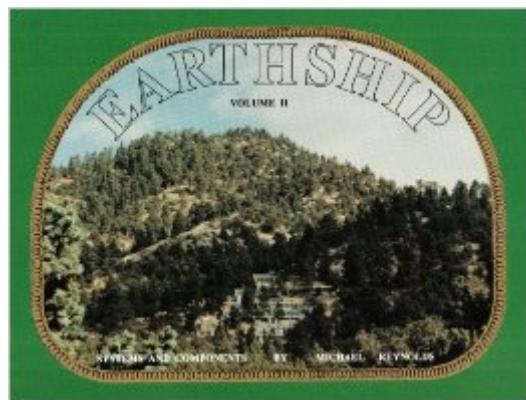


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Earthship: Systems And Components Vol. 2



Synopsis

Earthship: Systems and Components vol. 2 1/E by Michael Reynolds

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michael Reynolds definately walks the walk. I first heard of Earthships several years ago, but didn't give it much thought until, driving just beyond the Rio Grande Gorge outside of Taos, I saw a collection of them. To say I was impressed would be an understatement. What Michael has done, first publicized to my knowledge in this book, has been astonishing. The book talks about his concept of the Earthship, how to build them, how they work, and how you, too can live virtually independant of the large grid of services available to you, and that in many ways makes you work for the system itself! This book of ideas has evolved and been thoroughly vetted in real life in 3 developments around Taos and countless other places in the world (mostly in the Western US) -- so it is a lot less experimental than you might think. The novelty mostly resides with our unfamiliarity with the Earthship. The structures are partially buried, with load bearing walls made of earth rammed old tyres, non load bearing walls built of cans, with greywater systems supported by rain catchwater. PV and wind powered, with food and other plants grown in the house, the premise is as close to total self sufficiency as one might be able to get. Philosophically, nearly a perfect expression of that desire. Practically, it seems to deliver, which sets itself apart from many other building methods and philosophies. In this age of unreliable utilities, uncertain prices of fuels, corrupt business leaders,

bankrupt corporations and politics bought and paid for by institutions whose motives are questionable, such a book and underlying philosophy seems relevant like no other time similar except the early 1970's. To some, this book of building a low cost shelter might help someone get into a nice house where they might not have otherwise, to others this might be a manifesto, still others might have the engineering appeal strike the most resonant cord. Either way, this is a MUST HAVE for at least my bookshelf. I went ahead and got #2 and #3 as well!

I went to Taos and toured some of the "Earth Ship" houses, and they were wonderful. I bought the books there and read them cover to cover (on the way home). These books are full of good, practical, information. If you have access to old tires, empty cans, clay mud, you could build your own house. I haven't done a house yet, but I've done some other interesting projects using these principles. This particular book deal most with the parts of an Earth Ship house and how they all work together. It has more how to information than the others, I thought.

As many here have done years ago I happened to come across Greater World on my way to Colorado because the snow was pretty thin that year in Taos. Passing the Rio Grande over the high bridge on Hiway 64 and it is impossible now to miss the Earthships. Right away the genius behind the design is apparent. At the time the visitors center was just one building as this was before Mikes times of troubles with the County over the sub division laws. To this day the visitors center is a real source of inspiration even though it is now in a newer structure. Having spent some time asking questions and really opening my mind to the concept I bought all three books on the spot that day and read them cover to cover. Next trip to the area and I purchased land and proceeded to build with permit. These three books were with me every step of the way and are the absolute must have manuals on how our Earthships evolved and are still evolving. Start here at ..BUY THESE BOOKS if you are sick and tired of the run around mess we in the "first world" are sinking into. You CAN do this, and you should! If your heart is telling you to read this far then it is a sign you are already in the mindset needed to complete your own Earthship home as I did. Buy a copy of DVD Garbage Warrior here on too. If this video and these three books do not get you off your couch and out on your own land pounding tires then you have no one but yourselves to point fingers at when the bills arrive each month! Book one is the basic design. Some things have evolved because Mike Reynolds knows that in all shifts of perspective in mechanical and architectural design, we learn from trial and error. The original Earthships with slanted glass are actually too effective in solar gain in most places. We learned from experience. Book Two builds on with more depth and continues in

functionality and systems which are critical to understand. Book Three brings the future into focus for renewable ecohomes which is what the Earthship is. Was it hard work? YES it was. Did I build a home that will far outlast my grandchildren's lifetimes? YES it will! I didn't have .com to build my library. You do! This is the best money you can spend if you're really serious about getting out of the rat race. Never stop learning! Need a decent shelter while building that will also add value after your Earthship is complete? I built a Yurt firstSimple Shelters: Tents, Tipis, Yurts, Domes and Other Ancient Homes (Wooden Books) from surplus 2X4 and used ply sheathing and roll roofing as in conventional methods. Want to learn how to build a watertight and easy to make Gravity Skylight? They are in these manuals. I built and installed the Skylight on top of the Yurt. Works perfectly even after 16 years. It is still my guest cabin to this day. You can find this same construction here at .com too. I built the Yurt without any assistance and it was my first home construction project ever. The Earthship too was built by myself with little outside hired help. Read these Manuals. Go to Greater World and stay a few days in a rental Earthship on your next vacation. Change your future. Don't let the forces in place put you in a box and eternally in debt! It is a wonderful feeling to know that no matter what your house will take care of you. Don't you owe it to yourself and the Planet to do the right thing? Reynolds books and DVD are the first steps. You have the source right here at .com to accomplish this and much much more! God Bless and I hope to see you pounding dirt into your Earthship tires soon!

I'm not sure where to begin. Michael Reynolds covers so many aspects of what it takes to build a responsible home, many may not like the EartShip styles but just implementing his thoughts and designs on standard homes (rainwater collection, grey water recycling and more) could do a whole hell of a lot of good. His creativity and reuse of what would otherwise be waste are excellent, the book well covers the ideas and he gets the message across like a champ.

In my opinion, Earthships are the best housing solution in the world. I've not yet found something that did similar things in better ways. It's one of the big keys to sustainability and freedom. The book is 20 years old but most of the info is still relevant. After you've read and studied the books, go to a seminar or attend the academy to get updated info.

I love these books. Makes me want to live off the land and build a house from recycled items. Has made me start a garden and grow my own vegies at least. Wish I had land to build an Earthship!

Great books! Michael Reynolds is a great pioneer for alternative building and a more independent lifestyle. Who wouldn't want a house that heats and cools itself, feeds you, and re-uses water?

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