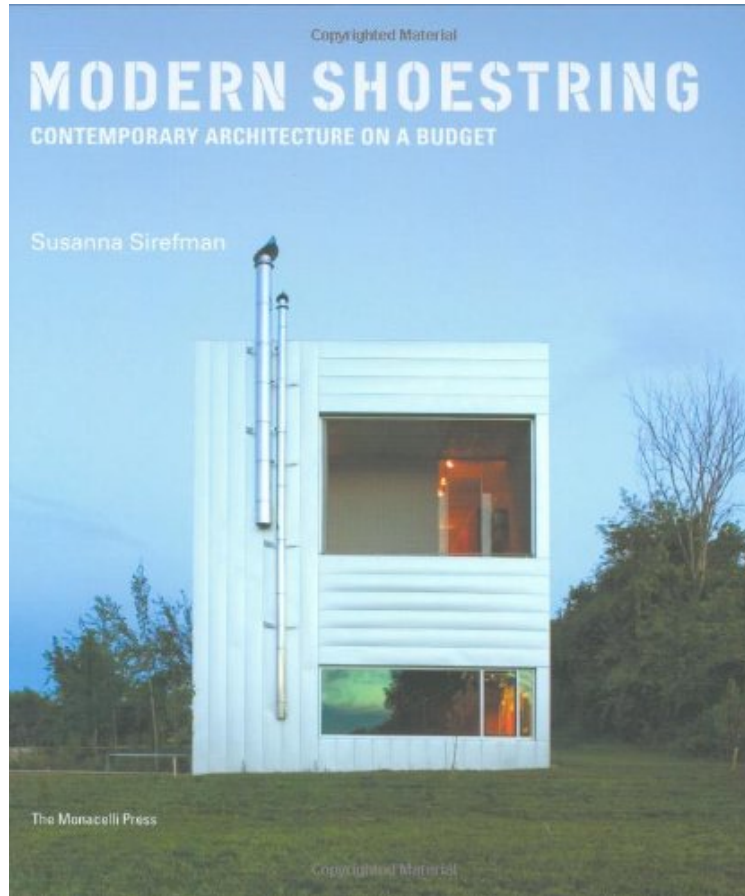


(Free read ebook) Modern Shoestring: Contemporary Architecture on a Budget

Modern Shoestring: Contemporary Architecture on a Budget

Susanna Sirefman

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Susanna Sirefman : Modern Shoestring: Contemporary Architecture on a Budget before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Modern Shoestring: Contemporary Architecture on a Budget:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Very Helpful and Fascinating Read
By carpbrainI found this book extremely helpful, since it's rare for architectural books to feature modern homes that people can afford, let alone design in such a way that is livable. The floor plans and photographs seemed especially well laid out and many of the homes offered interesting and accessible ideas for either the modern home owner or small architectural firm. I wish more books were printed that had that focus. An excellent guide.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. More fluff than stuff
By DruidArenaPictures are nice, it had small blurbs in an overarching concept for each house example. However, I was expecting more how-to and less show kinda tell.
15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. A Missed Opportunity
By Peter H. BurgeMy greatest disappointment with this book is one of a lack of value. After reading the book several times I searched for each architect online. With few exceptions, most of the information presented on each architect's Web site was repeated in the book. The photographs looked much better online - many of

them in the book were muddy in tone, much darker than online (yes, a monitor has a distinct advantage, but not to the point where this book came up short), and several of the images reproduced in the book were enlarged way past an acceptable size for their resolution. The text accompanying could have been far more descriptive of the theme of the book - how these homes were built on a budget. And, how the reader might design and spec a building themselves. Although I have never authored a book, it seems like there was little effort in compiling the information presented here. To its credit, this book does include a complete floorplan for each house. I think that the point of this book could have been accomplished by a Web site. In fact, the author should have included Web site addresses for each of the architects, and the architects could have provided additional information on what is a commodity in short supply - value-oriented design.[...]

Residential design provides a rich testing ground for architectural innovation. Intimate scales and specific programs inspire distinctive homes, and comparatively small budgets are catalysts for exploring nontraditional materials. Modern Shoestring proves that building a contemporary house can be affordable and shows how constraints actually stimulate the most creative design solutions. Eighteen residential projects are presented, with emphasis on the goals of the owners, the site, and the cost in the design process. Collections determine floor plans, observatories are built for starry rural nights, and found and industrial materials such as highway construction remnants, laboratory counters, plastic water bottles, and discarded chalkboards keep costs low while imbuing structures with character. These ingenious designs range in cost from \$50 to \$220 per square foot and represent geographical settings from Los Angeles to Anchorage to East Hampton.

About the Author Susanna Sirefman is the founder and principal of Dovetail Design Strategists LLC, a firm that matches clients with designers, architects, and landscape architects. She is the author of several books, including *New York: A Guide to Recent Architecture*, *Chicago: A Guide to Recent Architecture*, *Whereabouts: New Architecture with Local Identities*, and *The Contemporary Guesthouse: Building in the Garden*; has contributed to *Architecture*, *Architectural Record*, *Metropolis*, and *Graphis*; and is currently a contributing editor for *Surface*. Sirefman trained at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London before returning to her native New York, where she has taught at the Parsons School of Design and at the School of Architecture, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture at the City College of New York. She was recently an advisor for "Urban Voids: Grounds for Change," an international design competition for Philadelphia's vacant land sponsored by the Van Alen Institute and the City Parks Association of Philadelphia.