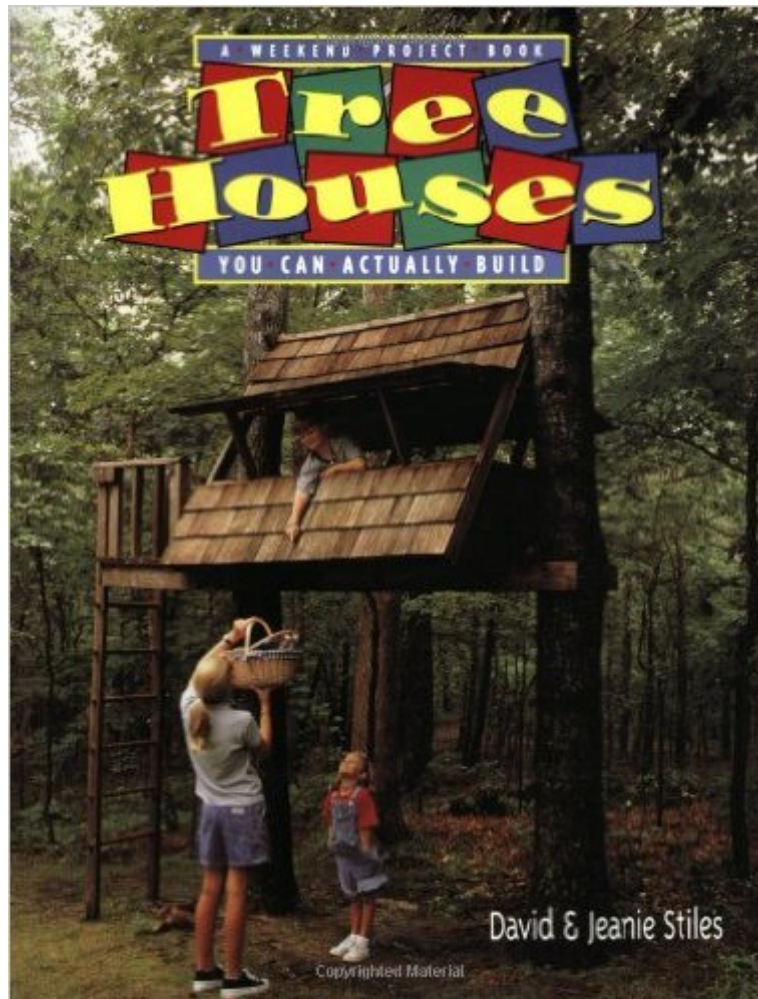


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# Tree Houses You Can Actually Build: A Weekend Project Book



## Synopsis

Tree houses capture the imagination of the child in all of us, and they have never been more popular than they are today. This inspirational yet thoroughly practical guide shows even the most inexperienced weekend carpenter how to design and build a lifetime of memories for the entire family. With more than 200,000 copies of their popular Weekend Project Books sold, David and Jeanie Stiles have become America's First Couple of do-it-yourself woodworking. In *Tree Houses You Can Actually Build*, they explain basic building procedures through clear, simple instructions and non-technical line drawings that illustrate every step of the project, from the earliest sketches to the final cedar shingle. The authors outline five basic designs that can be adapted to virtually any set of conditions, and throughout the book, they emphasize safety for both adults and children. In addition to line drawings, the book contains a section of full-color photographs highlighting a variety of tree house projects, plus helpful building tips based on interviews with their owners.

## Book Information

Series: Weekend Project Book

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (116 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #22,986 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Small Homes & Cottages](#) #5 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas](#) #13 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Carpentry](#)

## Customer Reviews

My background as a residential/light commercial builder for over 30 years has given me the opportunity to construct a few tree houses along the way. With a large tree house project coming up and more than a few years since my last project I wanted to make sure I was on top of the latest technology. This book is great! It will show you how to construct a tree house in a single tree or

using 2, 3 or 4 trees. There are several different approaches the book takes which will cover just about every project you may face. I purchased "Home Tree Home: Principles of Treehouse Construction and Other Tall Tales" hoping to find what I was looking for and although it was a fine book it cannot hold a candle to this. This book covers safety and construction issues that I never even thought about. It has good solid engineering and design. If you follow the book's advice you, and your kids, will have a great time building your tree house and will enjoy it for years to come. So if you are building your mother-in-law a place to stay while in town or just a simple platform a few feet off the ground for the kids to eat lunch on, this is the book for you.

If you keep in mind that building a tree house is not exactly rocket science, then you will see why this book is so useful. It's crammed full of practical ideas and schemes you can either follow through to complete a tree house or use as a jumping off point to make your kids their own customized getaway. You still have to be able to use power tools, measure correctly (so your tree house will not be out of square like ours), find the right materials, and have more than a few days to get the job done. Still, unless you plan to build a tree house for your permanent abode, this is the only guide you will need.

Like the 24 other reviews of this book I built a great treehouse for my kids in fall 2002. Many, many people ask me how I learned to build one and I simply show them the book. I even used an illustration to modify a one-tree tree house into a two tree treehouse that is 8 X 10 feet and 15 feet off the ground. My 8 year old daughter built a rope ladder and had a blast. I've since looked at several other treehouse books to see how this one compares - and for the price, it's well worth it.

I highly recommend this book for anyone who wants a step-by-step plan to building a basic treehouse and many fun additions on to the treehouse such as crow's nests, rope ladders, pulleys, telephones, furniture and more. The instructions are very clear and easy to follow. If you want to build a more complicated treehouse (for example a treehouse with electrical outlets or more than 2 rooms) this book most likely isn't for you. For people who just want to browse pictures of amazing treehouses around the world I suggest Peter Nelson's *Treehouses: The Art and Craft of Living out on A Limb*.

We built a fantastic treehouse this summer using many of the ideas from this book. My 8-yr old son and 6-yr old daughter learned so much from the simple illustrations. The book helped us decide on

a tree, a design, and gave us nuts & bolts instructions as well as many practical tips. We highly recommend this book!

The best book on tree houses! This is a great book for adults and children. David Stiles is the leading authority on tree houses and this beautifully illustrated book covers everything you need to know on how to build them. From conception to construction, this book will tap into your childhood dreams and set you to building the tree house that is right for you. Practical step by step instructions, and full color spreads of finished tree houses and huts. If you are even thinking about building a treehouse for your self or your kids, this is the only book you will ever need.

I used the ideas and illustrations in this book to build my daughter a treehouse in our backyard. Although I used my own design, I used many of the tips for tree connections, platform supports, and other information the Stiles provide in their book. It is evident they have a real love for their subject. Since I have a lot more trees on the property, we have plans to continue expanding the treehouse complex. I highly recommend this book for anyone looking for treehouse and accessory ideas.

I have no construction background whatsoever, but after reading this book I was able to build a very nice treehouse for my kids. My only negative observation of this book is that occasionally the artist's renderings fail to accurately show how treehouse features would be structurally implemented (ie. a roof support post coming out of the middle of the the treehouse floor, but no apparent structure under the floor to attach it to). Besides an occasional artistic oversight, I thought the book was well worth the price. Give it a try. You can do it, too.

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