

Earthbag House Plans

Small, affordable, sustainable earthbag house plans

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Introduction

The purpose of this non-commercial site is to network with those who are interested in earthbag building and spark a dialogue about earthbag house designs. This innovative building method is exploding in popularity and there is enormous potential to provide affordable homes for all of humanity, all without damaging our environment.

This site is about unique small house plans, small home plans, floor plans, custom plans, architecture, small house designs, building green eco-friendly homes, sustainable building, blueprints for affordable homes — all built with earthbags. All styles are included: country, cottage, bungalow, traditional, modern (contemporary), mountain, beach, cabins and other popular styles. Emergency shelter plans are free. For those not familiar with earthbag construction, please check out my companion sites [EarthbagBuilding.com \(http://www.earthbagbuilding.com\)](http://www.earthbagbuilding.com) and [Earthbag Building Blog \(http://earthbagbuilding.wordpress.com\)](http://earthbagbuilding.wordpress.com).

So here is what I am thinking. House plans can often be improved with fresh perspectives, so instead of investing hundreds of hours in creating polished looking plans that may have weaknesses, I am posting these conceptual drawings to gather reader comments and then take the designs to the next level. Yes, it's a somewhat unusual approach... but so is earthbag building. The ultimate goal is to develop finished plans of these small, affordable and sustainable houses and make them available in the near future.

If you'd like to jump right in and start browsing house plans, click on Categories in the menu on the right.

Here's a brief overview of my designs. A typical 300-800 sq.ft. house made of natural building materials could be built by a DIY builder for about \$3,000-\$10,000 (about \$10/sq.ft.) and have the following features:

- gravel-filled bags on a rubble trench foundation (with insulating fill material such as perlite or scoria in cold climates)
- earthbag walls filled with soil or insulation, such as perlite, volcanic rock or rice hulls
- earth-berming for improved energy performance
- earth, stone or recycled brick floors
- earth or lime plaster
- affordable roof options such as domes, spiral (reciprocal) roofs, green roofs, poles, pallet trusses, metal roofing for collecting rainwater, thatch, etc.
- R-45 roof insulation (cellulose, wool, cotton, rice hulls...)