



# Book Information

## Permaculture Principles & Pathways Beyond Sustainability

By David Holmgren

David Holmgren builds on the extraordinary success of the permaculture concept and the global permaculture movement to provide a more cerebral and controversial contribution to the sustainability debate - including an exploration of how mainstream concepts of sustainability dodge the critical issue of global energy peak; and proposing ways to live within nature's limits while providing a secure future for everyone.

*Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability* brings into focus the powerful and still evolving permaculture concept he pioneered with Bill Mollison in the 1970's. It draws together and integrates 25 years of thinking and teaching to show a whole new way of understanding and action behind a simple set of design principles, taking step by step look at the 12 Permaculture Concepts.

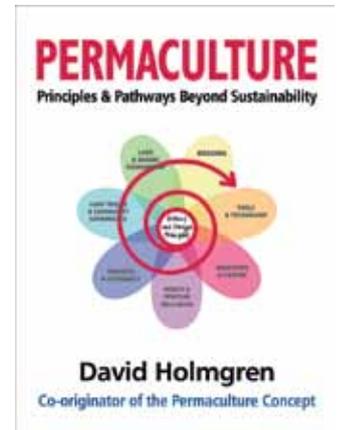
This book provides refreshing perspectives on a range of environmental issues and shows how permaculture is much more than a system of gardening. For anyone seriously interested in understanding the foundations for sustainable design and culture, this book is essential reading.

“Although a book of ideas, the big picture is repeatedly grounded by reference to Holmgren's own patch and other practical examples. I owe this book the most profound debt of gratitude. It is the book which first suggested what a collective response to peak oil and climate change rooted in permaculture design principles might look like in practice. The breadth of what Holmgren does in this book still blows me away. Read it slowly, digest it well, discuss it with anyone who will listen. Like all life-changing experiences it is best savoured, as you will thereafter think of your life in two halves, before you read *Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability* and after. I do not hesitate to refer to it as a work of great genius.” Rob Hopkins co-founder of the Transition Movement.

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## What people are saying about PERMACULTURE PRINCIPLES & PATHWAYS BEYOND SUSTAINABILITY

A work of great genius.

*Rob Hopkins co-founder of the Transition Movement*

Essential reading for permaculture designers and accessible to a wide range of critical thinkers, this book opens the door to a new and scarcely imagined world. It contributes to a growing synthesis of design with economics, society, and landscape ecology, and compels all serious advocates of sustainability to reconsider the central organizing power of the permaculture concept.

*Peter Bane: Editor, Permaculture Activist USA*

If the Permaculture: Principles and Pathways Beyond Sustainability that David Holmgren discusses in this extremely important book were applied to all that we do, we would be well on the road to sustainability, and beyond.

*Professor Stuart B. Hill (Foundation Chair of Social Ecology University of Western Sydney)*

This book is relevant to every aspect of how we reorganise our lives, communities and landscapes to creatively adapt to ecological realities which shape human destiny. For students and teachers of permaculture this book provides something more fundamental and distilled than Mollison's encyclopedic Designers Manual. For the general reader this book provides refreshing perspectives on a range of environmental issues and shows how permaculture is much more than a system of gardening. For anyone seriously interested in understanding the foundations for sustainable design and culture, this book is essential reading.

*Gareth Jenkins, Sustainable North York Moors*

This is one of the smartest books I've ever read. It covers all the scales: from the ideal mineral composition of garden soils to the pulses of biological expansion that flourish between ice ages. How the high productivity at the edge of a garden bed is analogous to the high productivity at the fringes of culture. It's a book of theory and philosophy in one sense, but this is philosophy that feels like a supple tool in the hand.

*Review on [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)*

This was a profound reading experience. I found Holmgren's book to be more of a philosophical treatise on ethics, one that is simple and easy to understand, yet subtle and extremely conscious of all the relevant ideas floating in the noosphere, successfully integrating these disparate ideologies and worldviews into an exploration of where we are as humans and what we should do to make our lives better; individually and collectively.

*Isaac Hill on [www.permies.com](http://www.permies.com)*

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

David Holmgren was born in Fremantle, Western Australia, in 1955. During his time at the innovative Environmental Design School in Hobart, Tasmania (1973-76), an intense working relationship with his mentor Bill Mollison led to the permaculture concept. As the young co-author of Permaculture One in 1978, David shunned the limelight and focused on further developing his practical and design skills for a self-reliant lifestyle. David has developed three properties using permaculture principles; and conducts workshops and courses in Australia, New Zealand, Israel and Europe. He lives and works in Hepburn Springs, central Victoria, and maintains the property, Melliodora, as one of Australia's best known permaculture demonstration sites.



