



Book Information

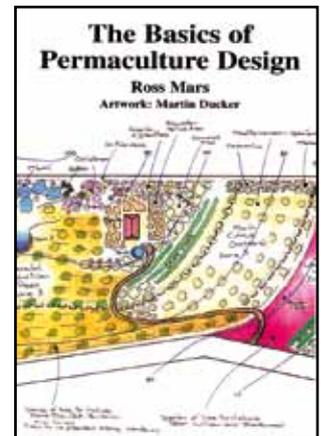
The Basics of Permaculture Design

By Ross Mars

Permaculture is an approach to sustainable living that is spreading throughout the world. Using nature as a model, permaculture is primarily a design system. Its principles can enable us to provide for our needs for food, water, shelter, energy and community in ways that are healthy for both people and the environment.

The Basics of Permaculture Design, first published in Australia in 1996, is an excellent introduction to the principles of permaculture, including design processes and the tools needed for developing sustainable gardens, farms, and larger communities.

Packed with useful tips, clear illustrations and a wealth of experience, *The Basics of Permaculture Design* guides you through designs for gardens, urban and rural properties; water harvesting systems; animal systems; permaculture in small spaces like balconies and patios; and farms, schools and ecovillages. There is even a chapter about appropriate technology, covering photovoltaic; wind and hydro-power; pumping water; and cooking devices such as hayboxes and solar food dryers. This is a both a DIY guide for the enthusiast and a useful reference for permaculture designers.



Published: 2nd edition 2003
(first published 1996)

ISBN: 978-1-85623-023-6

170 mm x 240 mm

Illustrations: 225 line drawings

Paper back

175 pp

£14.95

File:

Environment

Gardening

Permaculture

The Publisher:

Permanent Publications
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Development category (2008)

PUBLISHERS

Permanent Publications
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Email: info@permaculture.co.uk
Web: www.permanentpublications.co.uk
Magazine: www.permanentpublications.co.uk

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What people are saying about THE BASICS OF PERMACULTURE DESIGN

A clear, readable guide and a useful tool for effective action.

David Holmgren

In this book, Mars uses his personal experience to provide useful and practical examples of permaculture design principles and solutions. He covers all the basics including general design principles, steps in the design process, basic tools for the designer, maximising the edge, basic principles of garden building and management, location, house design, water harvesting and designs for urban settlement, rural properties, schools and communities. This book would be useful for anyone interested in learning about permaculture in an easy to read style, with many examples and illustrations provided.

<http://www.greenharvest.com>

Permaculture has developed a reputation for being a type of agriculture. This is a beautifully crafted book for moving you away from that narrow description.

Many of the principles of permaculture are covered in enough depth to encourage you to take the next step i.e. to try it for yourself. My expectations are also that you would come back to this book more than most in times of permaculture crisis in your project.

Len Marlow, Renewable energy engineer Shropshire UK

Great one stop shop for a broad overview of Permaculture. This was the ideal introduction I needed to talk some what intelligently about the back-in-vogue topic of permaculture. The book is written very well as a quick reference guide particularly considering the breadth of the subject matter.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



Ross Mars is a well-known Western Australian educator, writer and course and workshop presenter. He completed a PhD in Environmental Science at Murdoch University in 2001. His research centred on the use of native wetland plants to strip nutrients from domestic greywater. Ross also has qualifications in permaculture, having achieved the first Diploma in Permaculture issued in Western Australia. He has also been awarded his Diploma of Permaculture Design, in six categories, including Site Design, Education, Media and Communications, and Administration, from permaculture founder, Bill Mollison and the Permaculture Institute. He has taught a large number of permaculture-related courses and workshops, including several Advanced courses in both Permaculture Design and Teaching.