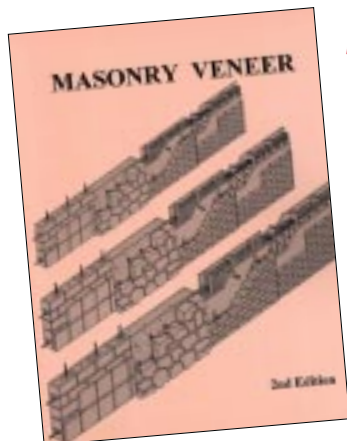


# Radiant Heating Guide

by Pete Young

**D**eveloped in conjunction with a two-day seminar course on radiant panel heating systems, *Radiant Basics* (\$32 from the Radiant Panel Association, P.O. Box 717, Loveland, CO 80539; 800/660-7187; [www.rpa-info.com](http://www.rpa-info.com)) is a comprehensive guide to the design and installation of hydronic and electric radiant heating systems for floors, ceilings, and walls. The guide begins with basic radiant heat concepts, then reviews eight residential and commercial case studies. From there, different hydronic systems are covered in depth. Shorter sections cover electric systems and various design concepts, such as estimating heat load, accounting for heat flux, and understanding the properties of different floor coverings. Several design formulas accompany these issues and are brought together to form a procedure for sizing overall radiant heating systems.

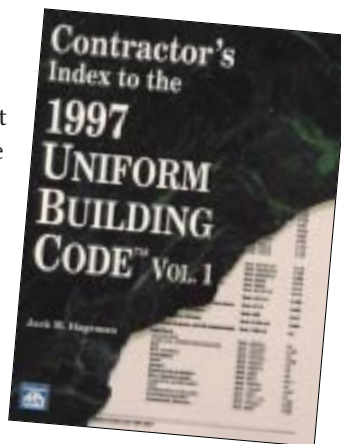


## Masonry Veneer

If you run into design or installation questions on masonry exteriors, an informative publication called *Masonry Veneer* is available for \$24 from the Masonry Institute of America (2550 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057-1085; 213/388-0472; [www.masonryinstitute.org](http://www.masonryinstitute.org)). The publication examines both adhered and anchored veneer as well as related background information and code regulations. With five logically divided sections (introduction, materials, system requirements, typical details, and guide specifications), it's easy to locate information for particular job scenarios.

## 1997 UBC Index

For most of us, using code books is part mystery, part guess, part worry that we missed something. The *Contractor's Index to the 1997 Uniform Building Code Vol. 1* is a handy way to identify all portions of the UBC that apply to indexed subjects. Arranged alphabetically, the subjects are listed in terms that are common to builders. The index, which the publisher claims is ten times more detailed than that included in the 1997 UBC, points you to the exact sections of the code that deal with the issue at hand. For example, looking up "bathroom" as a subject points to six completely different code sections. At \$26 (Craftsman Book Company, 6058 Corte del Cedro, Carlsbad, CA 92009; 800/829-8123; [www.craftsman-book.com](http://www.craftsman-book.com)), this index can save a lot of time and head scratching.



## Free & Cheap

### Hard-To-Find Doors

A product catalog called *Fine Doors for Castles and Cottages* is one of the few sources for high-end door designs. More than 400 doors are available as either slabs or prehung. The catalog is free to tradespeople from Pinecrest (2118 Blaisedell Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404; 800/443-5357 or fax 612/871-8956; [info@pinecrestinc.com](mailto:info@pinecrestinc.com)).



### Using Green Lumber

*Unseasoned (GRN) Framing Lumber* is the title of a new 4-page pamphlet that shows how using unseasoned instead of kiln-dried framing lumber can lower costs without affecting quality. Important factors such as shipping costs, shrinkage, and job-site climate are explained. The pamphlet also explains how to avoid mold and mildew problems by using proper stacking methods for storing green lumber. To order, send 50¢ to Western Wood Products Association (Dept. B5, 522 SW Fifth Ave., 4th Floor, Portland, OR 97204; [www.wwpa.org](http://www.wwpa.org)).

### Dust Collection Primer

Before you set out to put a dust control system in your shop, you might want to get hold of this 50-page booklet. *Dust Collection Basics* (\$5.95, for retail locations contact Woodstock International, Inc., P.O. Box 2309, Bellingham, WA 98227; 800/840-8420; [www.woodstockinternational.com](http://www.woodstockinternational.com)) uses illustrations and brief descriptions to explain how to size and design a system that meets your needs. The booklet also covers how to properly ground non-metal duct lines to safeguard against the explosion hazard caused by static buildup.



### Fungus and Termite Protection

*Wood Protection Guidelines: Protecting Wood from Decay Fungi and Termites* is put out by the Wood Protection Council, part of the National Institute of Building Sciences (\$15; 1090 Vermont Av., NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20005; 202/289-7800). This handy overview includes easy-to-use illustrations and charts to explain preventive measures and remedial strategies for wood susceptible to decay and termite infestations. A useful appendix contains follow-up sources, a glossary, and an index.

