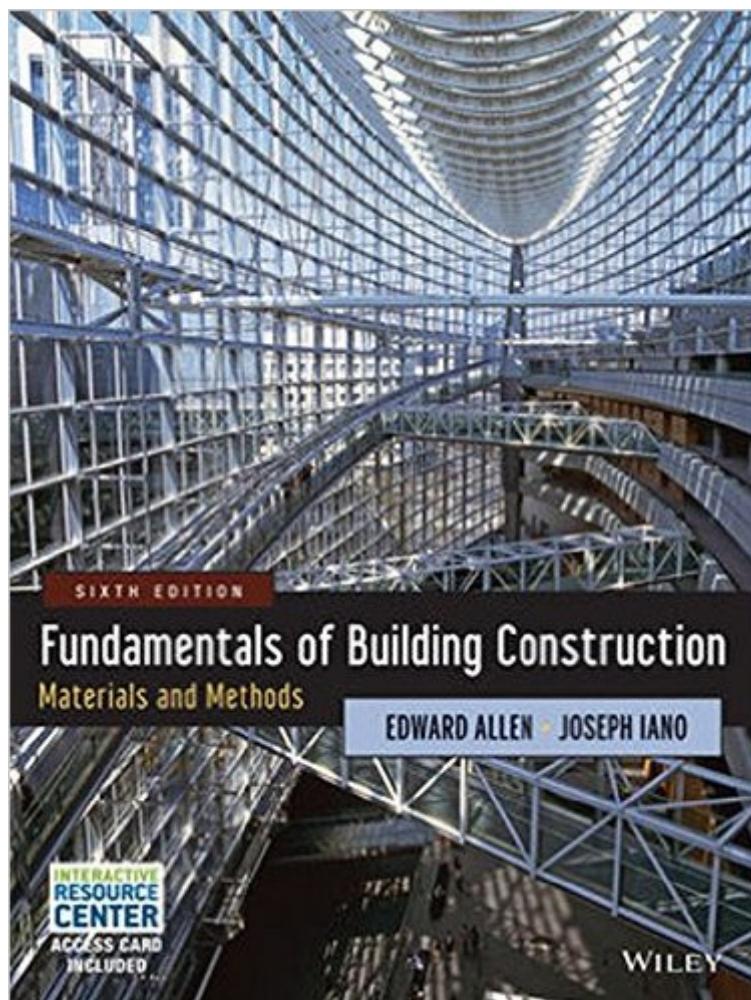


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Fundamentals Of Building Construction: Materials And Methods



Synopsis

Note from the publisher: Now in its sixth edition, this bestselling reference focuses on the basic materials and methods used in building construction. Emphasizing common construction systems such as light wood frame, masonry bearing wall, steel frame, and reinforced concrete construction, the new edition includes new information on building materials properties; the latest on "pre-engineered" building components and sustainability issues; and reflects the latest building codes and standards. It also features an expanded series of case studies along with more axonometric detail drawings and revised photographs for a thoroughly illustrated approach. ^

Book Information

Hardcover: 1024 pages

Publisher: Wiley; 6 edition (October 14, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1118138910

ISBN-13: 978-1118138915

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 1.4 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars^ ^ See all reviews^ (49 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

The 6th edition of Fundamentals of Building Construction is the absolute best yet. This is a classic text for students and budding professionals, whether your specialty is interior design, construction or architecture. Though it is intended to be a classroom textbook, you can read it independently (and I recommend you do even if you don't have to read it for school). The updated text includes new renderings and photographs, which is both useful and nice. It is also updated to include information about construction innovations, sustainable building, the latest building codes and technical notes. Included with each new book is the interactive resource center access code, which includes super handy resources and additional information. The book itself is chopped into 24 manageable chapters which begin with the foundations of building and building foundations. It then moves through wood construction, masonry, steel concrete and into roofing, glass, cladding and finishes with interiors.

Every now and then the text is sprinkled with "From Concept to Reality" sections which, as the name implies, show you a real example of the technique being studied. This is super for me, because I learn better when I can fit the information I am learning into a real world example. The book also has ample illustrations, renderings and pictures to help cement the information. Written by experts and meticulously detailed, this is a must have in the library of any student or professional who wants a handy reference or to learn more about the world of construction.

This book is intended as a technical aid, but while it points to construction types and what they are for, it does little to give actual data or pointers on how these types can be leveraged in design. Instead of clean line drawings, we have renderings and photos which, while descriptive in different ways, are not particularly helpful in figuring out how to draw these things.

This book doesn't pull any punches, covering all aspects of construction, from building sites to foundations to wood types to fasteners to framing, siding, windows, doors, concrete, masonry, glass, glazing, roof types, roofing and on and on and on. The authors aren't just touching on these subjects, but delving deeply into each one. For example, with regard to roofing, they discuss roofing underlayment, eaves, rakes, roof drainage, overhangs, area dividers, low-slope roofs, steep roofs, cool roofs, roofing codes, etc. But they don't just talk, they provide detailed cutaway views with dimensions, descriptions of what everything shown is and what it does. If you're an architect, structural engineer, construction manager, builder or anyone technically curious enough to learn the details of construction materials and methods, then an investment in your own copy of this book would certainly be worthwhile. The book, by the way, also comes with an access code to the John Wiley and Sons Interactive Resource Center, but it's only good for 540 days (after which, I believe, you would have to pay for continued access), it's for student rather than professional access (not sure of the distinction), and the tools don't really offer much that the book itself doesn't. The code gives you access to images, animations, flash cards, renderings, self-tests and a glossary. As I said, nothing special there. The book's all you really need for your money.

A great book and resource for all kinds of materials information but sometimes things need a bit more clarity; a word is introduced in the text without an explanation and it may not be in the glossary.

The good thing about books of this nature, is that you are able to focus your attention on a variety of

subjects, whether or not you are in a class that requires it. I picked this book in order to get a broad overview of Construction and I was not disappointed. As this is a textbook, it covers everything you might be looking for, or at least On the surface.

This book appears to be written for educational purposes, but is a great reference for any construction professional. It contains detailed descriptions of many construction processes, and there are plenty of pictures that help to clarify important details.

Great book with tons of good information for construction engineers and any one who want to learn more about construction materials

First, in response to a negative review for this book: yes, the images are black and white, and no this doesn't matter. The images are clear and color wouldn't convey any information you need, so this is a non-issue. As for the paper quality, it definitely does leave something to be desired. The pages are thin and crease very easily, but I haven't noticed any smudging of ink, so perhaps this is a non-issue as well, but if you use the book a lot you will definitely chalk up the wear. Now for the contents - this book covers all the bases of materials and their applications from the site to the finishings. I don't know any other book this comprehensive. Given the breadth and depth of information, it makes sense that the publisher would choose a lighter paper to publish on, as the size and cost could otherwise be even more prohibitive than it already is. In all I think this is a nice book that will wear out quickly. But those who need information on building materials will be hard-pressed to find a better alternative.

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