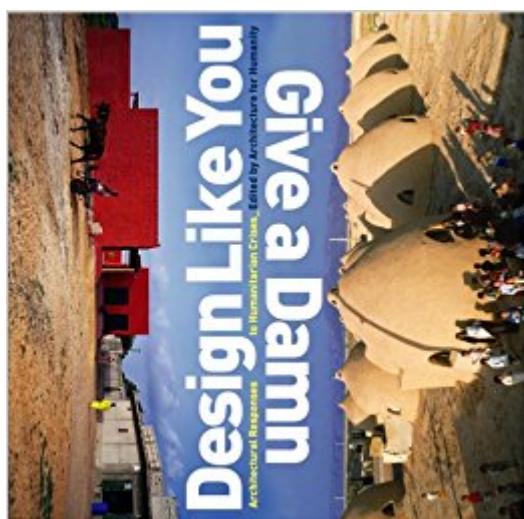


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# Design Like You Give A Damn: Architectural Responses To Humanitarian Crises



## **Synopsis**

The greatest humanitarian challenge we face today is that of providing shelter. Currently, one in seven people lives in a slum or refugee camp, and more than 3,000,000,000 people--nearly half the world's population--do not have access to clean water or adequate sanitation. The physical design of our homes, neighborhoods and communities shapes every aspect of our lives. Yet too often architects are desperately needed in the places where they can least be afforded.Edited by Architecture for Humanity and now on its fifth printing, Design Like You Give a Damn is a compendium of innovative projects from around the world that demonstrate the power of design to improve lives. The first book to bring the best of humanitarian architecture and design to the printed page, Design Like You Give a Damn offers a history of the movement toward socially conscious design, and showcases more than 80 contemporary solutions to such urgent needs as basic shelter, healthcare, education and access to clean water, energy and sanitation.Design Like You Give a Damn is an indispensable resource for designers and humanitarian organizations charged with rebuilding after disaster and engaged in the search for sustainable development. It is also a call to action to anyone committed to building a better world.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Metropolis Books; 1st edition (January 15, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1933045256

ISBN-13: 978-1933045252

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 8.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 40 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #104,650 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Criticism #104 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > History #152 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings

## **Customer Reviews**

If you care about the future we're building, you ought to own a copy of Design Like You Give a DamnDesign Like You Give A Damn screams its message in its title. Good design is not a luxury, but a necessity.A book that is lovely in every sense of the word... ...makes clear just how much talent is currently going to waste designing McMansions.This book brings forth the values of sustainability

and diversity in a beautiful way-values which are as essential to our housing as they are to food we eat....a 336-page love letter to architects worldwide who provide pro-bono design services to communities that have survived war, government oppression and natural disasters. It's also an antidote to apathy.Design like you give a Damn is truly an important work-its lesson is that architecture and design are not about being on the cover of last week's New York Times Magazine but about making a difference in people's lives.Heavy on context and images, light on celebrity names, Design Like You Give a Damn is a bracing reminder that there's more to architecture than museums and posh private homes. Instead, the founders of the group Architecture for Humanity round up 77 nimble solutions to real-life problems: There are fiberglass domes for the homeless of Los Angeles, a schoolhouse in Burkina Faso with an arched steel roof that insulates the clay brick classrooms below -- even a water pump in South Africa that is powered by children playing on a merry-go-round. Truly inspirational.

"Architecture for Humanity has a clear goal: to improve the lives of billions people worldwide, one sustainable building at a time. And while the mission may sound overly ambitious, AFH is on its way. The group...has become the premier nonprofit organization for disaster relief housing programs." - Wired

This book definitely covers a lot of ground. It's essentially a book of precedent studies, with just enough information about each for a lightbulb or two to light in your head, and if you want to do further research on any project you can. It's a great book to have in an architectural thesis studio, because many students will be able to choose from these precedents when it's time to do case studies. The pictures are beautiful and sometimes even show the details of connections and how to construct them. I don't, however, think it's what you want to buy if you're looking for a book to teach you all about how to do humanitarian design, although there definitely is some of that in here.In short: It's a lot more than just a coffee table picture book, but the pictures are good enough it could serve that function as well for those who enjoy architectural photographs.

good

I found this book intriguing for several reasons, none the least of which was the architecture. But furthermore the discourse regarding the real and perceived boundaries surrounding the issue of humanitarian shelters is one wildly fascinating to me - as we seem to be grappling with it within our

own American borders as opposed to just impoverished third world countries. Also the epic political and logistical sagas of humanitarian efforts to provide shelter are enough material for another volume of their own. Well organized and well written in easy to follow case study format. A truly thought provoking piece proving that the resolution of one of the most basic human needs continues to require our attention and effort.

It's amazing to see architecture being more than a beautiful view and elite stuff. I think one of the best things 'Design Like You Give a Damn' brings us is this notion that there are people doing great stuff around the world and they are not super heroes, just had attitude to gather and start from little to big. The book is also full of images, projects and pictures of things becoming reality.

I'm not an architect, but I enjoy the craft as a whole. I saw this book on a PBS science show and had to check it out. Once I finish reading it, I'm passing it on to my architect friends to inspire them to think of the more basic level of need for their talents. Living in the US, I have always taken for granted having a place to live, but seeing how many people around the world need homes is staggering. Kudos to those architects that face the problems of these people. They should be recognized for their innovative uses of stuff as simple as PVC pipe and tarp.

A great book put together by a great organization (Architecture for Humanity). After 2 introductions by the founders of Architecture for Humanity the book is made up of profiles of numerous projects from basic shelter to schools, bridges and city planning. Most projects are built work, some are conceptual. The book profiles work by many organizations all over the world. Inspirational and creative. This is a great book for anyone interested in humanitarian aid, design activism, low cost housing, public planning and policy etc.

This book is exquisite, with a great summary and graphs very well presented. Only regret is that you do not come with a hardcover. I recommend it to all those who really care about doing something different and significant in their lives. Great stories and examples coated with meaning, with efficient actions directed to the most suitable solutions in each situation.

People helping people through building together.

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Design Like You Give A Damn: Architectural Responses To Humanitarian Crises Design Like You

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