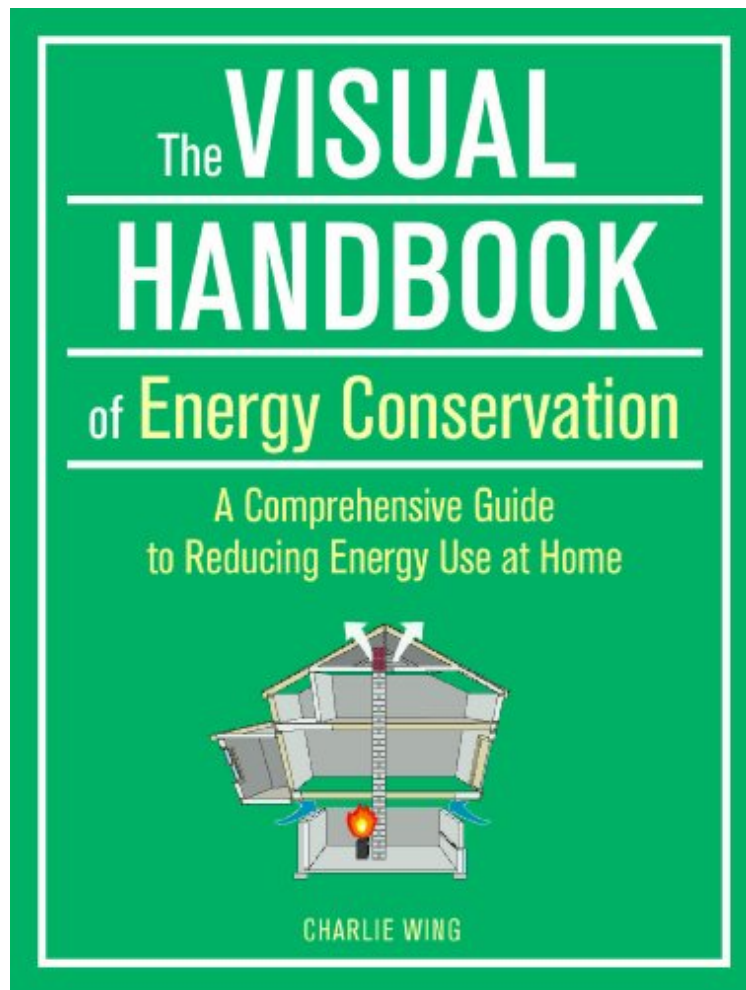


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The Visual Handbook of Energy Conservation: A Comprehensive Guide to Reducing Energy Use at Home

Charlie Wing

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Charlie Wing : The Visual Handbook of Energy Conservation: A Comprehensive Guide to Reducing Energy Use at Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Visual Handbook of Energy Conservation: A Comprehensive Guide to Reducing Energy Use at Home:

25 of 25 people found the following review helpful. Essential read for both experts and novice builders., designers, and carpenters.By pantherI really hate ideological books on "green building" that simply state poetic concepts and draw cool pictures but don't provide any sort of detailed information or empirical exactness. Energy efficiency is about real performance, not cute ideas. Good ideas don't work if not implemented in the right proportion. How many times have you pulled a book off the rack with the title "passive solar homes" or something like that, where you see

conceptual drawings with no real-world data or actual prescriptive proportions? This is a straight-up, no messing around, information encyclopedia for builders trying to fight global warming by building practical, affordable, energy efficient homes. He covers passive solar design, but also all the other things that are important in home performance like window technologies, insulation, HVAC, etc. It is filled with charts, graphs, numbers, data and real explanation of products. He even has a list of calculated R-values for different wall assemblies. He has nicely designed bar-graphs that compare the solar gain and heat loss through windows facing North, South, East and West. That is so awesome! It is a scientifically minded book. Now, if a little bit of physics and a few algebraic equations intimidates you, you probably shouldn't be building houses. If a lot of complicated physics scares you, this book won't fly over your head. He explains real-world physics simply and straight forwardly. There are no differential equations. It's REAL WORLD MATH, useful math. The other thing I like about it is it was written in 2013 so it has up-to-date awareness of product prices and the latest window films on the market and stuff like that. Let this be the new builder's bible.

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading for new home builders or upgrading the efficiency in your home

By Guy Marsden This book is essential reading for anyone considering building a new home, or upgrading the efficiency of an existing one. Charlie covers everything you could possibly want to know about energy efficiency as it relates to residential houses and everything in them from lighting to appliances. Superlatives escape me in trying to describe how wonderfully written and illustrated this book is. He uses language that is clear, simple, direct and pragmatic in perfect harmony with exquisite graphics and crystal-clear charts. I cannot recommend this book highly enough. I have been on a personal mission to live as sustainably as practical since 2001 and have done a great many of the things that Charlie suggests in his book so I can speak to their efficacy. Everything he covers is discussed in such clear detail and looked at from so many angles - he literally thought of everything you could possibly encounter in your home that relates to energy conservation. If everyone took at least a few steps based on reading this book, we would leave the world a much better place. Hopefully many people will choose to read this book before starting on a new home and will end up creating a model of sustainable design and energy conservation. The book is a bargain at any price considering the huge amount of money you can save based on the advice within.

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. If I only knew then what I know now!

By Michigan Reviewer What a fantastic book for those with a real interest in sustainability and energy conservation. My biggest complaint is that I wish I would have had access to a book like this before I bought homes and appliances. For those contemplating building a new home, this book is a must read. It contains all sorts of information that prospective builders require to make sure that their homes will be as efficient as they can possibly be by the standards of the moment. For those of us already in our fifty five year old "dream homes" there are many other suggestions on how to make our homes a whole lot more efficient. We have done the obvious with replacement windows, compact fluorescent bulbs, LED bulbs, etc, but there is so much more we can, and hopefully will, do! Once our older appliances give up we will be updating with Energy Star models. The same goes for our water heater and maybe even our 92% efficient furnace. I can see where this information could be used in college level classes in home building or design. Fantastic book by a very knowledgeable author. If using less matters to you and home energy efficiency is a priority, by all means, read this book!

From the author of the best-selling *The Visual Handbook of Building and Remodeling* (over 300,000 copies sold in all three editions), comes a new book in the same graphic format that explains how to reduce energy use in the home. With a vast array of well-organized and easily accessible essential data, *The Visual Handbook of Energy Conservation* is destined to establish itself as the standard reference for energy conservation projects. Based on manufacturers information, government GREEN/LEED information, builder association information, the authors personal experiences, and other sources, the book will document the established best practices when it comes to energy conservation. The most current energy-related building codes will be included and referenced frequently. The visual handbook will cover all facets of building construction from foundations to interior finishes, from new construction to remodeling and renovation, and will include both residential and light commercial construction. It will be valued by architects, designers, and specifiers--as well as contractors, builders, subcontractors, developers, and others involved in the building, restoration, and renovation of buildings.

About the Author An authority on home building and remodeling, Charlie Wing specializes in translating technical information into laymans terms. He founded the Shelter Institute, the nations first owner-builder school. He has been the host and writer of a national PBS TV series about remodeling and is the author of 17 home-related books, including *The Visual Handbook of Building and Remodeling* and *How Your House Works*.