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Build Your Own Beekeeping Equipment: How To Construct 8- & 10-Frame Hives; Top Bar, Nuc & Demo Hives; Feeders, Swarm Catchers & More





Synopsis

Save time and money by building your own beekeeping equipment. Learn to craft equipment that is tailored to your particular climate and setup. Full of insightful tips and covering a variety of hive types, Pisano includes all the basic infrastructure you need to keep your bees happy and active and your pantry full of honey.

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Customer Reviews

35 Building Projects for All Your Beekeeping NeedsWith Tony Pisano's step-by-step instructions, a table saw, and a few other common tools and materials, you can build everything you need to house and protect your bees -- from hive bodies to supers and covers. You'll even find a section on installing electric fencing and plans for building jigs that make assembling frames and installing foundations a snap.

Tony Pisano runs his own business producing and selling honey, as well as soap, candles, lip balm, and hand salves from his own beeswax. He lives in North Adams, Massachusetts.

This book will save you LOTS of money if you are into beekeeping. Lots of GREAT plans on how to build your own beekeeping equipment including hives, nucs, feeders, stands and the like. I cannot wait to start building. There are a few places where explanations on construction could be clearer, but it shouldn't be too difficult to figure out. I highly recommend this book if you have any

woodworking skills. While a tablesaw is not necessary, it is one of those work saving tools that makes life easier. The only negative thing I can report is that it does not contain plans for the frames that the bees will build the comb on. I think the author figures they are cheap enough to buy. I don't want to pay the shipping though. I am going to borrow a frame from a friend and make copies.

When starting out in beekeeping, I got the Dummies book for making hives. That one got me started, but I like this one better for some things. The author provides suggestions for simpler hive construction, using butt joints and the application of quality exterior wood glue and screws. Really, when you consider how good the glues and screws are for joining, and that you will be applying paint to the outside, and the fact that you won't probably can't expect them to last forever, you don't need to use finger joints. He also explains the use of lap joints, which most folks can handle better than finger joints. Anyway, it is that kind of attitude that I found useful. There are directions for a variety of needed and nice-to-have-not-necessary accessories as well. All clearly explained for anyone who has a modicum of experience with woodworking.

The book seemed to skip back and forth. It did try to cover purpose and plans, but no finger joint corners, like I was looking for. We had to scan the book back and forth for a plan and instructions. The book says make a bottom board and how, next make.... and so on. That's fine, but we were looking for plans, and if we didn't know how to make something, then have instructions how to achieve it would have been better. All in all, not bad, and not super great, just a little thumbing through the book to find things.

I found this book to be very informative. It shows all the different parts that need to be assembled to make a hive. The dimensions given are for both a 10 or 8 frame hive. Although, it does not state whether or not these dimensions are compatible with other brands of hive. I gave this a four, because some of the diagrams were a bit confusing, but with a little studying of the diagrams you can figure it out. I do like the tips on how to cut some of the more difficult pieces. It is a very good book for a beginner woodworker, with a whole chapter on what tools you need and alternative tools that can be used if you don't have the first one listed. Another nice feature of this book, is the section on jigs, like the one for building frames.

After buying this, I have in turn built most everything in this book. I can say that the instructions are simple and easy to follow. The processes are explained fully and completely. You are not left with a

"Huh?" when in the middle of a build. I've read other "how-to" and this one beats them hands-down!

If you are starting out, this book provides excellent woodworking advice and detailed plans, packaged in a setting of real world experience. It needs to be combined with other books that concentrate on other topics, such as inspection procedure. Together, such a library will help you to preserve your hive.

I had just bought a table saw and with no experience was able to build complete hives pretty easily (8-frames). I do wish that there were instructions for frames, but I can have an experienced friend help me set up for that. I saved 40% (not counting frames) compared to what I would have paid for unassembled hives from Dadant or Better Bee.

As a long time woodworker I thought this book would be great. I was a little disappointed. I was tired of downloading individual free plans for beekeeping projects and thought it would be great to just have them in one book. This book should be more inexpensive for the content that it includes. I found the plans to be a little basic and not as clear as I would have liked. There are a lot of projects left out that I felt could have been included for the price like a hive top feeder among others. I know he included a bucket feeder but I was hoping for plans on some of the other types. Even though I have this book I find myself downloading plans off the internet because I can usually find one that is a better more professional plan.

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