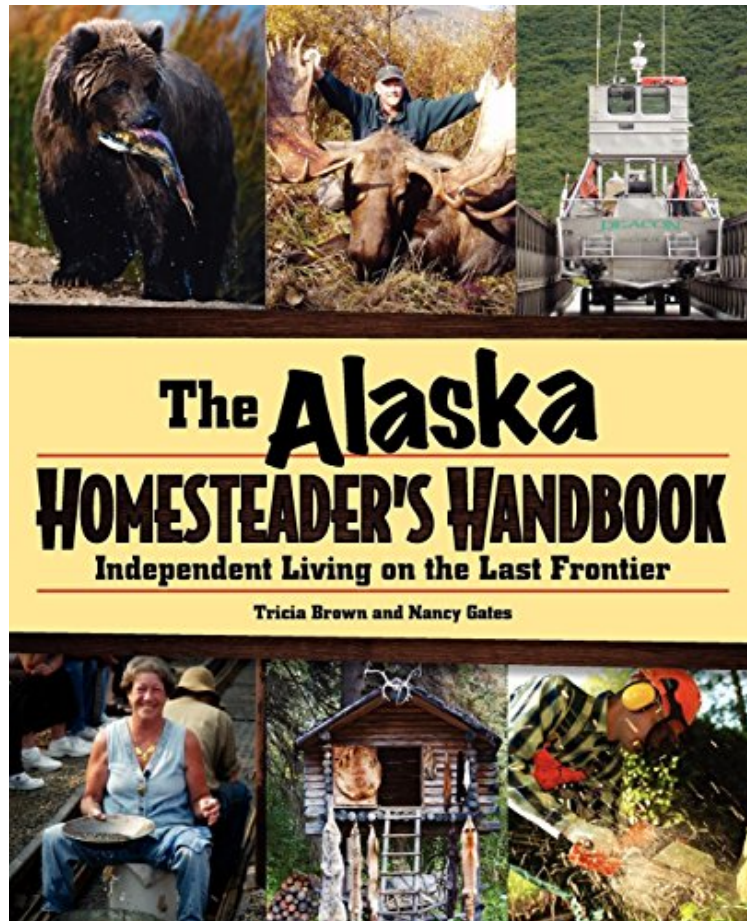


Alaska Homesteader's Handbook: Independent Living on the Last Frontier

Tricia Brown, Nancy Gates
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Tricia Brown, Nancy Gates : Alaska Homesteader's Handbook: Independent Living on the Last Frontier before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alaska Homesteader's Handbook: Independent Living on the Last Frontier:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Meet the old-time and current homesteaders who settled AlaskaBy Lisa KearnsI read every book I can find on Alaska, and was happy to find this one among titles I didn't already own. It's written with a separate chapter for each person or couple who have been homesteading in Alaska. Some stories are about people who passed away in the last few years but lived in Alaska most of their lives. Some are from younger people who are currently living there. But all of the stories are full of hard-working, resourceful, tough people who have survived by their determination and the Alaskan spirit. There are many maps in the book, showing where various homesteaders live, and each highlighted homesteader gives his or her own tips for living in Alaska - like how to dress for below-zero temperatures, how to care for sourdough, how to identify edible berries, how to make birch syrup, etc.

There were photos and recipes and side-bars that really added to the stories. I was pleased to recognize some of the names in the book from other books I've read or products I've used - Jim Helmericks (Arctic Hunter, We live in Alaska), Lisa Frederic (Alaska's Golden Spoon sourdough), Leslie Leyland Fields (Surviving the Island of Grace), and Glen Alsworth (son of Babe Alsworth of Richard Proenneke fame). This book is a quick read but one that any homesteader or fan of Alaska and her residents will enjoy. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. good read
By Customer This is a great book if you don't live in Alaska and don't know a thing about living up here. For someone like myself who has been born and raised here, it's still a good book. I enjoyed reading about others experiences here, and reading more into homesteading. Some chapter's I already knew quite well about, such as those darn moose attacking you broccoli and cauliflower, and outhouses. But things such as the sourdough, gold mining, and making yourself a cold storage were nice information. This book is informative and great for starting into Alaska living and homesteading. I would suggest people read this book with the expectation of needing to seek other sources for more in depth information on some subjects. But this book is great for letting you know what you need to ask and where to start. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. good for seeing others wunderlust....
By Arwythur More about the people, their stories of how they ended up there... not really a technical book on survival skills, but a good evening's read if you like brief tall tales of adventure, in short two or three page lumps. I had a good time reading it, but it did not make me want to sell everything and move to Alaska, instead, I was VERY happy to realize that the prairie was a nice place to land all by itself...

A remarkable compilation of practical information for living in one of the most impractical and inhospitable landscapes in the United States. More than forty pioneer types ranging from their mid-nineties to mid- twenties describe their reasons for choosing to live their lives in Alaska and offer useful instructions and advice that made that life more livable. Whether it be how to live among bears, build an outhouse, cross a river, or make birch syrup, each story gives readers a window to a life most will never know but many still dream about. Fifty photographs and 150 line drawings illustrate the real-life experiences of Alaska settlers such as 1930s New Deal colonists, de-mobilized military who stayed after World War II, dream-seekers from the 60s and 70s, and myriad others who staked their claim in Alaska.

As someone who loves esoteric knowledge and timeless homesteading and survival skills, this book fascinated me. In addition to being an interesting read, the book could also serve as a preparedness manual. Leon Patenburg, The Sportsman Pages blog