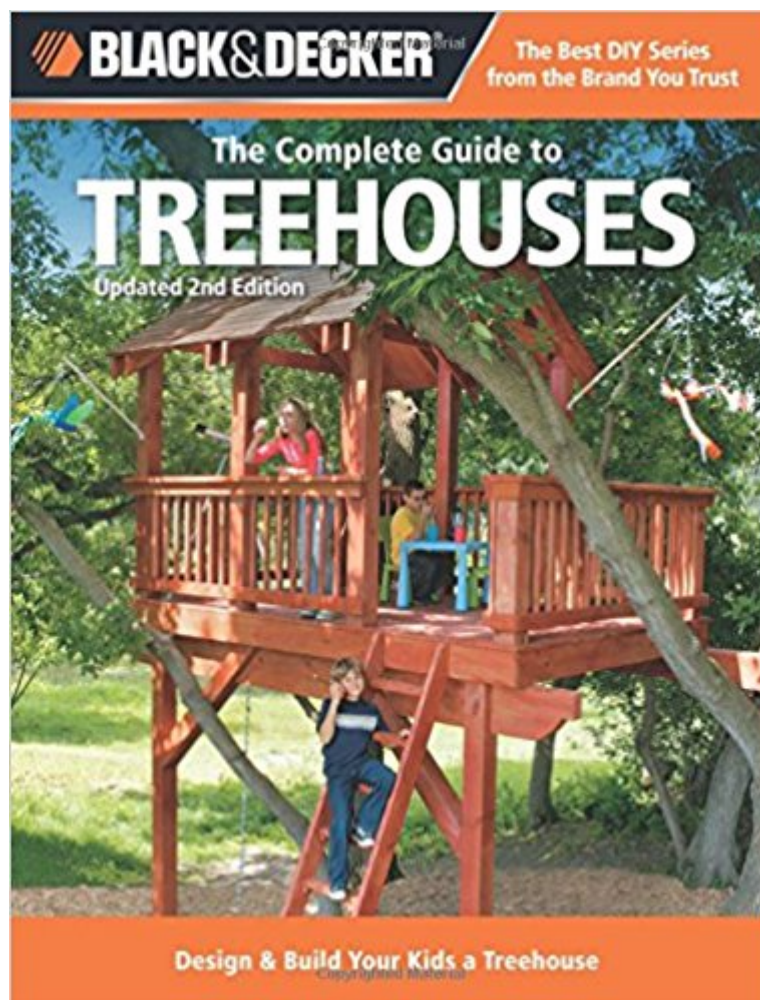




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# Black & Decker The Complete Guide To Treehouses, 2nd Edition: Design & Build Your Kids A Treehouse (Black & Decker Complete Guide)



## Synopsis

Treehouses are more popular today than ever before. Our original treehouse book, *The Complete Guide: Build Your Kids a Treehouse*, was published in 2007. It exceeded all sales projections right out of the gate and continues to be a leading title in the treehouse category. Now, we've made it even better. The expanded edition features three all-new treehouses shown in complete step by step detail, along with full plans. Also includes an expanded inspiration section, offering a wider variety of unique and interesting treehouses that generate ideas and excitement. Exciting book for parents or grandparents to use with their children.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 48 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #181,904 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > How-to & Home Improvements > Decks & Patios](#) #45 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Small Homes & Cottages](#) #73 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas](#)

## Customer Reviews

There's No House Like a Treehouse  
A Few building projects garner as much excitement as a treehouse; built for fun and built to last, a treehouse can provide you and your loved ones a memorable place to rest and play for years to come. This updated 2nd edition of *The Complete Guide to Treehouses* provides updated information and techniques for arboreal carpenters of all skill levels. Not only will you learn the basics of creating elevated platforms and how to erect walls and roofs around branches and trunks, but you'll also find complete walk-throughs for two distinct treehouses, as well as detailed designs for six more. Now that you've got the info you need, all you need is a tree and a few basic tools to begin the most enjoyable construction

project you've ever known. This book includes: Planning & design ideas Basic carpentry instruction Complete treehouse plans Options and ideas for 1-, 2-, and 3-trunk treehouses

Philip Schmidt (Golden, CO) is an avid environmentalist and a home improvement expert who has written many successful DIY books, including Build Your Kids a Treehouse, The Complete Guide to Patios and The Complete Guide to Contemporary Sheds.. He lives in Golden, CO

If you are thinking about building a treehouse this book (Black & Decker The Complete Guide to Treehouses (2nd ed.)) is one of the few published resources available. It covers basic information about zoning, how to choose a tree, and safety, how to build treehouse accessories (like ziplines, slides, and swings), and it has plans for 6 different styles of treehouse. Before buying this book, you should know that the plans are really just guidelines, not detailed instructions. The book seems aimed at people with framing carpentry experience (if you are a complete beginner, it is probably better to get some experience building things on the ground before you build things in the air). Even though I am fairly advanced for an amateur, I got bogged down when building one of the projects in the book: a platform using a single tree as a center post. This project involves building diagonal supports called knee braces from the corners of the treehouse platform down to the trunk below. The knee braces transfer the weight on the platform downward and inward to the tree trunk. The book does an adequate job illustrating how to attach the BOTTOMS of the knee braces to the trunk, but it completely glosses over how to attach the TOPS of the knee braces to the platform in a way that is structurally sound. The instructions basically say "attach the knee brace to the the platform with nails and hardware". There are several photos of treehouses built in this way, but none of them shows any detail of the knee-brace to platform connection. The photos seem to show knee braces nailed to an outside corner where the sill joist is butted to joist header, which seems very dangerous. Why? Well, remember that "every force results in an equal and opposite force" so as the knee brace is pushing the tree downward and inward, the tree is pushing the knee brace upward and outward. The outward force is what is most concerning as it would probably result in separation of the header joist from the joists, leading to collapse of the platform. I am still working on how to change the plans to prevent the knee brace from collapsing outward when the platform carries a load. Some other books show examples of knee braces that are only ever joined at the top to a horizontal joist that attaches to the trunk at one end, and to the knee brace at the other end. This horizontal joist is placed under tension when the knee brace is loaded. Another workaround could be to add steel reinforcing to all the corners to prevent separation (in which case the outer sill joists

and joist headers are placed under tension.

pretty thorough book with decent photos, and diagrams to help you alot- the tree houses featured are a little bland, but the ideas and know-how are solid

Good ideas for treehouses

Helpful

Good.

The perfect book for planning and building a Tree House!

good book. lots of ideas. good designs.bunkbeds and table was a space saver book got here fast and in good condition.

I am impressed. It covers everything I need. I especially liked the guidance on securing the structure to multiple trees. Many thanks.

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