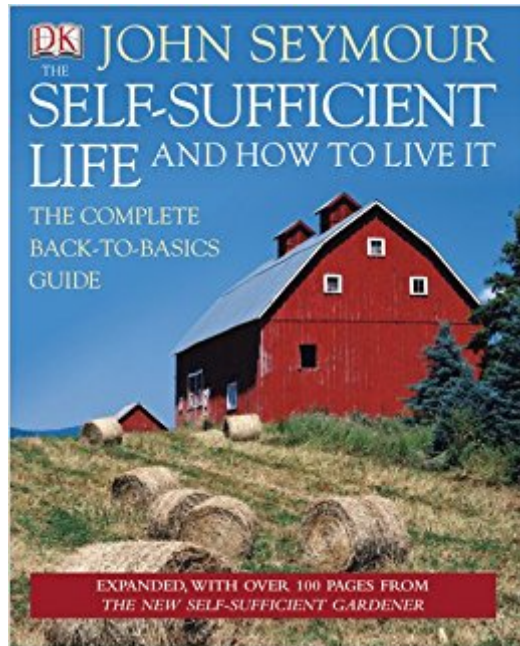




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# The Self-Sufficient Life And How To Live It



## Synopsis

The Self Sufficient Life and How to Live It is the only book that teaches all the skills needed to live independently in harmony with the land harnessing natural forms of energy, raising crops and keeping livestock, preserving foodstuffs, making beer and wine, basketry, carpentry, weaving, and much more. Our 2003 edition included 150 new full-color illustrations and a special section in which John Seymour, the father of the back to basics movement, explains the philosophy of self-sufficiency and its power to transform lives and create communities. More relevant than ever in our high-tech world, The Self Sufficient Life and How to Live It is the ultimate practical guide for realists and dreamers alike.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"John Seymour, self-sufficiency guru, offers a wealth of ideas to get you started." -- Sentinel  
"This book ... will appeal to those seeking simpler and environmentally responsible ways of living ..."

--Library Journal

John Seymour is remembered as the "Father of Self-Sufficiency." Educated in England and Switzerland, his worldwide experience of husbandry and the benefits of rural life is unparalleled. After studying at an agricultural college, he worked on farms in England, and then spent some 10 years in Africa, where he managed a sheep and cattle farm and acted as a livestock officer for a veterinary department. His most influential contribution was to live, teach, and promote

self-sufficiency, first on five acres, and then on 62 acres, and then in Ireland, where the School of Self-Sufficiency that he established with Angela Ashe attracts new recruits in increasing numbers.

I bought this book because I have started gardening in my small yard. I have also planted apple, plum, and cherry trees around the house. I decided to really step up my game and added chickens to the mix. I really enjoy my new hobby, but I realized quite quickly that I need to have a clear and comprehensive plan before I get too much further along. I don't want to wake up next spring and realize I've destroyed my home and my yard. I bought this book because of the other reviews I read. This book is truly changing my life. I have created such an ambitious agenda for the next few years. I have a 1250 sq. foot home on a 100' x 100' lot in the center of Joplin, Missouri. I am going to have an off the grid home and be self sufficient in five years. I am not going to spend very much money getting started, the author presents creative ways of dealing with problems without running to the hardware store. A good example is the coop for the chickens made with branches, poultry wire, and the empty feed bags. I bought a \$200 dollar chicken coop that is already struggling to hold itself together in the Missouri weather. I could have built the coop in the book for next to nothing. This book is so detailed and amazing about every facet of this lifestyle. I have probably read it twice now and many of the sections much more than that. I recommend this book to you. It is illustrated beautifully and it has become my go to book for almost everything that comes up with my new hobby. If you are a devotee of the back to the earth movement, and a closet prepper like myself (my shameful secret). This book will take a prominent place on your library shelf. I have bought a couple of other books that are more survival in a doomsday situation. I'm not a prepper, daydreaming of the end of the world. I'm a prepper that wonders if my 401K could vanish in another future wall street scandal and SSI might disappear from mismanagement or neglect. My kind of prepping is the kind found in this book. It is the victory garden of my grandparents generation or the cottage garden of peasants in the old country. This book is wonderful. I hope you enjoy it and I hope you let me know if this recommendation helped you.

I have to agree with most of the other 5-star reviews in that this is a wonderful book. We have about a dozen of these types of books on our shelves and this is the one to which I always refer. The tone of this genre of book can often be over overpowered by the authors obvious opinions, but Seymours, while still evident in the writing, feel like those handed down from a wise grandpa. Just enough detail to empower and not too much to overwhelm. We apply many principles of the book on a daily basis on our farm, but this would be an equally enjoyable read for someone interested in

good old fashioned common life sense. Highest recommendations.

I bought this for my kids who are interested in purchasing property in the countryside. We have had a copy for a long time now. It has so many great chapters filled with suggestions. One thing I noticed the other day while skimming through it again, is that in the front of the book, the author suggests growing plans for patio gardens, small home gardens, 1 acre gardens etc.. in other words, he considers the whole gambit of living situations which is very thoughtful on his part.

You need it and this book has it all! Excellent pictures, photos, and instructions on just about everything needed to live DIY. Learn how to grow, make, produce most everything you need on 1/2 acre, 1 acre, or 5 acre farm. Learn what to do in the spring, fall, winter, summer, Harvest wild food, brew your own brews, learn new crafts & skills, tackle producing and saving your own energy sources. It's filled with recipes as well. I can't say enough about the outstanding pictures in this book. I had was going to go off and live off the land, this would be the one book I'd want the most. Makes a great coffee table resource too!

Get this book First and forget the rest unless you are looking for something specific

You think you're going to learn new techniques as a modern days prepper, but in fact, you just read about the lives and habits of our forbears, long gone and almost forgotten because of the "modern times". Thanks that John Seymour thought about resuscitating them 40 years ago, otherwise they would be dead now.

There are many out there who are disgusted with our technologically advanced yet disconnected and alienated world. But while disgruntled and frustrated, the vast majority out there simply lack the will and the imagination to believe that another world -- one without clocks, without Facebook, without tedious office work -- is possible. John Seymour's book provides an excellent overview of what the self-sufficient life would look like and what it would entail. The knowledge and resources are already discovered, he explains, and in fine precise detail he looks at the whole gamut of the self-sufficient universe from raising livestock to basket-weaving. It is also gorgeously illustrated, well-organized, and all in all a labor of love.

I'm not a prepper, but if you are or just want to learn some traditional skills, this book is a must. It is

an encyclopedic instruction manual for virtually every part of country living and self sufficiency. It's also interesting reading for anyone interested in this lifestyle. There are a lot of books in a similar vein and many are also excellent, but in my opinion this is the first one you should own.

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