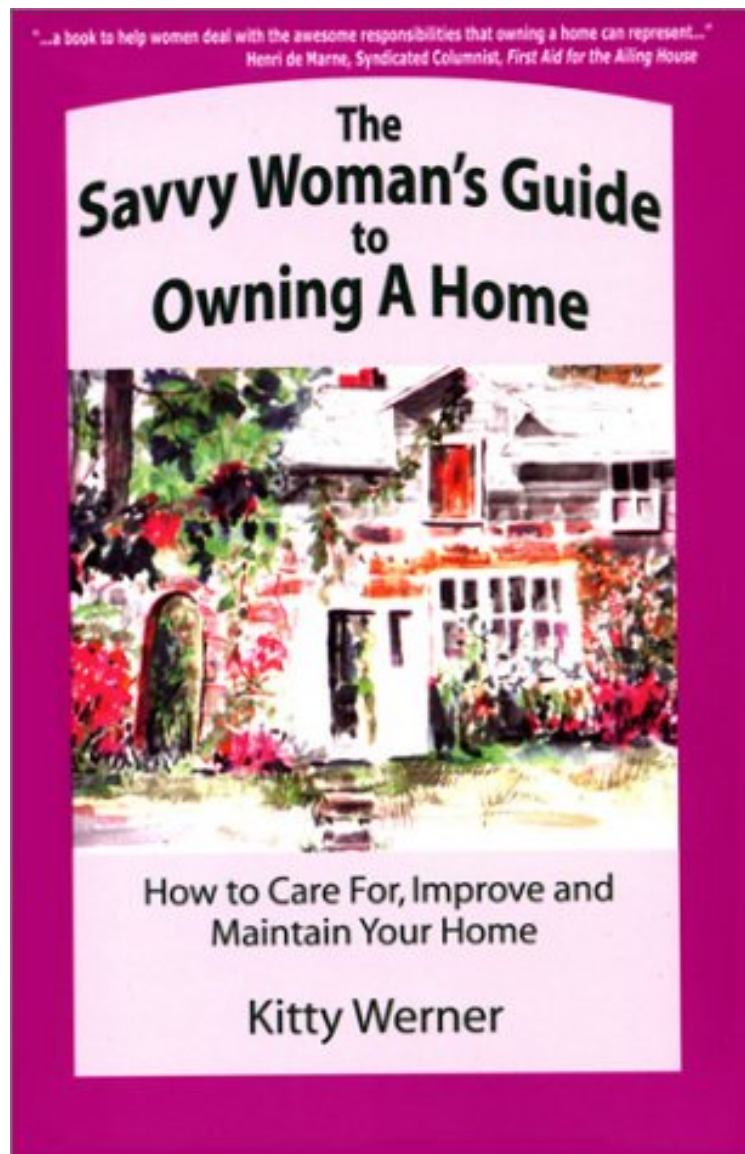


(Free pdf) The Savvy Woman's Guide to Owning a Home: How to Care for, Improve and Maintain Your Home

The Savvy Woman's Guide to Owning a Home: How to Care for, Improve and Maintain Your Home

Kitty Werner, Werner

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Kitty Werner, Werner : The Savvy Woman's Guide to Owning a Home: How to Care for, Improve and Maintain Your Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Savvy Woman's Guide to Owning a Home: How to Care for, Improve and Maintain Your Home:

71 of 76 people found the following review helpful. Savvy Woman's Guide to Moving and Calling Repairmen By J. L. I am shocked by the good reviews this book is getting. I made this purchase thinking I'd learn how to "care for, improve and maintain" my home. Instead I found a bunch of non-specific reasons why I need to maintain my home and nothing about how to do so. What exactly are these reviewers referring back to? There is no information here that is complete enough to be useful. I am willing to bet that I never need to open this book again. Anyone who has ever moved already knows most of the helpful hints contained in the first 1/3 of this book. We're talking about simple things like: change your address with the post office; find out how to get from your new house to your office; call the electric company and get the power turned on... The real content is in middle third of the book. That's the section that's supposed to be about maintaining your home. Here's the gist: Houses have plumbing systems, call a plumber. Houses have electric systems, call an electrician. (Unless you want to change the color of your light switch, apparently as women we're all supposed to get giddy at the thought of light switches in different colors.) The repairs chapter is concentrated on which professionals to call in. Roof trouble requires a roofer... There are a whopping 2 paragraphs about doing repairs yourself. In these paragraphs Ms. Werner recommends purchasing a book about home maintenance!!! The seasonal and yearly checkup chapters are the only redeeming part of the whole book, although they are still lacking. These consist basically of a list of places to check for structural damage. The final 1/3 of the book contains more generalized information that about emergency planning, picking schools for your kids and canceling your mail when you go on vacation. Again, this is not really relevant to home improvement, and is mostly targeted at people lacking common sense or people who have made long distance moves. This is followed up by a few pages about remodeling. Guess what: you're supposed to call a contractor to do you're remodeling. 12 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Useful for ANY Homeowner--or Renter By Shel Horowitz Kitty Werner has done something amazing here: she has taken pretty much everything that anyone needs to know before owning or renting a home, and found an easy way to explain fairly technical concepts to people with no technical knowledge. And she manages not to sound patronizing, even when explaining real basic stuff that most of us take for granted--because she doesn't assume you have prior experience. Her advice on practical matters from insurance to chimney cleaning to what to do in an emergency could save the reader thousands of dollars--and save lives. The title is really too narrow for this broad and useful book. It's useful to both owners and renters, to both men and women. In fact, it would be the ideal present to buy a graduating college student just going out on his or her own--I sure wish I had such a book when I got my first apartment, and again when I got my first house. Don't let the book's somewhat peculiar layout choices get in the way. This book will benefit anyone who ever has to manage any aspect of finding and maintaining a place to live. Following Kitty's savvy advice will lower your bills, lower your stress level, and improve the quality of your life. I will ask the author if I can excerpt a chapter on my Frugal and Fashionable Living webzine. Highly recommended. Shel Horowitz is owner of [...] His latest book is Principled Profit: Marketing That Puts People First. His most relevant book is The Penny-Pinching Hedonist: How to Live Like Royalty with a Peasant's Pocketbook. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Perfect Housewarming Gift By C. Sawyer Finally a book that is practical and not overwhelming to the new homeowner or even an experienced home owner. I wish I had had this book when I first became a homeowner. It is the perfect gift for someone just starting out or even someone who has been a homeowner for a long time. The book is so easy to understand and set up in a way that makes it easy to find what you're looking for. Men could use this book as well. My son thought it was great but thought it should have been titled The Savvy Men and Women's Guide to Owning a Home.

In a light and humorous way, yet clear and detailed enough to be of real help, the book teaches the basics of home care, safety, and getting into a new community. It covers everything from moving into the new place, to seasonal and yearly "to do" lists, to dealing with a host of repairs. The book is laid out in a sensible way and contains sidebars with lots of helpful hints and fun anecdotes. It's something I could easily see becoming a bible for the new homeowner, female or male, but is especially excellent for women because it avoids the jargon often used when such information is geared toward men. KK Wilder, Producer, "Wild Spirit: The Writing Life"

From the Publisher Finally, here's the book to fill the void for the first-time home buyer who has never had the opportunity or the need to take full responsibility for their home. You are not an idiot if you don't know how to care for your own home, you are simply uninformed about it. There's a big difference. The Savvy Woman's Guide to Owning a Home will help you become more conversant with your home's functions, how it works and what to expect, without taking up a lot of your valuable time. From the Author I noticed that there isn't one homeowner's manual for women who don't want to do-it-yourself, but do need to know how to run and maintain their house. Sure, there are plenty of books on how to fix things, but what about the people who aren't handy with tools? While millions of women own their own homes, what is the percentage of those who know how to maintain the house, much less fix it themselves? Or how about the women married to men who can't use a hammer? Or the homeowners who don't have the time to DIY? Over the last 20 years, I've helped many of my friends with their homeowner problems from giving advice to actually doing the job. It was time to write the book. About the Author I was first drawn to construction when

my father, Henri de Marne, decided our side porch would make a dandy office for himself. Then seven years old, I offered my services by hanging around until he found something useful for me to do. Soon, I could name all the nails and hand him the right ones at the right time. I learned all the tools and their functions. I'm sure I took a few whacks at boards in my time, but with my slight weight at that age, I didn't make much of a dent, much less pound in too many nails. As a reward for my efforts, Dad made me my own tool box for my little set of tools. I still have it. It wasn't long before I was fixing things as well as taking them apart. I was learning this stuff. One of my early jobs was working as the Assistant Buyer of Lamps at the Hecht Co. in Washington DC. When I had enough of the office, I could be found upstairs in the back storage creating new lamps from busted parts. My one-of-a-kind specials were put on display and sold. The tough part was when a customer wanted a match. Later, I was hired by a flooring company to sell flooring. I enjoyed playing around with the merchandise and ended up running the warehouse. I furnished my first townhouse with scraps of carpet, padding, carpet samples and plywood. Sold all of it when I moved to Germany for a year when I married Peter. Back in the States, we moved to Vermont where we ran an old Vermont farmhouse as a ski lodge for a winter. Not only did we run out of water the first day we had guests (Christmas Day), but I had to cook for them as well. (I'm not a cook, my sister is.) Dealing with the fix-it issues of old dryers, temperamental heating systems, cranky plumbing, mazes of "put-together" pipes and wires, wells, and chimneys was an education in survival! Our guests didn't starve, either. Eventually we bought our own house. As our family grew to include two children, the house grew. We fixed electric wiring, replumbed fixtures, finished off a bathroom, added a large addition, dealt with lightning storms blowing out our water supply, electric lines coming down, days without power and water, and all manner of exciting events. As a homeowner, I've had 26 years of practical on-the-job training to write this book. I've been helping Dad with his column (he writes it, I straighten out the computer tangles) and therefore learn his information as well. Married to a masonry contractor has given me an amazing education in safe installations of chimneys, what can go wrong and why, how to correct the problems, or more importantly, how to find the right person to do the right job the first time.