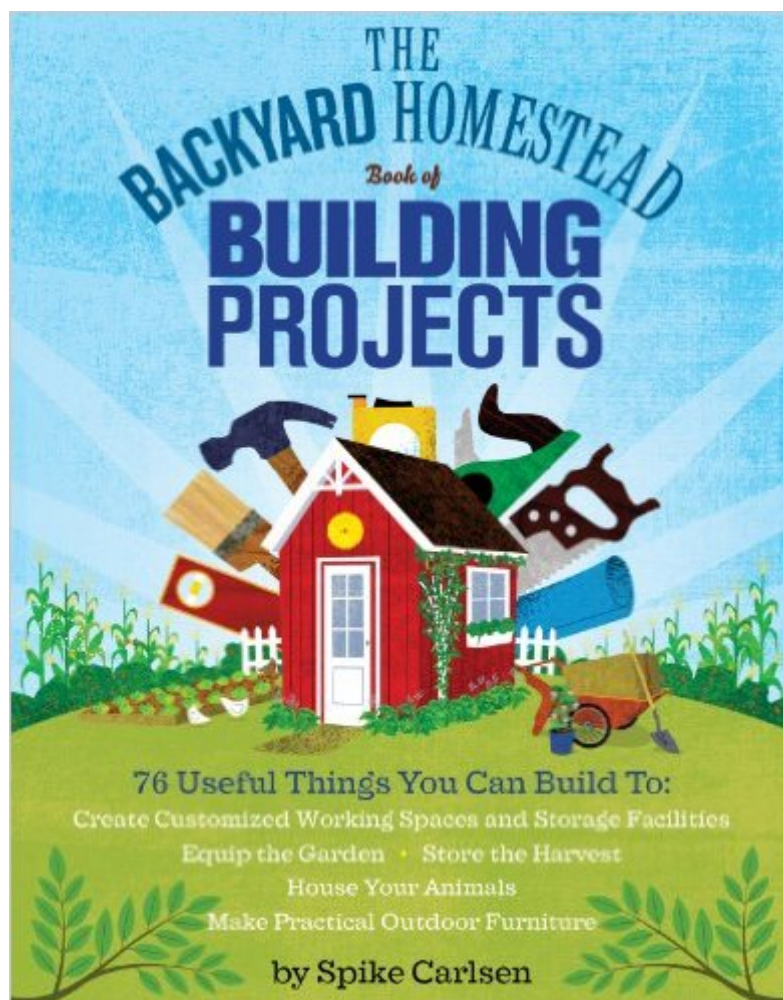


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# The Backyard Homestead Book Of Building Projects: 76 Useful Things You Can Build To Create Customized Working Spaces And Storage Facilities, Equip The ... Animals, And Make Practical Outdoor Furniture





## Synopsis

Gardeners, small farmers, and outdoor living enthusiasts will love this compilation of 76 rustic DIY projects. Expert woodworker Spike Carlsen offers simple, fully illustrated instructions for everything from plant supports and clotheslines to a chicken coop, a greenhouse, and a root cellar with storage bins. Most of the projects are suitable for complete novices, and all use just basic tools and easy-to-find materials. You'll find techniques to build whatever your outdoor world is missing, with additional tips to live sustainably, happily, and independently.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (71 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #48,909 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Garden Furnishings](#) #11 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas](#) #30 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Carpentry](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is a project book, covering something like 20-30 individual projects that you might use on a small urban farm or even a somewhat larger (5-10 acre) homestead. I've uploaded some pictures to give you a sense of the project pages and how they work: the materials you'll need are listed, as well as diagrams and instructions. This is a helpful book that you can go to for ideas as much as actual directions. I say this because the spirit of the book seems to me to be all about doing it yourself, not necessarily following a paint-by-numbers set of instructions. So a birdhouse plan might give you some ideas for your own birdhouse, as might the plans for the simple sawhorses. A note on the plans: if you have a saw, hammer, and some nails, you can pretty much complete all of these projects. No need for a router or biscuit joiner here. These are simple projects demanding simple tools and some limited know-how. I like this book and find myself returning to it often. It's simple and

inviting.

I am not a carpenter or wood worker, but am attempting and slowly learning to be a homesteader. I was super excited to get this book and dig into it, and was so pleased to find projects I KNOW I will be able to complete myself! This is a book with many different projects that will serve both homesteaders and do-it-yourselfers alike. The photography along with the project directions will make these projects a true pleasure to dig into!

Before buying this great book, I found the publisher's YouTube video on how to make the Leopold Bench - which is just one of the many projects shared by author Spike Carlson. It was nice to see the video because it gave me a good sense of what his teaching style is like. With some carpentry experience under my belt, this is a book I feel confident diving into. My wife and I are planning to build a small house someday soon (for which we bought *Your Cabin in the Woods*), but until then, we are taking baby-steps with projects that we can take with us. I'm excited to make the root cellar storage system for storing this summer's produce.

This is a fantastic how-to book for so many backyard building projects. The directions are written in a clear and understandable format, and there are helpful illustrations to guide you along the way. Everything from a tool shed to a chicken coop to a rack to dry homemade pasta and homegrown herbs. This would be a fantastic gift for those just dabbling in the DIY arena or for those seasoned carpenters as well. Directions are specific and easy to understand. There are so many projects in this book that are relevant to how many are choosing to live today. A well-written, well-illustrated, thought-out guide. I loved it.

**Basics:** I bought this book as I have read the other *Backyard Homesteading* books about growing your own food and raising your own animals. I have no background in carpentry or building skills.  
**Pros:** This book has a lot of plans that are actually helpful for homesteaders. We live on a "farmstead" and I could see us using most, if not all, of the projects in this book. I really liked the garden cart plan, and want to make one soon. This book goes from a simple garden cart all the way to a full cabin. I read this book on my kindle, but I could still see the plans clearly and I am excited about building some of these things.  
**Cons:** Like I said, I have no DIY skills. The other two *Backyard Homesteading* books seemed to start with the assumption that you were starting from scratch. Unfortunately, I was over my head from the very first project. I plan on having my husband help me

with the projects and give me some lessons in order to be able to complete these projects. I wish the book had a little more basics for someone like me. Conclusion: Lots of good projects that would be helpful on the homestead, but a little too difficult for complete beginners.

This book seems to have a lot of information that will be helpful. I'm pretty good at building my own projects so I think some of this info may not be as useful to me as the other books I received (The Backyard Homestead Farm Animals and The Backyard Homestead). Either way...this book is great and is worth purchasing!

I am a single 30-something female with a green thumb. For years I have been potting from the ground, getting up and down and killing my back and legs. With this book you will learn, step-by-step, how to create useful gardening and yard projects. I live in a small Minneapolis, MN bungalow with a small yard and the potting bench fits perfectly for any size space! If you are looking to enhance your backyard (or front yard) experience and are a new do-it yourselfer or an experience contractor, this is the book for you.

Starting with several tips to help a beginning builder, the author takes the reader through many projects ranging from simple totes and benches up to more complex projects including a full featured garden shed. The designs, all showing much more thought than my feeble attempts at similar projects, demonstrate that this is not the author's first attempt at these projects and, with the material lists, will save the prospective builder time and trouble and result in a good looking project rather than a by-guess-and-by-gosh embarrassment.

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