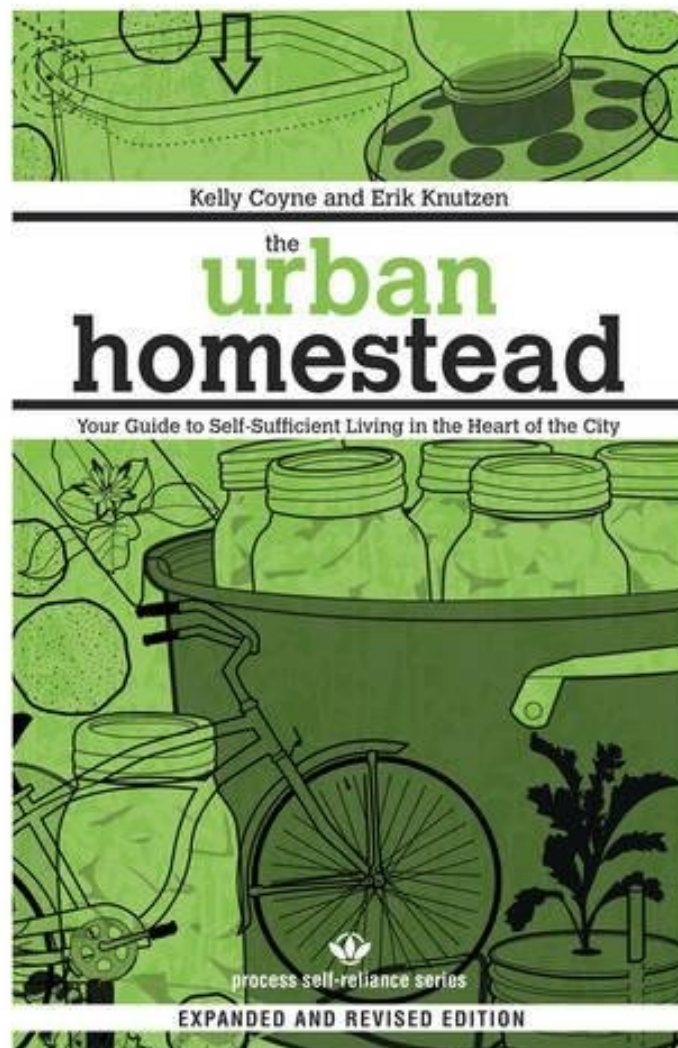


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The Urban Homestead (Expanded Revised Edition): Your Guide to Self-Sufficient Living in the Heart of the City (Process Self-reliance Series)

Kelly Coyne, Erik Knutzen
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Kelly Coyne, Erik Knutzen : The Urban Homestead (Expanded Revised Edition): Your Guide to Self-Sufficient Living in the Heart of the City (Process Self-reliance Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Urban Homestead (Expanded Revised Edition): Your Guide to Self-

Sufficient Living in the Heart of the City (Process Self-reliance Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Challenges the imagination!
By My Roman Apartment
Like the authors, I live in the middle of Los Angeles. What I appreciate most about this book is that it inspires me to problem solve and think about possibilities that are available to me in my urban neighborhood. The negative reviews of this book seem to focus on the fact that this is not a "how-to" book with recipes. But this lack of specifics is exactly why I like this book. For example, there are no recipes for compost involving wood ash (where do I get this if it's too hot to ever turn on a fireplace and my house doesn't have a wood burning stove)? The authors don't have one right way to do things--because even for someone who lives in the same neighborhood, there is no one-size-fits-all answer to how to live a greener life. Instead, this book provides a ton of jumping off points for a variety of projects to consider and tailor to individual abilities and needs. Flexibility is this book's greatest attribute. Also, I like the authors' keep-it-simple methodology. Too many green lifestyle books make the process of home food prep or gardening seem ridiculously unachievable just from a work hours perspective. The various projects that they cover in this book can be done seasonally, as one-time events, or put into a permanent, larger system of managing a house and garden. They don't present urban homesteading as an all or nothing lifestyle, which sets people up for failure. Over time, I have managed to make many of the projects that are covered in the book from home pickling to drip irrigation to solar cooking. And, as a result of many little steps, I now live a much greener life.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This book is AMAZING!
By PurpleLotus
As I found myself getting more and more back to my country roots and wanting to share those experiences with my kids, I've been slowly transforming our suburban life. Little did I know there was a term for this activity "Urban homesteading". When searching for this term at my local public library, I put my name on the waiting list for this book. I thought it may have a few nice tips on planting, etc. When I got the book, I couldn't put it down! It would be a great book just for the tremendous and varied amount of knowledge that it contains, but above and beyond that it is told in a very conversational and often humorous way. The authors's philosophy toward this growing movement is perfect for beginners all the way to hard-core "off the grid" folks. You are encouraged to do just what you can do and to try for more when you are ready. They share their strategies, their past mistakes (so you don't make the same ones) and money saving tips. This book has changed the way I look at my world, from needless paving to guerilla gardening. After devouring my public library copy, I knew I had to own this! Since purchasing it here @ , I've read and re-read it, adding post-it bookmarks for quick references in the future (how to make a self-watering container, raised beds, etc.). Thank you so much to the authors for a great book. I plan on buying more copies to give as gifts to my friends who are also interested in "city farming" and living a better lifestyle.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great information and a FUN read.
By MrsPotter
I am always looking for new ways to save money in this money grabbing society and this book although not an alternative for everyone, gives ideas on savings and even some not so everyday ideas, (such as raising your own chickens) to help save. There are many more practical yet unconventional ideas as well to help with the high cost of living but you need to read it for your self and find what works (and doesn't work) for you. Even when an idea was not for me, the information was entertaining as well as enlightening. Did you know, chickens are natural bug fighters in your garden and that they eat slugs, grubs, and they do weeding in the form of "scratching" the soil to get at the pests? You can use solar panels to fight high electric and heating bills (and the government gives tax credit on many energy fighting ideas) which washer will save you hundreds in water and energy costs? Many more good and fun facts inside!

The expanded, updated version of the best-selling classic, with a dozen new projects. "A delightfully readable and very useful guide to front- and back-yard vegetable gardening, food foraging, food preserving, chicken keeping, and other useful skills for anyone interested in taking a more active role in growing and preparing the food they eat." [BoingBoing.net](#) "...the contemporary bible on the subject." *The New York Times* This celebrated, essential handbook shows how to grow and preserve your own food, clean your house without toxins, raise chickens, gain energy independence, and more. Step-by-step projects, tips, and anecdotes will help get you started homesteading immediately. The Urban Homestead is also a guidebook to the larger movement and will point you to the best books and Internet resources on self-sufficiency topics. Written by city dwellers for city dwellers, this copiously illustrated, two-color instruction book proposes a paradigm shift that will improve our lives, our community, and our planet. By growing our own food and harnessing natural energy, we are planting seeds for the future of our cities. Learn how to: Grow food on a patio or balcony Preserve or ferment food and make yogurt and cheese Compost with worms Keep city chickens Divert your grey water to your garden Clean your house without toxins Guerilla garden in public spaces Create the modern homestead of your dreams

"...a delightfully readable and very useful guide to front- and back-yard vegetable gardening, food foraging, food preserving, chicken keeping, and other useful skills for anyone interested in taking a more active role in growing and preparing the food they eat. --[BoingBoing.net](#) "The Urban Homestead...touches on vegetable gardening, poultry, DIY

cleaning products and beer making -- all outlined with a sense of play and fun."--Whole Life Times