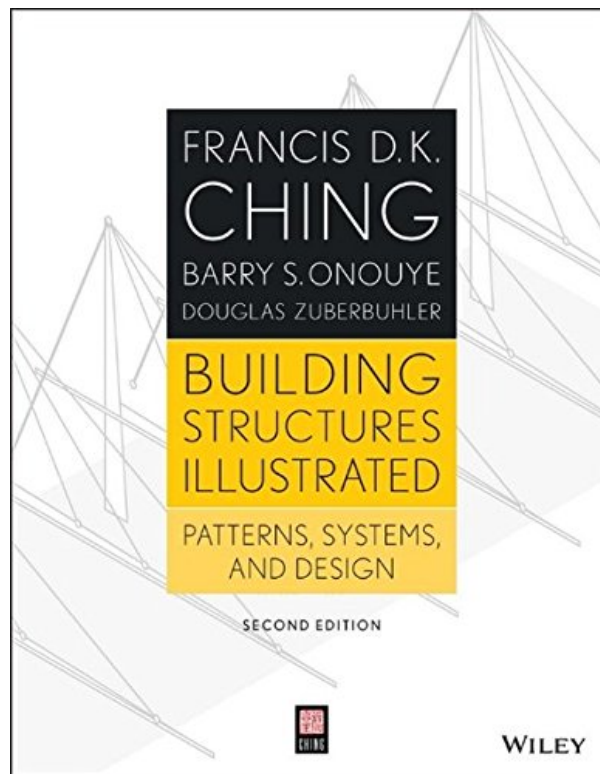
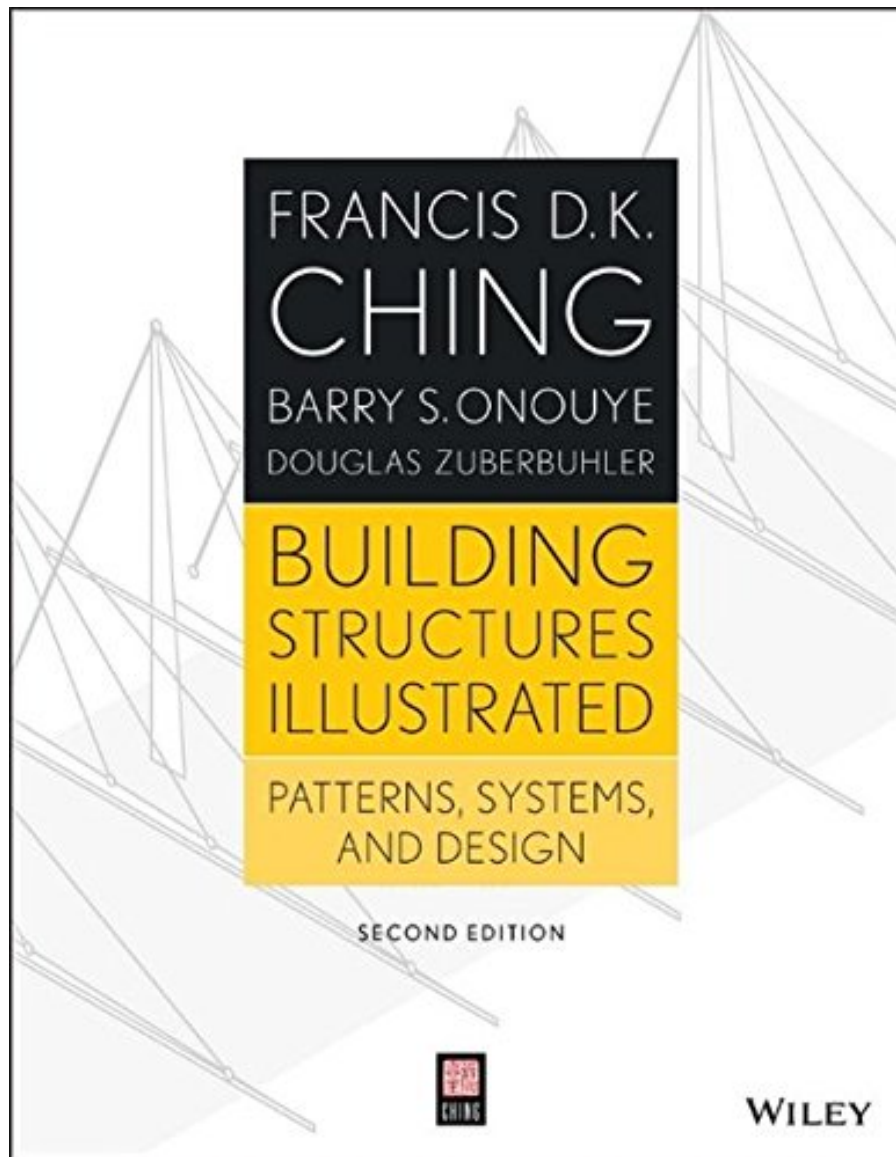


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- Updated to include new information on building code compliance, additional learning resources, and a new glossary of terms
- Offers thorough coverage of formal and spatial composition, program fit, coordination with other building systems, code compliance, and much more
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*Building Structures Illustrated, Second Edition* is the ideal resource for students and professionals who want to make informed decisions on architectural design.

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- Dimensions: 10.80" h x .85" w x 8.40" l, 2.03 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 352 pages

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4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Illustrated overview of basic commercial structures

By Karl

I'm a fan of Ching's *Building Construction Illustrated* (although I still only have the 3rd edition of that work) - and refer to it often.

I'm less impressed with this book and don't see myself referring to it much at all. The majority of the volume addresses pretty boring, symmetric and repetitive building types, whether a big box retail store, mid-rise or high-rise. A small section on asymmetric structures, fairly common in today's award-winning designs, feels

insufficient. There is nothing much relevant to structures for (high-end) residential construction - for example, shear for a large window wall in an earthquake zone. In that sense, the publisher's description as "a one-stop guide to structural design in practice" is false. For that matter, the book really isn't about structural design - but more just a very basic overview of some of the ways that the most basic structural issues might be addressed for common commercial buildings.

The early versions of Ching's *Building Construction Illustrated* featured beautiful hand-drawn figures. Later versions have more computer-generated linework, but at least with some overshoot lines and changes in thickness that make them look hand-drawn. The illustrations in this book are pretty much CAD drawings, isometric, plan, section and elevation views. They are ample and informative - but they are not "Ching's signature line drawings" as the blurb describing this book states.

My drop to 3 stars (Amazon defines as "It's OK") is based on the above - that I don't feel it contains enough relevant content and don't see myself referring back to the book at all. I quite agree with the premise in the product overview - that architectural students and architects should understand enough about structures that they can create designs that work without significant redesign once the structural engineer works on the project (or ideally, works side-by-side). But, frankly, the mistakes I've seen architects make, forcing significant re-design, will still be made even if they grasp the concepts in this book because the book is too generic, lacking any examples of structural member sizes in specific situations, whether as illustrations or as case studies.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Beynd Excellence!

By Professor Emeritus P. Bagnolo

*Building Structures Illustrated: Patterns, Systems, and Design*

FRANCIS D. K. CHING, BARRY S. ONOUYE, DOUGLAS ZUBERBUHLER

I started working for my Uncles architectural/engineering firm as a sophomore. Throughout high school, design school and graduate school architecture remained one of my majors, and one of my three Ford Foundation Fellowship Awards was in architecture.

I worked for the family firm for several years, designing and building Catholic hospitals, churches, schools. Later I worked for five years for an architectural firm, which specialized in monumental church art, of all sorts. I was then recruited by colleges and universities to teach and accepted one of those offers, though I ended up teaching more art than architecture because despite my deans attempts to place all design into one division politics intervened blocking the rightful merger's gained tenure as chair/coordinator of design and summer chair of architectural design. I was thus admitted as an ASIA Associate, now Emeritus.

I read and studied thoroughly the book *Building Structures Illustrated: Patterns, Systems, and Design* and found it excellent. If you are an architect, an architectural engineer, a student of either or both, this is the perfect book to place in your library along with *Building Construction Illustrated*, *Architecture: Form, Space, and Order*, *Building Codes Illustrated: A Guide to Understanding the 2012 International Building Code*, *A Global History of Architecture*, *Architectural Graphic Standards* and other classic architectural text books, most or all of which can be found here on Amazon or other sellers of such books.

This is the newest edition of the so titled book. It is filled with more than 1,000 of illustrations. This version is built upon close to thirty years of updated information and sketches, as well as new materials and ideas and drives us through each of the key stages of the design process, from site selection to building components, mechanical systems, and finishes.

This version is built upon thirty years of updated information and sketches, as well as new materials and ideas.

The book is illustrated throughout with excellent drawings that present the state of the art in construction processes and materials. It is Updated and revised and thus includes cutting edge systems and includes Archetypal drawings offer clear inspiration for designers and drafters, as well as the most current building codes and CSI Master Format numbering scheme

It covers everything from foundations, systems right through to finished works

The book consists of several chapters:

Beginning with Ch. 1. Building Structures in which the great structures starting with a sketch of the Gobekli Tepe (Turkey), which remain the oldest known stone temples right up to the drawings of the currently newest and largest, tallest buildings in the world and goes on through the eight chapters and 333 pages of all of the below:

- Ch. 1. Building Structures
- Ch. 2. Structural Patterns
- Ch. 3. Horizontal Spans
- Ch. 4. Vertical Dimensions
- Ch. 5. Lateral Stability
- Ch. 6. Long-Span Structures
- Ch. 7. High-Rise Structures
- Ch. 8. Systems Integration

This is less a text book filled, cover to cover with lectures and a relative spattering, sprinkling scarcity of much needed illustrations, as it is fortunately of necessarily useful, and minimal notes just enough to be understood and enough to wet the appetite for more, solidified by the more inspiring illustrations, which haunt the true architect to further explore HOW to create such inspirational works.

The minimal text is not a loss but a godsend for the image oriented architect as well as those architectural engineers with an eye for the anatomy and guts of the figurative buildings.

The multiplicity of drawings, and limited notes varying in length, makes me wish such books were in more high profile when I was a student.

This book will find a home in my large and still growing library of art and architecture.  
I give it five stars, with ease.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Great resource

By R. Mutt

It would be very hard to review this book without continually comparing it to Structure Systems by Heino Engel. Since this is the easiest course of action and probably the best way to help readers of this review, I'll take this approach.

Structure Systems is far more comprehensive at the highest level of understanding, but can be a daunting book for those who find it difficult to learn in an almost purely visual format. You literally have to look at

the images for lengthy periods of time to absorb everything, and the lack of verbal explanations makes it tricky to directly apply.

Building Structures Illustrated takes a different approach. While highly visual it also provides quite a lot of written explanations. It is also easier to follow and absorb. Content wise, it isn't the all-encompassing view of all structure systems, but is more detail oriented.

Generally speaking I'd say you shouldn't read one without the other, and when paired up these two books provide more enlightenment on structural engineering than you are likely to get from ten other books combined.

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