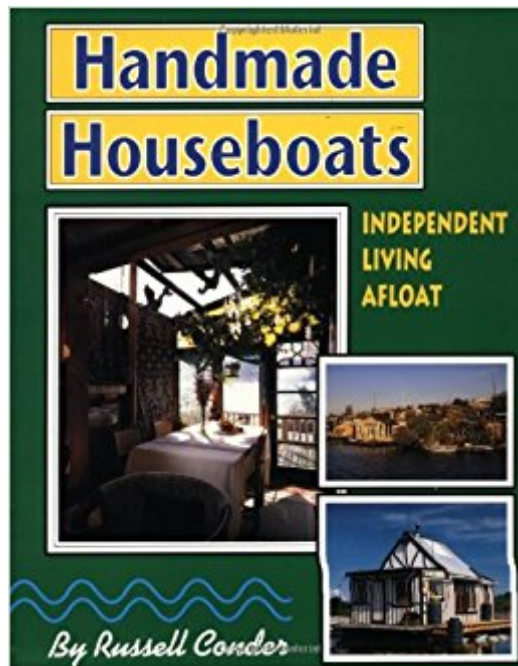




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Handmade Houseboats: Independent Living Afloat



Synopsis

Water-loving people of modest means have lived aboard houseboats for centuries, and why not? Unlike expensive, cramped, and hard-to-build liveaboard cruising boats, spacious, homey houseboats are easily and economically constructed from common lumberyard materials. And unlike those high-priced waterfront cottages, there's no lawn to mow and often no property taxes. And if you don't like the new neighbors, just up anchor and be off. This book tells those who would live afloat how to design and build their own place on the water. There are detailed plans and building instructions for sample houseboats; help with designing a personalized houseboat from scratch; resource-stingy contrivances for easing life aboard, including a solar oven, a windmill-powered washing machine, and innovative power-, water-, and waste-management systems; and more.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

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Best Sellers Rank: #1,468,517 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships > Boat Building](#) #1312 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Boating](#) #4003 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Water Sports](#)

Customer Reviews

“Clearly written, easy to understand, and very nicely illustrated. . . For anyone attempting to build a floating home, this book would be of immense help.” (Heartland Boating) “If you want to give the idea [of a houseboat] a serious think for a relatively modest cost, Handmade Houseboats is the best way I know to get there.” (Sail) “Every[one’s] Huckleberry Finnian dream: a house on a scow or raft; the hows and wheres, with plans and technical details.” (WoodenBoat)

People seem inexorably drawn to live near water, but rising prices for waterfront land have made that an impossible dream for most. There is an alternative. Water-loving people of modest means

have lived aboard houseboats for centuries, and why not? Unlike expensive, cramped, and hard-to-build liveaboard cruising boats, spacious, homey houseboats are easily and economically constructed from common lumberyard materials. And unlike those high-priced waterfront cottages, there's no lawn to mow and often no property taxes. And if you don't like the new neighbors, just up anchor and be off. This book tells those who would live afloat how to design and build their own place on the water. There are detailed plans and building instructions for sample houseboats; help with designing a personalized houseboat from scratch; resource-stingy contrivances for easing life aboard, including a solar oven, a windmill-powered washing machine, and innovative power-, water-, and waste-management systems; and more. Handmade Houseboats will help you build a self-sufficient and economical floating home that generates its own power, deals with its own waste, and leaves no scar upon the Earth.

great read

ok

The book was in good condition and arrived promptly. I already knew what I was getting as I had borrowed a copy from the library. In terms of content it is a bit dated and probably would not be up to regulation in many jurisdictions however it is a very inspiring book to those who are interested in alternate living with a lot of practical knowledge packed in a small space.

As much a history of houseboats as a book about making them. Bought for my dad for Christmas and he loved it -- was reading excerpts aloud to us all day.

Nice simple manual that doesn't try to over-complicate the ideas. Now if only I could convince my better half that this was a good idea!

Very practical book full of useful tips.

I was looking for more of a "how to build" kind of book. This book is interesting with the history of houseboats and the practical tips for living aboard makes it worth the cost.

Great read for houseboat owners and for this is for you if you are thinking of buying or building a

houseboat

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