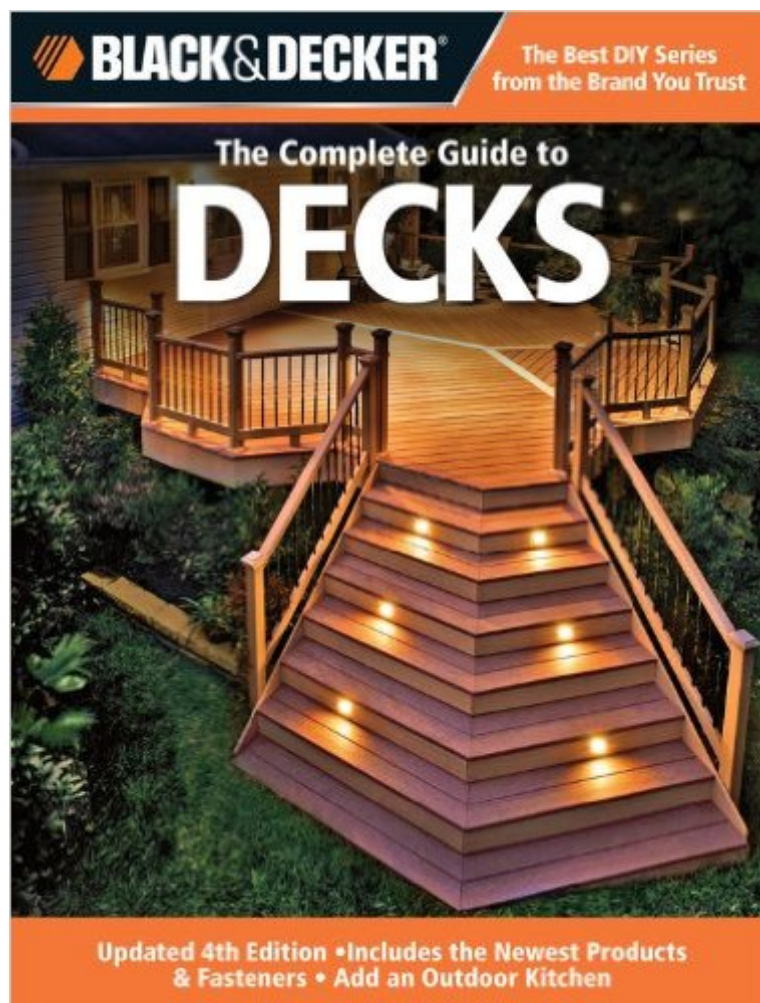


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# Black & Decker The Complete Guide To Decks: Updated 4th Edition, Includes The Newest Products & Fasteners, Add An Outdoor Kitchen (Black & Decker Complete Guide)



## Synopsis

America's best-selling deck book "better than ever" In this revised and expanded fourth edition of the all-time bestselling book on decks, homeowners learn, in unsurpassed detail, the process of designing, building, and maintaining a deck. Not only are all the classic deck-building techniques included, but the book also shows how to incorporate the latest contemporary options, such as how to work with eco-friendly wood and reclaimed plastic. Hiring a contractor to build a deck easily adds up to tens of thousands of dollars, but with the help of this book, readers can design and build the deck they want without the high price. For homeowners who already have a deck but are in the market to update or maintain that deck, The Complete Guide to Decks features important projects for repairs, upgrades, and major additions, such as adding full electrical service, lighting, and kitchen appliances. From design to construction, and tools, material, and planning, this is the only book consumers need to build the deck of their dreams.

## Book Information

Series: Black & Decker Complete Guide

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Cool Springs Press; 3rd edition (January 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 158923412X

ISBN-13: 978-1589234123

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.9 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (52 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #110,349 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Decks & Patios](#) #50 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas](#) #77 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Carpentry](#)

## Customer Reviews

First off, I'm not a builder. I'm a guy with an office job who sits behind a desk all day long. I think the last thing I built was a birdhouse in third grade and it didn't even last long enough to hang it on a tree. So, I knew building a deck was a BIG project. But, this book made it SO easy! The photos are incredible. They don't use sketches and drawings, they have actual photos. The steps are easy to

follow and the instructions are clear from the tools needed to the types of screws to use. If you're looking for a how-to guide on decks, this is the best one!

This book has nice pictures and some helpful information. However take it from someone who has purchased too many "how to build a deck" books. If you are actually going to build your deck, and if it is anything other than a basic 1 level deck out the back, if you want to do some really nice finish work, there is only one book I have found that even comes close to telling you how to do it and the tips and tricks. If you are serious save your money and buy Building a Deck: Expert Advice from Start to Finish. It is the only good book on building. You will be glad you did.

Don't build a boring deck because that is all you think a DIY can handle. With this book, anyone can add some architectural features. This book has the perfect mix of examples and how-to. The color photographs are fantastic. Black & Decker book series have definitely mastered the picture = 1,000 words.

I am in the midst of building my first deck which is in fact the first major home project of my life and this book is just perfect. At all levels, especially for beginners! I spent 2 weeks researching almost half a dozen deck building books before I bought this one and so far no complaints. Pros: 1. Step by step directions with tons of glossy magnified photos (not sketches but actual photos). 2. Complete list of materials required before each project. 3. Gradually increasing difficulty level of projects..the chapters are layed out perfectly with an individuals learning curve. 4. Comprehensive chapters on how to care and repair your deck. I can already see using the care section once my deck is built. 5. Includes everything on decks - design, posts, framing, decking, stairs, railing, hot tubs, levels, simple to complex designs. You name it and this book has it. Cons: The section on mixing and pouring concrete for posts is a bit thin. I also bought the Quikrete Concrete Guide, which I would also recommend highly by the way, and it has made up for this minor shortcoming. Overall a great book on deck building!!

This book is fabulous for anyone who wants to build a deck but doesn't know where to start. My husband and I used this book to build a deck even though we had never built anything this complex before. After looking over the detailed pictures (not drawings) and easy descriptions, we constructed a 16'x22' deck with angles. This book was a great help and I would recommend it to anyone looking to save money by doing it yourself.

Of all deck books, this is the best deck book if you want to build your own deck. It has step by step instructions and clear illustrations. I built two beautiful decks with this book. I have also built a screen porch and referenced this book often to do it. If I can do it with this book, you can do it. I would give this book 6 stars if I could.

Superb book on how to build a deck, found it very useful and could follow it easily even though this was my first attempt at building one. Would recommend it to anyone. Only problem I found was it's obviously American, so all the dimensions and wood types didn't match what I was buying in France, so a few conversions and fudging were required, but I survived in the end.

This book provides the beginner or experienced handy-person with the fundamentals they will need to design and build a safe and enjoyable structure. There are also lots of good ideas for those who want to be a bit more creative. Good photos and step by step instructions.

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