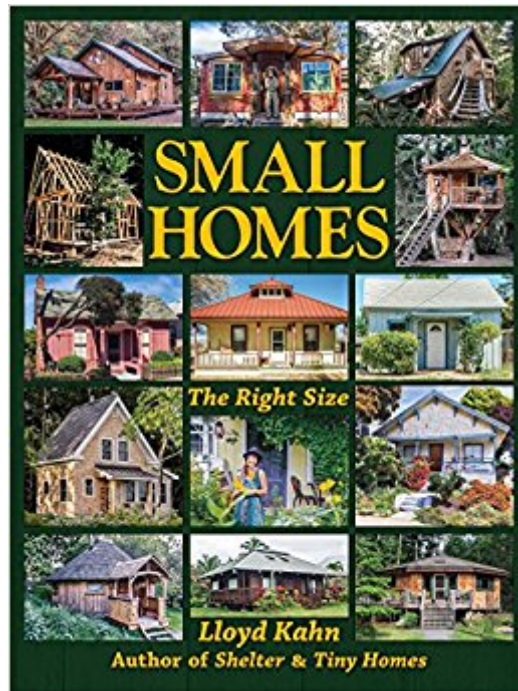


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# Small Homes: The Right Size (The Shelter Library Of Building Books)



## Synopsis

From the publishers of a popular series of building books comes *Small Homes*, which is highly relevant for these times. It's not getting smaller, rather than larger. Some 75 builders share their knowledge of building and design, with artistic, practical, and/or economical homes in the United States, Canada, England, Scotland, France, Germany, Spain, New Zealand, and Lithuania. The average American home is 2,500 sq. ft. The tiny home averages 200-300 sq. ft. The small homes here are 400-1200 sq. ft. It's the middle ground. It's not too big, not too small (à la Goldilocks). Compared to the average American home, small homes are less expensive, use less resources, are more efficient to heat and cool, and cheaper to maintain and repair. Compared to tiny homes, they offer a lot more space and breathing room. They are desirable for people who want to avoid a bank mortgage or high rents, yet need more room than a tiny house affords. Here are 65 small homes. They vary from unique and artistic to simple and low-cost. Some are plain, ordinary buildings that provide owners shelter at a reasonable cost and some are inspiring examples of design, carpentry, craftsmanship, imagination, creativity, and homemaking. Some are built with "natural materials," such as cob or straw, some with recycled wood or lumber milled on-site, some are old homes that have been remodeled, and many are designed and built from scratch by the owners. Many are in the country, some in small towns, and some in large cities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lloyd Kahn started building his own home in the early '60s and went on to publish books showing homeowners how they could build their own homes with their own hands. He got his start in publishing by working as the shelter editor of the Whole Earth Catalog with Stewart Brand in the late '60s. He has since authored six highly-graphic books on homemade building, all of which are interrelated. The books, "The Shelter Library Of Building Books," include Shelter, Shelter II (1978), Home Work (2004), Builders of the Pacific Coast (2008), Tiny Homes (2012), and Tiny Homes on the Move (2014). Lloyd operates from Northern California studio built of recycled lumber, set in the midst of a vegetable garden, and hooked into the world via five Mac computers. You can check out videos (one with over 450,000 views) on Lloyd by doing a search on YouTube:

He has written numerous useful and delightful books. This one is on my dining table to enjoy as a companion with my meals!

A treasure trove of ideas, even if you live in a bigger house.

Awesome Book!!!!

For anyone hungry for a home, Lloyd Kahn's Small Homes offers a feast of common sense, creativity and can-do spirit. By showcasing 65 small homes from around the world, Kahn shows that if you are willing to think seriously about what makes a good life and a happy home--and are willing to do some of the work yourself--you can live very well for a whole lot less. As a start, think outside the 2500 sq. ft. box that most Americans buy into, then consider this: in the 1950s, the average home for a family of four was 1100 sq.ft. Most of the structures in Small Homes range from 400 to 1200 sq.ft. and, judging from the obvious delight of the folks building and living in these homes, they're on to something good. From New Zealand to New Mexico, Brooklyn to British Columbia, San Francisco to Scotland, we see houses crafted from stone and earth and salvaged wood and straw bale, by people of every age, gender, hue and calling. The houses themselves are similarly diverse. Some are tidy urban bungalows built in the 1930s, while others have a wild freedom of design deep in the woods where the roads don't reach. I have been a fan of Lloyd Kahn's since the 1960s, when he was the shelter editor of the legendary Whole Earth Catalog, and he hasn't slowed down a bit. When I helped launch Fine Homebuilding magazine in the 1980s, I always kept an eye on what Lloyd was up to because he was always fresh and insightful. Small Homes, which builds on Lloyd's wildly successful Tiny Homes, is his best yet, informed, as always, by his gentle wit, his vivid

photos, his eye for detail, his ear for a good yarn, and his great love for homes and the people in them.

Lloyd Kahn and Shelter Publications have assembled another gorgeous architectural book, this time focusing on *Small Homes: The Right Size*. After having published two other books about tiny homes, Lloyd has realized that many individuals and families are just not comfortable squeezing their lives into such small spaces. So he has scanned the world for moderately sized homes that are roughly between 400 and 1200 square feet (37 and 112 square meters), what he feels is the "sweet spot" between tiny and extravagant. I always enjoy Lloyd's books because they are full of eye candy; every page is crammed with full color photos taken inside and outside of a carefully selected array of fun architecture. Shelter Publications is so confident that you will find the book worthwhile that they offer a lifetime money-back guarantee if you are dissatisfied with the book. What other publisher would dare to make such a bold offer! *Small Homes* is really about more than architecture; it is also about life styles. Each featured home profiles the folks who either live in or built it, so you get a glimpse into the lives of some very interesting people. As I read the book I often wished that I had an opportunity to meet and become friends with many of them. You will find within these pages ideas galore for how you might design or organize your own home. The value is all about inspiration. Like his many previous publications over the past nearly half century, where people still have tattered copies and attribute their own building projects to ideas they contain, *Small Homes* is destined to become a cherished reference book. Lloyd has a fondness for architecture crafted from wood, so naturally wooden homes are prominently featured. With rich natural colors, textures and grains the sensibilities of the wood butcher's art are a delight for the eye. Often the framework of the building is visible on the inside. Over 65 homes are featured in this edition, and many of these are laid out with four-page spreads. This oversized book has 222 colorful pages, all on glossy high quality paper. There are over a thousand photographs. And the book sells for an astonishingly low price. I doubt that Lloyd Kahn will ever have a dissatisfied customer.

Lots of delightful photos of amazingly crafted houses.

Lloyd does it again! Just as good as his previous, no other author in the home genre has inspired as many people as Lloyd Kahn. As impressive is how his books can hold the interest of such a wide demographic. If they have blood pumping through their veins, they will enjoy thumbing through.

Thank you for yet another incredible piece of work!

This is a great book, I enjoy looking at it and giving me ideas all the time!

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