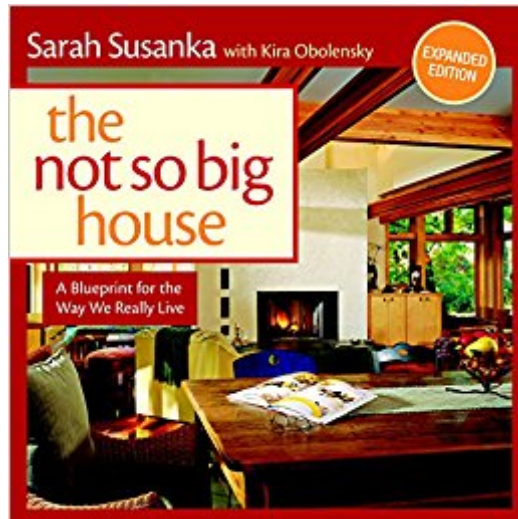




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The Not So Big House: A Blueprint For The Way We Really Live



Synopsis

Ten years ago, Sarah Susanka started a revolution in home design with a deceptively simple message: quality should always come before quantity. Now, the book that celebrated that bold declaration is back in this special 10th anniversary edition featuring a new introduction and 16 additional pages that explore three new homes. Nearly a quarter-million people bought this ground-breaking book when it was published in Fall 1998. Since then, the book's simple message -- that quality should come before quantity -- has started a movement in home design. Homeowners now know to expect more. And the people responsible for building our homes have also gotten the message. Architects and builders around the country report clients showing up with dog-eared copies of *The Not So Big House*, pages marked to a favorite section. Why are we drawn more to smaller, more personal spaces than to larger, more expansive ones? Why do we spend more time in the kitchen than we do in the formal dining room? *The Not So Big House* proposes clear, workable guidelines for creating homes that serve both our spiritual needs and our material requirements, whether for a couple with no children, a family, empty nesters, or one person alone. In 1999, Sarah Susanka was then architect and principal with Mulfinger, Susanka, Mahady & Partners, the firm selected to design the 1999 Life Dream House brought Frank Lloyd Wright's same common-sense, human-scale design principles to our generation. Consider which rooms in your house you use and enjoy most, and you have a sense of the essential principles of *The Not So Big House*. Whether you seek comfort and calm or activity and energy at home, *The Not So Big House* offers a place for every mood.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sarah Susanka is one of the leading residential architects in the United States. Her first book, "The Not So Big House," topped best-seller charts in Home & Garden categories in its first year of publication. Susanka has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show, the Charlie Rose Show, and NPR's Diane Rehm Show. She is a former principal and founding partner of Mulfinger, Susanka, Mahady & Partners, Inc., the firm chosen by LIFE magazine to design its 1999 Dream House. Kira Obolensky has written for print, film, and stage. She co-authored Sarah Susanka's national bestseller, "The Not So Big House." Kira's book, "Garage," was published in 2001. She has received a number of writing awards and fellowships, including the Kesselring Prize and a Guggenheim fellowship. She lives in Minneapolis.

I love all of Sarah Susanka's books. I especially enjoy the photography with before and after shots showing how small details can make a difference. This book is the first in the series. I enjoy Sarah's philosophy regarding having less square footage but incorporating more meaningful features. Sarah admits that the details do not make the house less expensive to build. We have used some of the book's concepts for decorating, arranging furniture, and paint colors. We have an "away room" as suggested by Sarah and I love it. It offers peace and quiet whereas the rest of our downstairs living space is open. In the past, I borrowed the Not So Big House books from our library but I love owning them. It is such a pleasure to own these books and I would recommend them to anyone with an interest in home design.

Good book, with lots of nice pictures. Two main problems: (1) many of the houses are actually pretty big and (2) it's all a bit dated. Time for an update reflecting current design and construction techniques.

Everyone who dreams of living in a tiny home loves the idea of it, but has a hard time imagining how it would be in reality. The Not So Big House book is a realistic (for most of us) guide and photo journey of what it's like to live smaller. Definitely worth the read, even if you're just in the daydream phase of planning on your downsize.

Excellent concept and comprehensive for all homes and footprints, from comfort to functionality.

Truly revolutionized my final kitchen design and has me rethinking other rooms in the house -- and my life! -- as well. Highly recommend.

The concepts in "The Not So Big House" have been great for us as we have worked through a downsizing from a larger house to a smaller house.

I love this book. Had given it as a gift several years ago but liked it so much I wanted a copy for myself. It arrived promptly in Grade A condition.

A new way of thinking about how much home is needed for a family of one or a family of many. Multiple uses for every space, convenient built in storage, and a feeling of open space, livability and hospitality.

This book will get you thinking about how you use your space. Excellent if you are thinking of building a home.

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