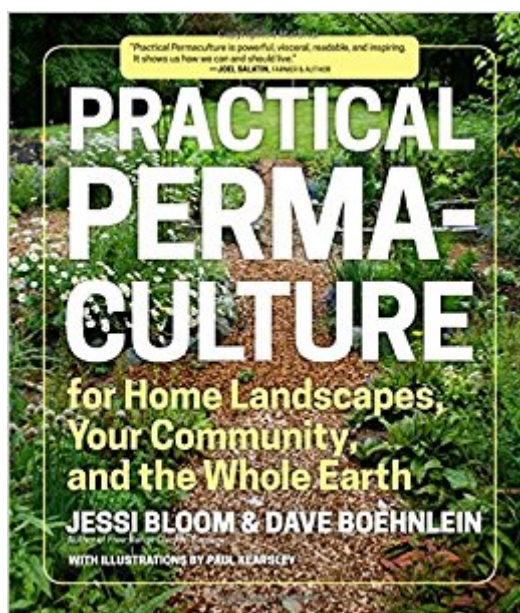


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# Practical Permaculture: For Home Landscapes, Your Community, And The Whole Earth



## Synopsis

“Practical Permaculture is powerful, visceral, readable, and inspiring. It shows us how we can and should live.”

• Joel Salatin, farmer and author Jessi Bloom and Dave Boehnlein, two dynamic leaders in the permaculture community, offer authoritative, in-depth, hands-on advice that shares a holistic approach to sustainable living. Permaculture is a growing trend, but still a daunting concept to many. New to permaculture principles and techniques? The guesswork will be eliminated by paging through this invaluable resource. Already an expert? This guide will surely make an important addition to your sustainable agriculture reference shelf.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“With astonishing thoroughness and admirable dedication, Bloom and Boehnlein meticulously outline every aspect of permaculture, providing inspiring examples and impeccable advice for analysis, design, implementation, and plant selection.”

• Booklist

“Gardeners will relish the pragmatic text and illustrations in this handbook from two of permaculture’s well-known leaders, Bloom (Free Range Chicken Gardens) and Boehnlein (education director, Bullock’s Permaculture Homestead, WA).”

• Library Journal

“Fills a niche for readers who want to integrate this down-to-earth but too-often-mystifying nature-inspired design system into their lives.”

• Publishers Weekly

“Practical Permaculture says it all right there in the title. The photos and diagrams are gorgeous and relevant. The text is easy to read, and the authors are seasoned in their

craft. It is the clearest and most practical Permaculture book I have yet seen for helping the aspiring Permies. [PermacultureRising.com](http://PermacultureRising.com) "If anyone can make permaculture intelligible and appealing to home gardeners, it's award winning ecological landscape designer Jessi Bloom and Dave Boehnlein. . . . if you're interested in achieving closed-loop sustainability while keeping garden aesthetics in mind, Practical Permaculture can serve as a detailed roadmap." [Garden Design](#) "In Practical Permaculture Northwest authors Jessi Bloom and Dave Boehnlein take this 1970's term into today with real-life examples of people growing food, harvesting rain, and bringing their homes and gardens into symbiosis with the surrounding natural resources." [Sunset](#) "Clearly written and laid out. . . . This is a permaculture primer that is fresh and vibrant. Bring it on!" [Permaculture Magazine](#) "This comprehensive resource will help you make the shifts you're ready for this year, and for a decade." [The Denver Post](#) "Farmers who have heard the term, "permaculture" and are curious as to just what it means, will benefit from reading Practical Permaculture. Bloom and Boehnlein offer vivid ways to diversify the number of crops growing in a given area." [Acres USA](#)

The idea behind permaculture is simple: take care of the earth, and the earth will take care of you. In clear, logical steps, Practical Permaculture offers the tools you need to live a life rich in healthy food, safe housing, and renewable resources. This hardworking book covers the basic principles of permaculture, showing the entire design process from land assessment to the completed master plan, with detailed information on the plants, water, waste, energy, shelter, food, animals, and structures that make up the garden. Filled with real-life examples from all over the world, this invaluable resource will help you turn your property into a sustainable ecosystem.

Permaculture is a fascinating agricultural practice that seeks to recreate the effortless efficiency and balance of natural ecosystems with human-designed systems aimed at food production. The texts in this growing genre tend to fall into two broad categories: well-intentioned but slightly loopy tomes that are equal parts landscape planning and New Age philosophy, or technical manuals that often suggest the need for a great deal of land contouring and environmental engineering in order to build your utopian homestead. Practical Permaculture strikes an excellent balance between the two by clearly introducing basic concepts and providing excellent examples but not suggesting a multitude of projects that are beyond the reach of the average gardener or homeowner. Beautifully laid out

and illustrated, it makes permaculture accessible to the average person who merely wants to lessen their impact on the natural world and experience the excitement of creating a beautifully diverse polyculture rather than a sterile suburban lawn. If you have any interest in permaculture this book is a great place to start and, if we're lucky, change the world one plant guild at a time. (Read it and you'll understand the reference.)

The book is really thoughtful, practical, and excellently produced and written. It starts with a brief introduction to permaculture that builds on historical origins but avoids being a repeat of Mollison's visionary work. Practical Permaculture gives very clear examples, bases information on science, and modernizes concepts appropriately for 2015. The framework of the book is a step by step, well thought-out process to designing a site using permaculture principles. "Designing a site" is one of the most important permaculture activities - the book helps you learn the important characteristics of your farm/backyard/community garden, deciding your goals, and placing elements such as plants, orchards, households, coops, ponds etc so they can reinforce each other following the dynamics of nature. It teaches the use of design tools such as sectors, zones, edges, and patterns in non-nonsense, approachable style. By following this book you'll have learned a lot and taken many of the important first steps in setting up a sustainable and enjoyable system. While many other other general permaculture books may be a repeat of Mollison's "Designer's Manual", the authors here provide genuine value and insight into the process of design, considering modern tools and options, and focusing on the actionable and pragmatic aspects of implementing a permaculture project. They also bring experience applying permaculture in colder climates and can put forth relevant species and examples of techniques to the table. The quality of the book is very high - materials, design, layout, illustrations are great. Having read many (most) of available books on the topic, and as a holder of a Permaculture Design Certificate I find myself recommending and gifting this book again and again for those who are new to Permaculture, and to those that are more aware of Permaculture generally but ask "so... how do I start"? This has been a great addition to my library - even though it ends up open on my desk most of the time. I hope the authors consider embarking on additional writing projects.

I purchase a wide variety of permaculture books so as a seasoned reader it goes over stuff that I already know. I appreciate pictures of permaculture gardens since I already practice permaculture and love Jessi Blooms pics of her yard. Washington is a very lush area and I live in southern California where it is much drier. I still very much love seeing permaculture across all regions and

seeing actual photographs of how to make a food forest still be practical for the family. The yard should be inviting and actually beckoning. I think this is what I look for in these books -- food, functionality, beauty, enchantment. Very good book. I recommend it.

Very well written and illustrated. Great as a go to book and reference for those already involved in Permaculture, but written in a way that a person new to Permaculture will be able to grasp the concepts easily. I recommend it to anyone looking to put Permaculture design into practice for their own home or as a professional designer.

This is my favorite book purchase; it is a nice hefty volume, the paper is stocky and smooth. This is also wonderfully packed with all the essential content for planning for, designing and building a premaculture homestead. Jessi has such a passion for permaculture and her knowledge and experience are presented in a very practicable way, instructive and intuitive for both a newcomer to the movement and for those who are already practiced in permaculture design and application.

This book was full of information that changed how I look at my little half acer lot. I have started the changes to help my life and my family become more self sustaining and self reliant. I love this book! Thanks Jessi and David.

Great book that expresses permaculture principles very easily. Has unique ways of demonstrating key concepts. Highly recommend this book.

This is an excellent resource for anyone interested in creating a permaculture environment. The draw-back is the amount of learning for a complete novice (it would be a useful textbook).

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