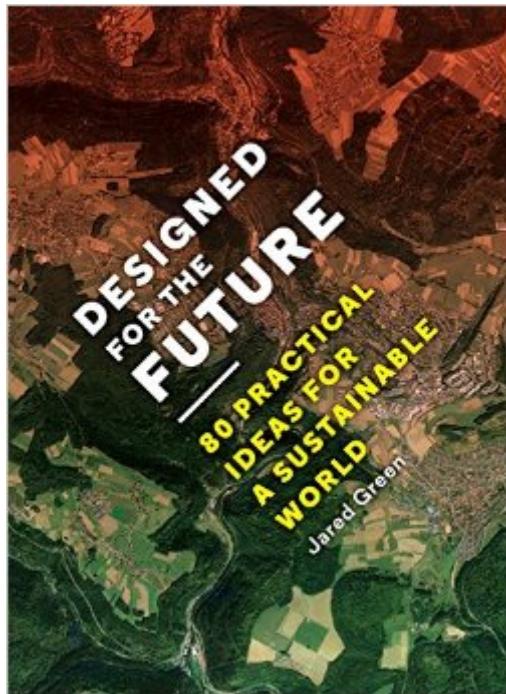


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Designed For The Future: 80 Practical Ideas For A Sustainable World



Synopsis

In *Designed for the Future*, author Jared Green asks eighty of today's most innovative architects, urban planners, landscape architects, journalists, artists, and environmental leaders the same question: what gives you the hope that a sustainable future is possible? Their imaginative answers—covering everything from the cooling strategies employed at Cambodia's ancient temple city of Angkor Wat to the use of cutting-edge eco-friendly mushroom board as a replacement for Styrofoam—show the way to our future success on earth and begin a much-needed dialogue about what we can realistically accomplish in the decades ahead. Featuring an international roster of leading design thinkers including: Biomimicry pioneer Janine Benyus; Curator Barry Bergdoll; Educator and author Alan Berger; Environmentalist and author Lester Brown; Architect Rick Cook; Urban Planner Paul Farmer; Critic Christopher Hume; Architect Bjarke Ingels; Landscape designer Mia Lehrer; Architect Rob Rogers; Critic Inga Saffron; Artist Janet Echelman; Environmentalist Jemma Green

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Customer Reviews

I found *Designed for the Future* an interesting and informative introduction to a topic I'd never considered before. What do you get if you pick the brains of 80 recognized leaders in diverse fields who share a commitment to building a better future? If you're Jared Green you get a fascinating look at a sustainable tomorrow built on knowledge we already have. Whether it's a decentralized system for sustainable water management developed five centuries ago by the Moors of North Africa that's still in use today in New Mexico, lessons we've learned studying termite mounds, or the potential

that exists in the integration of cutting edge solar technology in our roadways, the ideas Green's contributors provide are imaginative and, no doubt, will prove thought provoking for the casual reader as well as scholars, their students, and practitioners.

So many books about the future of our planet have been written, but this one is less daunting. A collection of positive and enlightening ideas that show it is possible to save ourselves from ecological destruction. Each interview opens a conversation and sets the reader to thinking beyond the page. I would like to see this set in motion a series of symposiums for young and old spawned from some of the ideas which would carry the messages to a wider audience. The Ducha Halo - a simple and brilliant idea! Other ideas that stood out for me: El Porvenir - a social kindergarten that becomes a community center at night; Coalitions - Henk Ovink; City repair - the downside of building on a grid; Green infrastructure leverages elements already found in nature and harnesses them to help us adapt to changing conditions. Bring design thinking into policy initiatives. Empty city lots. A new infrastructure that can be repurposed as a network. Preserve culture and traditions. Vernacular architecture - thoughtful.

I have to admit that I am not much of a reader.... but very glad a friend of mine encouraged me to read this! Such a thoughtful and carefully compiled collection of fascinating projects. A great book for reading while taking the train or bus to/from work since every project is so different yet relatable to one another it's easy to put down and pick right back up. Very impressed with the caliber of artists and professionals interviewed - to get landscape architecture rock stars like Mia Lehrer and Kongjian Yu (to really only name a couple) to give their time to help bring this inspiring message to the public is a treat and you get the sense that they were comfortable with the author to really provide a true and personal insight. Recommended this to my mom's garden book club and recommend to anyone who is looking to escape into a book that promotes a positive and hopeful future...because it's nice to escape to the positive from all of the negative this world can offer sometimes. - Melissa S.

This book is truly a book of ideas. For those of us frustrated and depressed about the state of our planet, it is a book of hope and inspiration. The book compiles a series of case studies, each just a few paragraphs long, that gives a glimpse into a real world place that illustrated innovation in sustainable design. Because each story is short, concise, and written in a way that is easy to understand, it is an easy, fast read and a great way to familiarize yourself with sustainable projects.

from around the globe. It's not a book for in-depth, nitty gritty details, but one of big picture, simple ideas. A great read for both the lay reader and design professionals.

This book answers a real need, especially for those who teach sustainable design. This comprehensive collection of concise essays covers a range of issues and scales from urban dwelling, to energy generation and consumption and its environmental impacts, to what people should expect from technology, to our relationship with Nature (as it is currently defined). All essays, as Green promised, are jargon-free and offer practical ideas that work illustrated by built projects in operation. For students, each idea introduces a broad topic with enough information to support a reasonable class discussion, which hopefully triggers further investigation. The effectiveness of Green's editorial approach is demonstrated by the choice of authors, who usually have one thing in common. Their brief biographies often include the word "and" because many teach and practice. This alone gives me hope as it reflects the hard work in progress to improve design education and to build a more sustainable world. This book is extremely useful for anyone concerned about a more sustainable future and what projects are engaged in this pursuit.

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