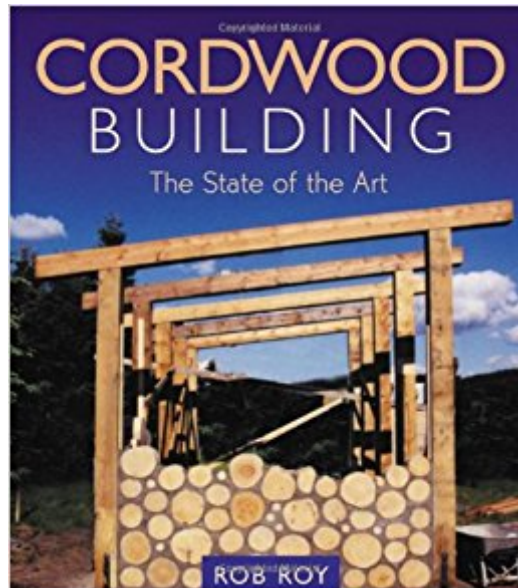




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Cordwood Building: The State Of The Art (Natural Building Series)



Synopsis

Cordwood masonry is an ancient building technique whereby walls are constructed from "log ends" laid transversely in the wall. It is easy, economical, aesthetically striking, energy-efficient, and environmentally sound. Cordwood Building collects the wisdom of more than 25 of the world's best practitioners, detailing the long history of the method, and demonstrating how to build a cordwood home using the latest and most up-to-date techniques, with a special focus on building code issues. Author/editor Rob Roy has been building, researching, and teaching about cordwood masonry for 25 years and, with his wife, started Earthwood Building School in 1981. He has written 10 books on alternative building, presented four videos including two about cordwood masonry and has taught cordwood masonry all over the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An ancient method of habitat building, cordwood masonry has experienced a renewed interest due to modern technique improvements and the positive, beneficial characteristics gained on many levels in respect to the environment, energy efficiency from its unique thermal mass, simplicity and easy access of materials needed, relative durability and the overall natural beauty. This latest book by Rob Roy is great for the person who is interested in cordwood structures and doesn't know much about the undertaking to building their own home in the same fashion. With this book you'll obtain a

general understanding of the process and requirements, which is presented with thorough and even mathematical explanations. The book is broken up into four parts dedicated to different topic concerns. The first section highlights a little history of the scientific art, including an introduction to the author, his passion and experiences in cordwood masonry, coming from some 25 years. The next section addresses the procedure of construction and touches on some important issues with technique. Also presented here are some successful solutions learned by others for polygon floor plans, optimum corner strength, using the post & beam method, cement foundations and footings (with brief notes on earthquake endurance to where it may be applicable), and incorporating bottle designs by recycling glass to bring in special touches of color and light. Other fundamental topics discussed include electrical wiring, double wall and general wall thickness, making the Lomax corner, recipes for mortar mixes, papercrete (paper enhanced mortar) and "cobwood" variations using straw, plus pointing the mortar, and patching cracks after wood and/or mortar shrinkage.

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