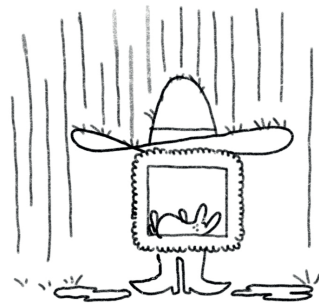


NOT_A_HOUSE_BUT_A_HOME

A GUIDE FOR CREATIVES





Self made house facade. Made out of roller shutter lamellas. Build by József (66)

NOT_A_HOUSE_BUT_A_HOME

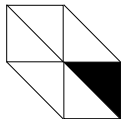
A GUIDE FOR CREATIVES



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS



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RESEARCH GROUP
FOR SOLIDARITY
IN ARCHITECTURE

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Self made house interior. Walls are covered with carpet. Built by József (66)



INTRODUCTION

This booklet is above all a guide and a help for those who do not have a home, but do not want to spend their nights in a night shelter, but rather try to create the place where they can live their lives in peace.

This self-built place is not a house, but a home. By this we mean not recognized technically as a housing, which is a matter of policy. But if we can stabilize a place we define a home. A home where one can be with their partner. A home where anyone can sit and talk with their friends. A place where people can have their favorite pet. A setting where you or I can establish our privacy. Building a house is very expensive.

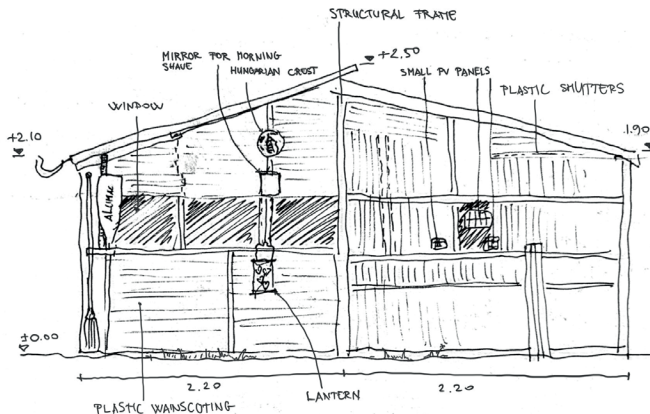
Building materials cost a lot of money and the services of designers cost a lot too.

Not to mention meeting all the codes and technical demands. And yet, housing is a constitutional right in most European countries.

In our opinion, spending the night in a homeless night shelter and spending time in a day shelter during the day does not equate to realizing this right to housing. This is why many people do not even use the services of homeless organizations, but build themselves a shelter from found materials.

This initiative was created so that those who live in such difficult circumstances – as well as advocates and activists acting in solidarity with unhoused communities and people – can realize their rights. We believe places to serve as homes in this way would benefit from the knowledge of architects in the making.

USING THIS GUIDE



Self made house covered with shader lamellas. Built by József (66)

HELP OUR GUIDE



Section 1 addresses what's needed to make a hut safer and more durable . We hope to share with non-building experts why these interventions matter to make a hut a home. And we offer tips about how to realize them (whether as a DIY or with the help of architects and architecture students)

Section 2 presents a menu of potential building material to turn a hut into the home. Our focus is on a circular economy that adapts wastes to serve the right to housing at low cost.

If you are unhoused (or a citizen in solidarity). We want to help make what unhoused communities are building for themselves already safe and durable. We have learned a

lot about self-built structures that otherwise appear to be rudimentary huts. Each chapter includes DIY tips for how to make these otherwise temporary structures more safe, healthy and comfortable places that can be lived in like homes.

If you are an architect, or you are studying to be one

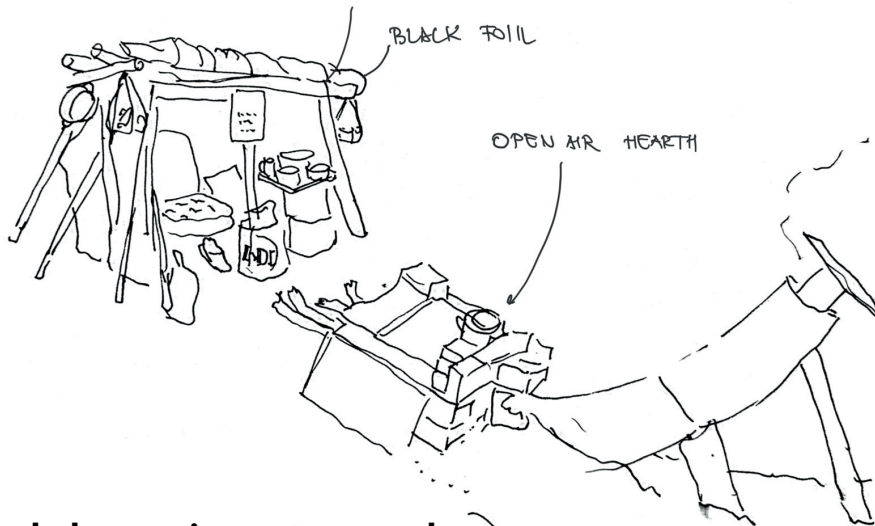
Help improve this publication. It would be good if we could present as many materials as possible that are found in our environment and can no longer be used for other purposes. Let's show it how simple tools and methods can be used to turn them into building materials that enable temporary huts to serve more people as homes.

COVERED CHAIR TO
SUPERVISE THE STOVE

BOARD JOINTS

BLACK FOIL

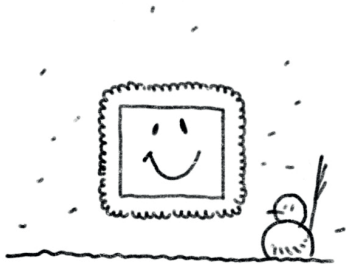
OPEN AIR HEARTH



**Covered observation area near the open
outdoor fireplace. Built by Antal (72)**

HOW TO PROTECT FROM WEATHER

What a home needs? Warmth!



why it matters

Thermal insulation primarily protects against the cold, and is made from a variety of materials.

circular source it

You can make this if you have waste from packaging material such as polystyrene or styrofoam make great insulators (on the outside). For interior insulation you might use a camping tent that was left behind or an inflatable guest bed that was thrown away because it got punctured.

architecture tips for DIY

The best solution places thermal insulation on the outside of the wall. It's like the winter coat we wear in winter. The best way to keep the heat in is to wrap the entire building, sides, top and bottom. Most of the heat is lost through the ceiling, so insulate it better, use thicker insulation than on the wall or in the floor.

In a frame building, the thermal insulation can also be placed inside the wall. In this case, it must be protected from the inside with a foil from the vapour.

The thermally insulated wall must also be protected from the outside against wind and rain. The camping tent is also good for this, which can be covered with wooden shingles or metal sheets.

What a home needs? Staying dry!



why it matters

The vapor barrier membrane must be protected from steam from cooking, washing, or from the vapour we exhale. This moisture content of the air in the thermal insulation can condense in the winter, which can destroy the thermal insulation or even the building structures.

circular source it

the material of camping tents is suitable as a vapor barrier membrane, especially that which is in contact with the ground. But an inflatable guest bed or camping mattress or PVC flooring can also be good.

architecture tips for DIY

A vapor barrier membrane is used in walls that are not homogeneous, such as earth or adobe walls, but are layered (such as walls on a load-bearing frame). When structures have this kind of cavity it can be filled with thermal insulation that must be protected from all kinds of vapor.

It's best if you can stick the separate pieces together with double-sided tape. If you don't have access to glue, there should be an overlap of about 15 cm between the membranes. There are many options for covering the inside of the wall: you can create it from old door panels or wainscoting, cover it with a laminate floor or carpet, which makes the interior feel even warmer.

What a home needs? Windproofing!



why it matters

If you don't want the wind to blow through your house easily, you should wrap it with a layer like this illustration demonstrates.

circular source it

The material of woven camping tents is perfect for this purpose.

architecture tips for DIY

The windproof membrane is also part of the layered walls. You can use a stapler or small nails to fix it. It is also good if you can glue the pieces of the membranes together with double-sided glue. It is important that the windproof layer allows the vapor to pass

through at least a little, so that if moisture does get into the wall, it can escape to the outside.

You can even use the same type of tent material for vapor barrier and wind barrier, but in this case it is worth perforating the outer layer with a needle. The vapor can escape through these tiny holes, but the wind cannot blow through. The windproof film is covered with the outermost layer of the facade, this is the rainscreen. There are also several options for this, e.g. wood or plastic paneling, shingles made of different materials, weather-resistant OSB board, previously used as packaging material.

What a home needs? On dry ground!



why it matters

We cannot overstate the importance of keeping dry. We've already looked at vapor (wetness) in the air. Now we must consider keeping water in the ground away from the hut home. Unless we are able to locate our home in place where it never rains, such as covered by an overpass (and being so lucky there is no runoff headed our way from higher ground), we must pay good attention to this problem.

circular source it

Several materials can be used to cover the roof: wood, metal, plastic. Best when cut into smaller pieces and installed as shingles. While we can reuse the material wastes that are consumer byproducts they can also be collected intentionally to use for hut homes.

architecture tips for DIY

In the case of groundwater (after it rains for example) the easiest way to achieve this goal is to raise the building off the ground, such as placing the hut on concrete blocks. The rainscreen mentioned on the previous page is perfectly sufficient against rainwater on the vertical walls of buildings. Insulating flat roofs is a very difficult task, it is much easier if we build a pitched roof instead.

It is also necessary to mention the water for use, against which the materials and structures of the building must also be protected. In a lightweight building, the simplest solution is to cover the area around the sink with a continuous PVC layer.