

Contents

Disclaimer	vi
Acknowledgments	ix
Foreword	xiii
Introduction	1
Section 1: About Earthen Floors	7
1. The Story of Earthen Floors	9
2. Understanding Earthen Floors	21
Section 2: Technical Information	35
3. Tools	37
4. Identifying, Gathering, and Processing Materials	55
5. Oil and Finish	77
Section 3: Preparing for the Pour	89
6. Making the Floor Mix	91
7. The Subfloor	109
8. Preparing the Work Area	127
Section 4: Installing the Floor	141
9. Pouring the Floor	143
10. Applying Oil and Finish	163
11. Living on, Maintaining, and Removing an Earthen Floor.	175
Section 5: Beyond the Basics	187
12. Color and Artistic Touches	189
13. Options and Alternatives	199
14. Contracting Earthen Floors	215
15. Stories From the Field	223
Conclusion.	237

Notes	241
Appendix A: Glossary	243
Appendix B: References	247
Appendix C: Resources	249
Appendix D: Building a Compacted Gravel Subfloor.	255
Appendix E: Earthen Subfloors and Base Coats	259
Appendix F: Installing Radiant Floor Heat	261
Index	265
About the Authors	271
About New Society Publishers	272