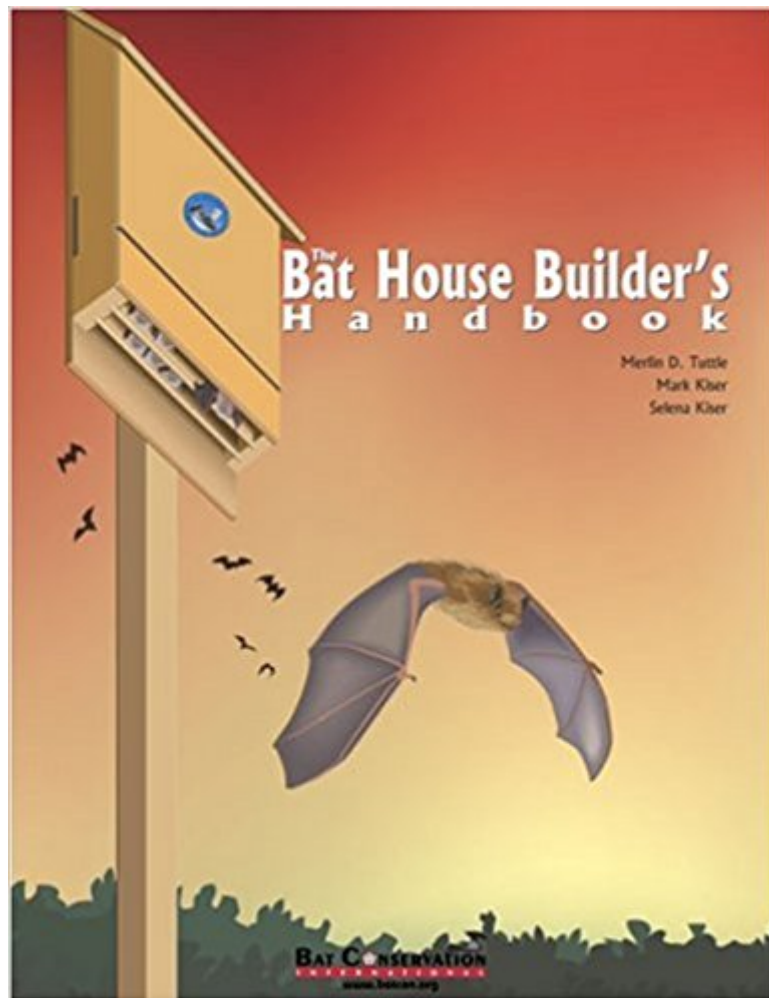




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The Bat House Builder's Handbook, Completely Revised And Updated



Synopsis

Since 1994, The Bat House Builder's Handbook has been the definitive source for bat house information. This new edition has been completely revised to incorporate the latest research on improving the success rates for bat houses. It updates the original bat house plans and includes a new "rocket box" design, along with mounting suggestions, tips for experimentation, frequently asked bat house questions, and information about bats most likely to use bat houses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

MERLIN D. TUTTLE, an internationally recognized authority who has devoted his life to studying bats and to educating the public about them, is President and Founder of Bat Conservation International in Austin, Texas.

I live in the South, in the country and near a water source. That equates to a mosquito population that just don't suit me at all. The only creature I know of that really enjoys a good mosquito dinner is the bat. So, bats are my friends. I wanted to attract more bats (no caves that I know of in the area) so I decided to build a few bat houses (the ones I found for sale are pricy). I used the pattern in this book to build four bat houses. Three attracted bats the first year, the fourth one will soon be moved closer to the others. This book provides a simple pattern for a simple bat house. The book I think is a bit overpriced and limited in the patterns (but I admit this pattern apparently works). Price is why it dropped a star. A simple paperback book on bat houses.

Such a useful book, for those of us who value these incredibly beneficial critters! (obviously, I'm one). The author carefully explicated their value to us; some may consider that just another anthropomorphic reasoning when an ancient species should be let be anyway 'on its own,' not needing a justification to let it be. But with the long-lived negative attitude toward bats in the mind of many peoples, it's important that we see how much they aid our own well-being. The empirical testing of house design, painting/staining, and placement particularly impressed me. The basic designs of bat houses and nurseries are easy to realize, and there are fancier designs if one is more ambitious and skilled. I'm already forming, with several friends, a bat house building group to sell them to interested persons basically at cost. As average temperatures continue to rise in North America--as it seems they must, sadly--we are concerned that the plague decimating bat populations in the eastern states spread to the West. And as mosquito populations rise with warmer winters and spread epidemic encephalitis (West Nile, St Louis, others) to humans, it's high time we supported beautiful insectivores and natural pollinators, our native bat species!

This books covers why, and where, and how to build a bat house. The building process is clear - with photos, drawings, materials lists, recommended tools & step-by-step instructions - this little book is a more complete building guide than most of the more expensive "how to" construction books I've purchased for other farm buildings and outdoor furnishings. The small cost of this book makes it an excellent investment on why you'll want to, and how to attract & house bats (one of the organic farmer's best friends) on your property. As for the criticism of lack of color pictures, or "only" being 35 pages - yes, both are true, and both irrelevant. It's not some fancy coffee-table book, and in 35 pages it covers the subject completely without a lot of "fluff". Also, that's 35 8.5"x11" pages, which is equivalent to 140 "softcover" (the size of an average paperback romance novel) book pages. It's the only book you'll need on this subject.

A very detailed book on bats and building a bat house. It contains a lot of good information. Including a detailed design for a bat house. Debunks many of the folk tails about bats. (Bats will get tangled in your hair - UNTRUE, they are going after the bugs attracted to your face/hair).

This book is much thinner than I expected. There are several good plans for bat houses and several variations one can make to those plans. There is also recommended variations for various bat types. In addition there is a fine history on the making of bat houses and bat conservation. My only

complaint about this book is that the plans are a bit complicated. I like lego style plans, where each page has a simple set of instructions that is advanced by the next page. Each of the plans in the book is 1-2 pages. This is great for people who are used to carpentry plans for the average person like me it means a little more thinking.

Pros
Detailed plans, with variations
Good history of bat conservation
Cons
Plans fairly complicated
Book very thin for the money

This book is an excellent resource for anyone who lives in a rural area and has a garden pest problem that you don't want to solve with chemicals. It's a small book, just 34 pages, but loaded with information. The last 2 pages describe the 14 types of bats in America that will take up residence in a bat house. The photos are black and white, but all show the head and face of each species and a description of their typical locations and habitat in the US. This is a Bat Conservation International publication, and is therefore an extremely comprehensive handbook that covers every bat topic imaginable. The plans for the various bat houses are concise and well illustrated. These are all scientifically tested designs, and assure a successful result. Because bats feed on thousands of insects during the night hours, farmers are putting up hundreds of bat houses in their fields to reduce crop infestation. While I don't have a farm, I live close to several farms, and my poor garden is always infested. I am going to talk to my neighbors about putting bat houses in their fields. I can see that this might be a nice little side business for me. I'm very happy with this book.

Like the book and I have a bat house now, just waiting for them to move in.

very informative and educational book about a variety of bats. includes feeding habits- environmental effects- habitat preferences- history of the animal- in addition to multiple building instructions of various sized bat houses. it goes on to full explain how to mount and place your bat house including coloration and coating depending on seasons and geographic locations! even troubleshoots placement and temperature to most effectively house these furry little creatures .

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