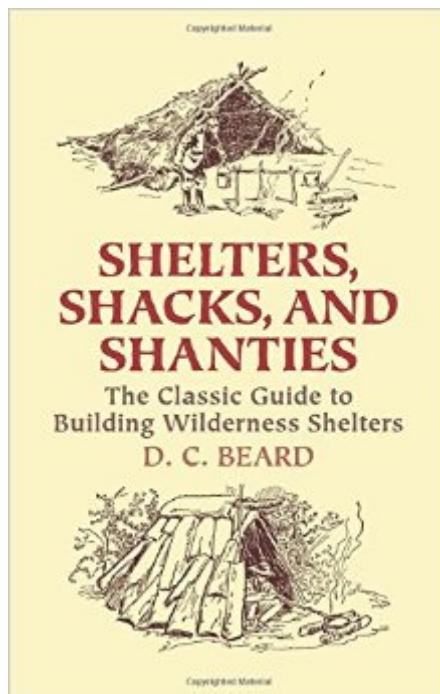


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# **Shelters, Shacks, And Shanties: The Classic Guide To Building Wilderness Shelters (Dover Books On Architecture)**



## **Synopsis**

This excellent hands-on guide by one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America contains a wealth of practical instruction and advice on how to build everything from a bark teepee and a tree-top house to a log cabin and a sod house. No professional architects are needed here; and knowing how to use an axe is more important than possessing carpentry skills. More than 300 of the author's own illustrations and a clear, easy-to-follow text enable campers to create such lodgings as half-cave shelters, beaver mat huts, birch bark shacks, over-water camps, a Navajo hogan, and a pole house. Additional chapters provide information on how to use an axe, split and notch logs, make a fireplace, and even build appropriate gateways to log houses, game preserves, ranches, and other open areas. An invaluable book for scouts, campers, hikers, and hunters of all ages, this guide and its fascinating collection of outdoor lore "still has intrinsic value," said Whole Earth Magazine, and will be of keen interest to any modern homesteader.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

My 13-year-old boy scout asked for this book. After reading bits and pieces for a week or so, he enlisted his brother and some neighborhood boys to go build some "shelters" in the woods down the street. They kept talking about the shelter and I figured it was typical exaggeration. A few of us adults walked down one day to see the shelter -- WOW! It was impressive -- and it stood up to the recent ice storms that left people without power for weeks. All built with branches and saplings in the

woods. The book inspired them. It's old school and not politically correct, which makes me like it that much more. Some of the words in there have led to interesting discussions at our house about how words have evolved and how views and attitudes have evolved over the past century.

It is hard to believe that a book published almost 100 years ago is still very relevant and practically useful today. It is very very dense yet still very readable. Throughout the book, multiple figures are arranged to tightly fit into one page. I do not know if this book represents the writing style of 100 years ago. I think a modern author would quadruple the size of the book. I am an avid outdoor person and I wanted to obtain some knowledge about different outdoor shelters that I see all the time and I received this book as a gift. It offers much more information than I originally anticipated. I am amazed by what shelters can be built with some simple tools. The author, one of the founders of Boy Scouts of America, actually lived in a log house built by himself. I suspect most of the content is from the author's own experience in building various kinds of architecture from simple shelters to fairly sophisticated houses. Modern lightweight tents may be the primary temporary outdoor shelters nowadays, but wood shelters are still loved by hikers, campers. This book is invaluable for educating kids to gain some basic carpentry and outdoor knowledge, nurture their sense of independence and responsibility and offer them the tremendous joy of staying in what built by themselves.

This is a great book! Dan Beard, one of the principal founders of the BSA, herein illustrates several easy to build wilderness structures in an easy to read, sometimes humorous style. From lean-to's, shacks, log cabins, even tree houses; there's a wealth of practical information for any outdoorsman within these pages. I'm very pleased to see this book still available. If you've any interest in the outdoors at all you will not be displeased by an investment in this wonderful book.

As a former Boy Scout, and former Marine, who has spent more time outdoors, both professionally and personally; I can easily say that if you have this one single book, an axe, a file to keep it sharp with, and a shovel; you will NEVER worry about being caught 'off-guard' again. This book gives dozens of working, strong structures that you can actually build, that WORK, with the information taken from over 100-years of pioneer knowledge. Hogans, cabins, lean-tos, Teepees, shacks, even in-ground hogans and swamp stilt houses. It's all in here, with excellent drawings of how to construct them. Not only is it fun to read the 'old ways', but this is good information that really works. Get this, read it a few times, put it in a ziplock bag, and throw it in your backpack or survival

gear cache with the appropriate gear. You won't regret it, and you won't need a dozen more similar books to fill the gap - this one doesn't have gaps. Can't recommend it enough. SOLID 5-stars.

Like all the other 1 star reviews who got this book after 2010, I received a cheap rip-off computer print out. Every paragraph says to refer to (Fig. x) but there is not a single picture in the book. Yet now where in the description does it say this is a computer printed out copy. I mean the I can handle the cheap computer printed pages, but the lack of photos makes building very difficult.

An interesting collection of plans to build everything from emergency shelters to a log home without using purchased building materials. Contains much information on building authentic log structures of numerous designs. Plans for building authentic doors and latches, windows, and furnishing for "rustic" homes are also included. A chapter is included for those of us who have always wanted a log home but can't get the spouse to agree--a rustic log room or den "hidden" inside a modern home. I had a copy of the original for years before losing it in a fire and look very forward to replacing it. Thanks .com

I am into bushcraft, survival, primitive skills. This book is an excellent part of my various books on the subjects. It starts with simple style debris shelters, A frame shelters, platform shelters for building in swamps and soft ground areas. It goes on to list larger wood tents, log cabins, proper use of axe, thatching for larger shelters. A very good laid out book that is both detailed and understandable and more in depth on shelters than any others I've seen on the subject.

The copy I received was a poor recreation of the original that included ZERO of the important diagrams and pictures. The book is full of references to illustrations and there are none. It was recreated with the use of OCR and not very well. It is full of unintelligible typos. And, the worst part is, the Look Inside feature on this page was showing a very different copy of this book. The one shown on the page is the original, and has the actual images included. I'm returning this now and buying the proper book.

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