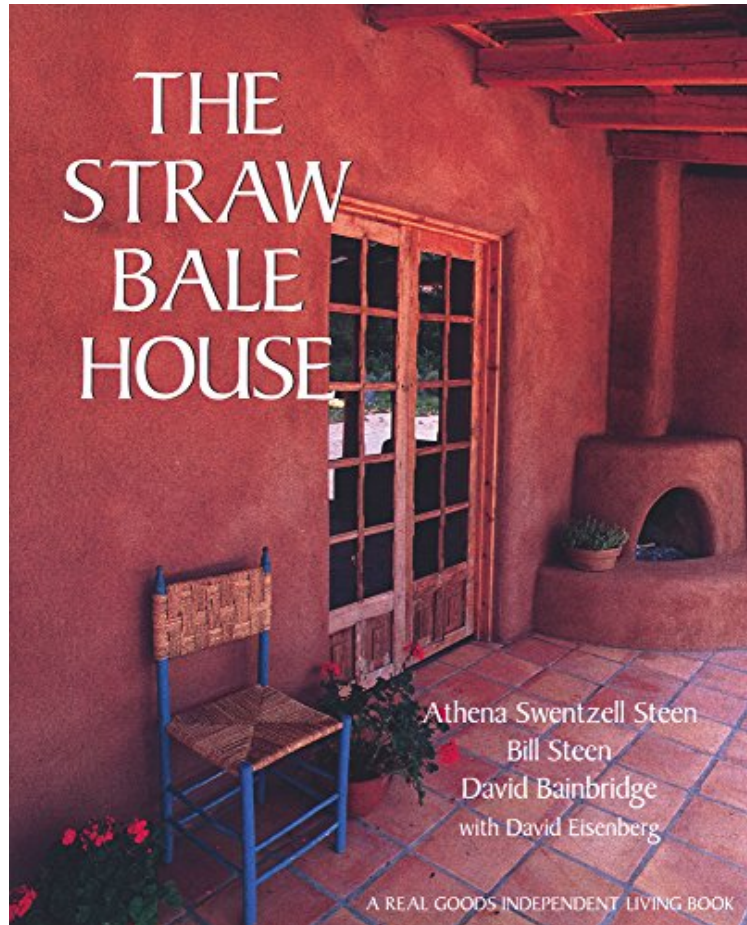


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The Straw Bale House (A Real Goods Independent Living Book)

Athena Swentzell Steen, Bill Steen, David Bainbridge
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Athena Swentzell Steen, Bill Steen, David Bainbridge : The Straw Bale House (A Real Goods Independent Living Book) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Straw Bale House (A Real Goods Independent Living Book):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Must Have Read on Straw Bale Construction By ThomFlash Could be the best book I've read on sustainable construction methods. The writing is excellent, and the authors' light use of narrative storytelling gives insight to their revelation of suggestions and best practices. The technical jargon is minimal and easily understood thanks to the abundance of photos that follow the process. If you have even the slightest interest in straw bale construction, this is the first book you should buy. If you already have others, it's likely this will be your last as it is so comprehensive in nature. Enjoy! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Bible of Staw Bale Houses By jdb Several years ago we became interested in straw bale houses and began doing a lot of research. Almost 100% of the articles referenced this book as a guide. It covers any and all questions that could come up in the

construction. There is more than one style and the book addresses each of them. A word of advice, be sure and check local and state codes before you get too involved. As time goes by and more are being built there is finally some uniformity. This book is a must have if you are about to build one, or if you are just curious. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful Book By westchester I enjoy all of Bill and Athena Steen's books on building. This one is lovely and full of personal, practical advice on various aspects of strawbale building, adobe and plastering. I especially enjoy knowing about how Athena's experience growing up has contributed so much to her involvement in these types of construction techniques. She and Bill make a great team. I find their information very inspirational.

Imagine building a house with superior seismic stability, fire resistance, and thermal insulation, using an annually renewable resource, for half the cost of a comparable conventional home. Welcome to the straw bale house! Whether you build an entire house or something more modest—a home office or studio, a retreat cabin or guest cottage—plastered straw bale construction is an exceptionally durable and inexpensive option. What's more, it's fun, because the technique is easy to learn and easy to do yourself. And the resulting living spaces are unusually quiet and comfortable. The Straw Bale House describes the many benefits of building with straw bales: super insulation, with R-values as high as R-50 good indoor air quality and noise reduction a speedy construction process construction costs as low as \$10-per-square-foot use of natural and abundant renewable resources a better solution than burning agricultural waste straw, which creates tons of air pollutants

.com Get a leg up on the first Little Pig with The Straw Bale House, your guide to inexpensive, durable, earth-friendly construction that will stand up to much more than the Big Bad Wolf. Authors Athena Swentzell Steen and Bill Steen founded the Canelo Project, which promotes innovative building; David Bainbridge is a California restoration ecologist; and David Eisenberg is an alternative-materials builder who pioneered straw bale wall testing. Between them, they have encyclopedic knowledge of their subject. The book is comprehensive, broadly covering why and how to build with straw and then focusing on the details, which are both intellectually and aesthetically delightful. Beside being cheap, clean, and lightweight, straw also provides advantages like energy efficiency and resistance to seismic stresses. For the nervous Martha Stewart types, there are scads of black-and-white and color plates of strikingly beautiful interiors and exteriors from New Mexico to southern France. Both new and experienced builders will appreciate the clear, simple instructions and diagrams, as well as practical explanations for dealing with building codes and insurers. The Straw Bale House shows us advantages so numerous and dramatic that you'll wonder why we ever moved on to sticks and bricks. --Rob Lightner "Using plastered straw bales as building materials for a home may not sound stable or long-lasting, but these can be used for a variety of purposes from adjacent buildings to entire houses, can be used with relatively little experience, and have many attributes; from super-insulation to cheap construction. Applications are more useful for the Southwest region but ideas may transfer to other U. S. locales. The book's price tag seems high for a paperback, but this goes in great detail on a subject which is fairly understated in most construction or homeowner's guides." --Midwest Book About the Author Bill Steen is a photographer and collaborative builder who is especially interested in combining building techniques with community-enhancing approaches to design. Athena and Bill are co-founders of the Canelo Project, through which they conduct ecological design and construction workshops in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. They live in Canelo, Arizona. Visit Athena and Bill's Blog, The Canelo Chronicles at www.caneloproject.com. David A. Bainbridge first worked on community design, passive solar heating and cooling, building codes, and solar rights at the innovative design firm Living Systems. He described his first water-wall solar home and the Village Homes solar subdivision in Solar House Designs in 1978. Founder of the Passive Solar Institute, and recipient of the ASES Passive Pioneer Award in 2004, Bainbridge consults on a wide range of residential and commercial projects and has completed several solar projects on his own homes, as well as co-authoring The Straw Bale House (with Athena Swentzell Steen and Bill Steen), and Passive Solar Architecture (with Ken Haggard). He is currently Associate Professor of Sustainable Management at the Marshall Goldsmith School of Management. He lives in San Diego, California.