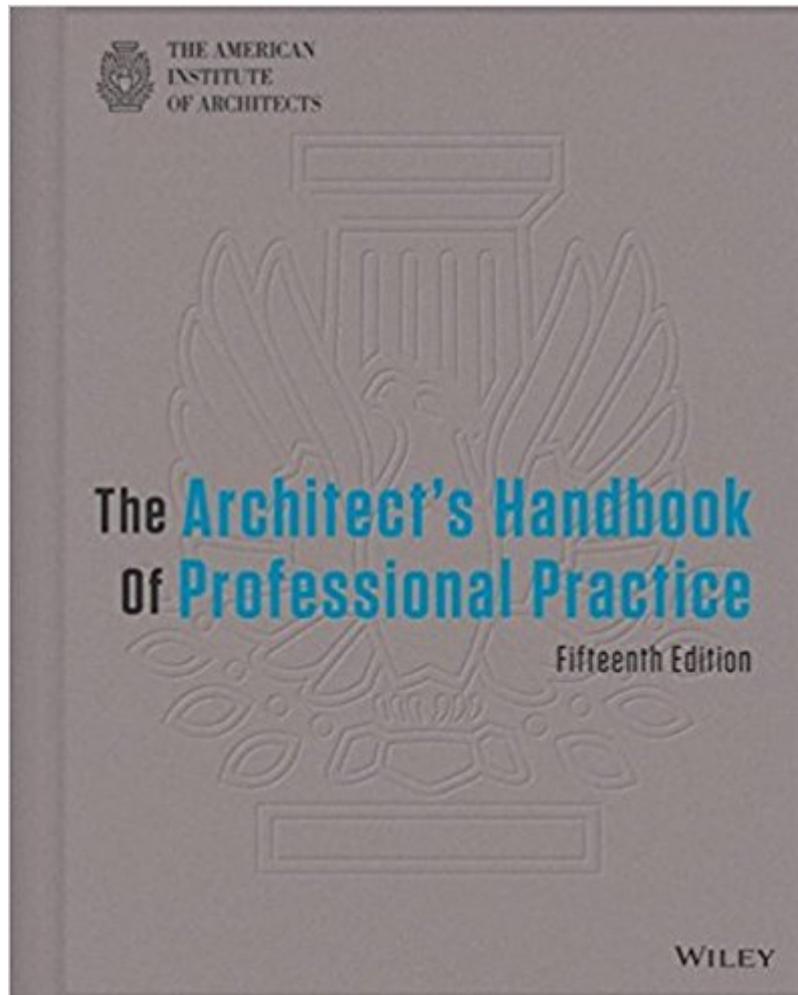


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The Architect's Handbook Of Professional Practice



Synopsis

Authored by The American Institute of Architects (AIA), this guide is the updated architecture profession's standard on practice issues. This indispensable resource covers all aspects of architectural practice, including legal, financial, marketing, management, and administrative issues. Content is significantly revised to reflect the changing nature of the business of architecture related to the impact of integrated practice. An accompanying web site contains samples of the latest AIA Contract Documents in PDF format.

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Customer Reviews

This book is monstrously huge and covers every possible area of architectural firm operations to a significant extent. The problem is this is all very, very dry and academic information. You'll read about all the things you'll find in any other academic text on business - the academic way to do finance, the academic way to run projects, etc. This book takes no risks, violates no norms, and spells things out exactly as you would learn it from a professor or textbook. Whether this is good or bad depends on your perspective. I don't think anyone should actually read this book - it is more of a "reference only" book to be used when you seriously have no idea how a specific aspect of professional practice works. Think of it as an informational insurance policy - if you're in a jam and you need to know how a professor would tell you how to do something, then this is the place to look. And if you mess up, you can say you were doing it by the book, and whip this brick of paper out of your briefcase. In all, this is a good reference for a variety of topics, which could be useful when looking for guidance on any given path you find yourself on in the day-to-day administration of an

architecture firm. It's certainly not bad information, but I'm not sure how often a trained professional would actually use it.

If you plan to practice architecture and or pass the ARE...you need to purchase this book. Don't expect cool pictures and all that stuff...this book is about the business of architecture. The downloads for the actual AIA documents worked perfectly!!!! I would recommend this book even though it is substantially pricey. Thanks.//Chuck

This book is stuffed so full of information it is like carrying around an entire set of encyclopedias, which is marvelous because it means that if you ever need any information on the business of architecture, you have it all here in one handy reference. The book breaks down into 4 sections: The Profession, Firm Management, Project Delivery and Contracts/Agreements. It's really hard to overstate how densely packed this book is. There are no wasteful illustrations or wandering introductions, just straight down to the business of architecture. Some of the information provided is very general in that it could work in almost any business and some of it is very specific to architecture. For instance, the section on compensation consideration includes both information on demographic factors like age, culture and gender, which applies in any business. But it also includes information on architecture-specific considerations. Some of the information that I came across seemed a little academic. In other words, the book definitely provides the technically correct information, but it may not be exactly how things are or should be done in the real world. But that's ok, because this book is intended to give you the correct information and then you can decide where to go from there. I really can't conceive of a way to improve this book, it honestly covers every aspect you could possibly come across in the business and while it definitely isn't a manual for life in the real world, it is essential for understanding the business.

Comprehensive, and great on the shelf. For people taking the ARE, this is worth the investment, and you will want to keep it as a reference for years to come. I have a couple decades of experience, and I recently took it off the shelf to read the portions on project delivery. The IPD section is good, as well as the design-build essays. In fact, one of the nice features are these little essays written by practitioners. It's almost like being able to call up a knowledgeable architect and chat on the phone for a couple minutes. AIA should really turn this book into a wiki. The fact that AIA is so far behind on the technology curve is a shame.

I purchased the Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice to help study for the ARE's. I wish I had purchased this sooner as the information covered is clear, concise and very reflective of the information candidates are expected to know for the exams. It is a great resource for any architect considering starting their own practice or just wanting to a broader understanding of the industry.

The Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice is an example of excellence. Similar texts aspire to this precision but consistently fall short. This Fifteenth Edition has been carefully updated "to reflect the changing nature of the business of architecture related to the impact of integrated practice" Again, even the newest material is closely edited with no errors noted. If you are entering your first years as an architect, please note that it is always worth the investment to purchase the newest edition. Given that this edition contains nearly "2/3 new content," one cannot afford to ignore the most recent editions. This text is, by all means, a professional must-have. Moreover, if this is your initial experience with this text, know that it is perfectly organized, absolutely comprehensive, and near flawless. Additionally, the marginalia provides clarification for the reader (especially those who are not yet seasoned professionals). And, the remaining "white-space" of the margins allows room for personal notes (which I always appreciate). With a nod to Wiley Publishing, all charts and examples are large and clearly presented. Since the vast majority of potential purchasers are reading these reviews to discover if this newest text is worth the hefty price-tag, the answer is a resounding, "Yes." Packed with the most current information, this text is an undisputed necessity for those in the field.

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