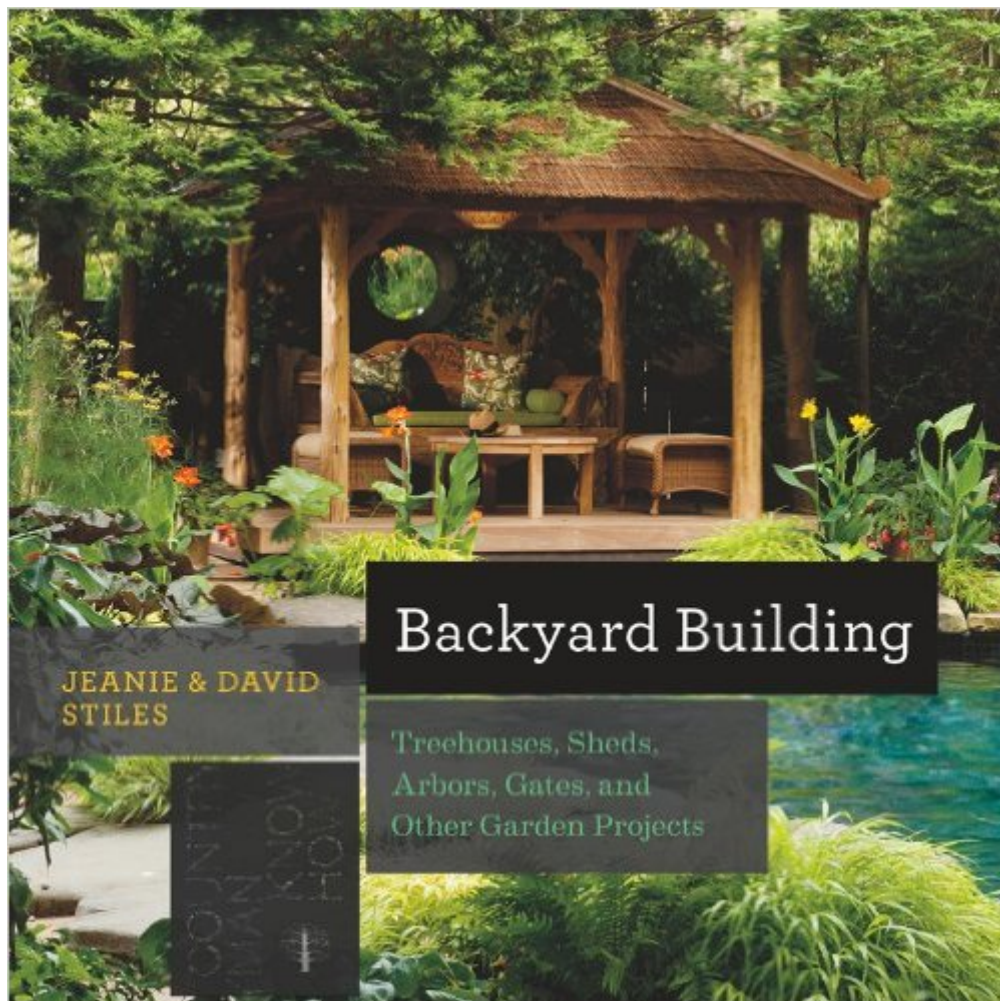


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# Backyard Building: Treehouses, Sheds, Arbors, Gates, And Other Garden Projects (Countryman Know How)



## Synopsis

Here is the very best of backyard building: Popular building authors Jeanie and David Stiles whose treehouse once garnered a spread in *Architectural Digest* have gathered dozens of original plans for treehouses, playhouses, and sheds, as well as a summer house, tea house, garden arbor, and functional workroom. *Backyard Building* will cover backyard accessories, the fundamentals of tools and materials, and useful tips based on real-life questions from the couple's popular website. Its unique style, with hand-drawn illustrations to guide the reader through the building process in a user-friendly way, stands out from the crowd. The clear, detailed drawings are not only easy to follow but a pleasure to look at; they are supplemented by irresistible color photographs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There are so many great ideas in this book for projects, large and small, that can really make your backyard a special place. We are still trying to figure out which one to give priority to right now. The Stiles have written a lot of books in the past, but I think this may be my favorite one. Their tree houses are really special but this book shows you how to build other smaller projects as well. The design of the projects is quite elegant and the graphics in the book are really a pleasure to look at even if you're not building yourself. We are planning to give this book to friends for special

occasions this year, such as birthdays, Christmas. Very nicely designed.

This is simply one of the best books out there on the subject of DIY outdoor building projects. It's beautifully illustrated and the helpful plans for each project are simplistic and easy to follow. You won't need to be a master carpenter to achieve end results. At roughly 250 pages, this book guides you along in designing and building the following: Sheds, Garden Projects, Gates, Arbors, Tree Houses, Decks, Benches, Picnic Tables, Pergolas, Porte Couvertes, Garden Showers, Artist Studios, and many, many other fun projects. Whether you are looking to enhance your property, or tackle an "off the grid" type of project, this book will have you well on your way. It's an asset to my library.

This book is really well thought out and clearly written. It has a lot of good, informative color illustrations and plenty of photos. The projects are grouped from very simple to quite advanced, with lots of useful tips and information along the way. There's also a lot of material included just for inspiration, to help you develop your own designs as you gain confidence and knowledge. I like the square format, which seems at home on the coffee table or in the workshop. The pages are attractively laid out, unlike many 'how-to' books. There's obviously a lot of experience behind this book, and it's presented with a light and friendly touch. Highly recommended.

For the size of the book, there's a wealth of information here, the illustrations are elegant, the instructions clear, the diagrams and plans precise. The only minor criticism I have, is that there's perhaps TOO much packed in - arguably it might have been better for the authors to forego including the more complex projects in favor of expanding the construction details and techniques of the more basic ones - there is a certain amount of expertise assumed and a few steps are skimmed-over that could be explained in more detail. Having said that, its finely-balanced combination of creative imagination and practical help is unmatched in any other book on the topic I've yet come across. Possibly not a book for the complete beginner, but aside from that minor caveat, I wholeheartedly recommend it for anybody about to embark on backyard timber construction, or for somebody just seeking inspiration or encouragement to take that first step.

I was hoping for more information on the shed building process from a construction perspective. The book is really a series of designs for slightly ornate garden structures. Everything from a gate to a treehouse. With the combination of pictures drawings and some explanations I was able to design

and build my own shed/ deck structure. I relied quite a bit on you tube videos for some of the structural details however.

This is a well thought out book. It is packed with information that is helpful for a beginning builder or a seasoned builder. The plans are very creative and beautiful and most importantly they are easy to follow. I am so excited to start my second project. I built a wonderful, strong deck and now will attempt a shed. I like the helpful tips and basic building instruction. This book inspires me and encourages me to build for myself.

A cool collection of projects -- some simple, some more complex. Good, clear instructions.

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