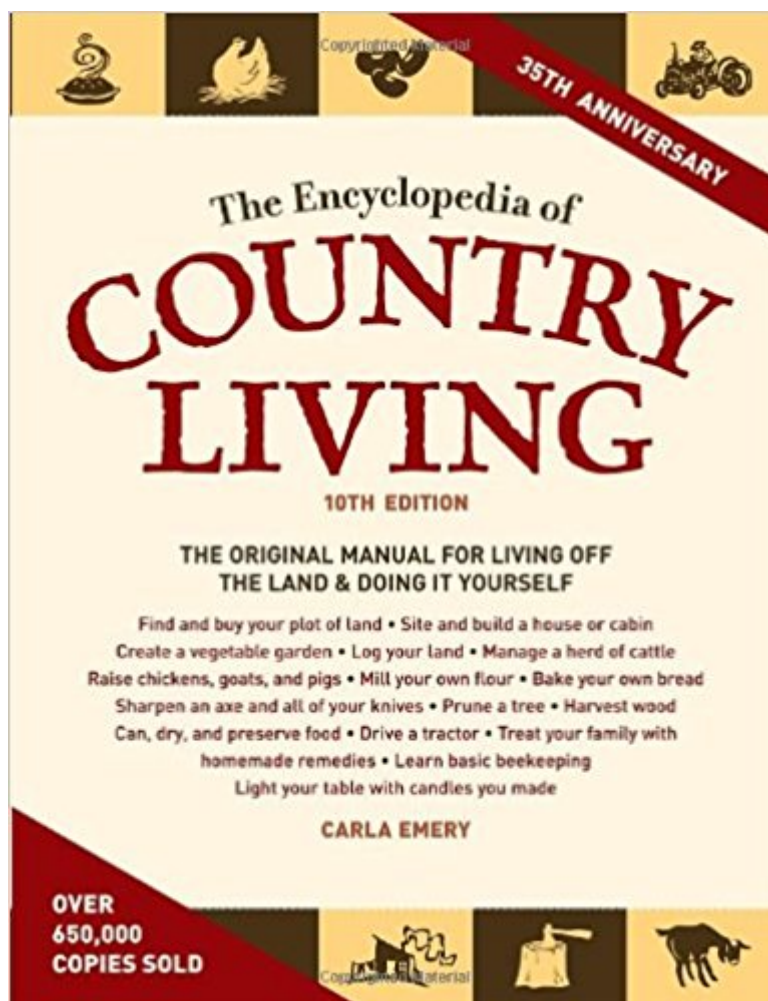


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# The Encyclopedia Of Country Living, 10th Edition



## Synopsis

No home, whether in the country, the city, or somewhere in between, should be without this one-of-a-kind encyclopedia – the most complete source of information available about growing, processing, cooking, and preserving homegrown foods from the garden, orchard, field, or barnyard. For more than 30 years, people have relied on its practical, step-by-step advice on basic self-sufficiency skills such as how to cultivate a garden, buy land, bake bread, raise farm animals, make sausage, milk a goat, grow herbs, churn butter, build a chicken coop, cook on a wood stove, and much, much more. First written at the height of the 1960s back-to-the-land movement, the book has been continually revised, updated, and expanded, and has grown from a self-published, mimeographed document to an exhaustive reference of more than one million words, 2,000+ recipes, and over 1,500 mail order sources. Emery's personal advice, reflections, and anecdotes ensure that this incredibly detailed, diverse reference is as enjoyable as it is useful.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"If you're dreaming about moving "back to the land" someday, or if you're already there and want to live more self-sufficiently (wherever you may be) you'll want a copy of the ninth edition of The Encyclopedia of Country Living"Organic Gardening"œFor the suburbanite with just enough space for a little garden to the die-hard homesteaders and everyone in between, The Encyclopedia of Country Living makes for both fascinating reading and a truly essential reference source. You

won't find a more complete source of step-by-step information about growing, processing, cooking and preserving every kind of food from the garden, the orchard, the field or the barnyard! • Rodale Book Club "This book is a monument to the coevolution of a person and an idea. As folk literature. . . this book should be shelved in your collection between the Foxfire books and Alicia Bay Lau's Living on Earth. • Whole Earth catalog "Urbanites will find the recipes and resources list. . . useful, the trivia interesting. . . and Emery's personal reflections. . . compelling. Even readers with no plans to raise sheep, sell home-made cheese or plant millet will find this a fascinating cultural document. • Publishers Weekly "Packed with old wisdom as well as up-to-date websites and mail-order sources to make country living easier." Country Almanac "Although mainly a modern individualist's resource on how to grow and prepare food, this work is much more. As one astonished browser acclaimed, 'Is there anything this book doesn't tell you how to do?' • Library Journal "Practical advice, invaluable information, and collected wisdom for folks and farmers in the country, city, and anywhere in between. • Territorial Seed catalog

Carla Emery grew up on a sheep ranch in Montana and was educated at Columbia University. In the early 1970s she settled on a farm in northern Idaho, where she wrote the first edition of the Encyclopedia of Country Living. Originally produced on a mimeograph machine in her living room, this book launched its author to the forefront of the back-to-the-land movement. She remained a tireless advocate of self-sufficiency and environmental stewardship until her death in 2005.

This is the "Bible" for people desiring to live their lives without depending on ANYONE. To highlight just a couple of the topics covered: complete detailed information about how to find and purchase the amount of land needed to sustain you or your family; building necessary structures to care for you and your livestock; the feeding, care and cooking preparation of livestock; setting vegetable gardens for continuous harvesting; and, how to can anything, and I mean anything, to eat when the winter snows set in. I have researched such sources for years and there's nothing that comes close. The information contained in this one book is all you'll need to become successfully and totally independent.

There's a good reason why older versions of this book are being sold at high prices for collectors...it's just awesome and always has been. Each update makes it a slightly bigger book too as more information is collected and carefully chosen for inclusion. This started as a labor of love by

Carla Emery and though she has now passed away, it continues. Like millions of others, I live by necessity in an urban/suburban environment where I was mostly at the mercy of the grocery stores, my local HOA rules and a stressed schedule with little time in it. When I moved to Virginia, I purposely built a home in a non-HOA location in an underdeveloped part of the city so I could have a shorter commute, no rules on my yard other than city rules and some control over my after-work time. I wanted to incorporate something of natural life into my own. The problem was I was clueless as to how. I bought oodles of books for every single aspect of what I wanted to do including gardening, canning (jar'ring/bottling for other countries), dehydrating, cooking from scratch and processing my own food from whole ingredients. That's just to start. Yes, some of the other oodles of books did help but they were very specific in their reach. And I did spend a great deal on them. Then a friend recommended this book and I almost smacked myself for muddling through without it for so long. This book covers all that I wanted to do and then some. It also covers all those things I dream of being able to do when our city finally removes the bans on suburban/urban chickens (they will). I can confidently say that this book improved my garden yields and variety produced, VASTLY improved the quality of my home canned items in both single and combination items, saved me tons of money because I can now part out my own meats (like whole fowl and quartered pigs) and create my own quick-cooking items from whole ingredients. You don't need to own a huge country place to benefit, just be someone trying to do more wherever you are right now. I do have a small farmette in the country that I hope to retire to and I'll get even more use out of it there but it is well worth the shelf space even if I stayed right where I am. Other books that book-end this anchor book for people with urban/suburban lots are: Square Foot Gardening and the Ball Book of Home Preserving. You don't need anything else so save the bucks I wasted on so many others and just go for those three. You'll get great value and very sound advice!

We have enjoyed Carla Emery's back to basics books and this one is packed full Good information on country living and self-sufficiency. The writing is straight forward with practical information for the time this written, most of which carries forward and is still relevant today. This includes sections on canning, planting, raising animals, country crafts, and a lot more. Since my family have been candle makers for over 45 years, I checked that section very closely and found it to be accurate but with dated references and a defunct provider. I also checked the section on raising small livestock like rabbits and chickens since we have years of experience doing that as well and the practical information was top rate. This makes a good addition to my back to basics bookshelf! Recommended, with the understanding that not all of the references and web sites are

The first Encyclopedia of Country Living I purchased was in 2003. My husband and I looked to it for guidance when we raised chickens and culled roosters. We learned how to shear sheep and get through lambing without a hitch. We learned about docking tails and tagging ears, as well as gained knowledge about animal diseases, worming, and proper animal diets. The book provided canning expertise, many fabulous recipes, tanning rabbit hides, making soap, etc. Our book has been splattered on, creased, torn, and extremely worn from all the use. How one woman could have known so much is beyond me. Yet we are thrilled and enriched to have her book even though she is now gone from this world. I purchased three more books--2008 edition and I give these to family and friends who want an extensive knowledge about living in rural areas. But this book is also essential for urban dwellers so they can learn about herbs, canning, alternatives to conventional laundry detergents, ridding your homes of bugs, floral arrangements, making candles, dealing with power outages, drying foods, and countless more tidbits that will help anyone. I love this book and more than that, I appreciate this book!

I keep looking for a kindle book that is like *Back to Basics: How to Learn and Enjoy Traditional American Skills*. I was hoping that I would find my answer in Carla Emery's book, *The Encyclopedia of Country Living*. Although the book had massive amounts of information, it still falls short of *Back to Basics*. Maybe it was because it didn't have enough illustrations, or was it because it lacked traditional house architecture and carpentering skills? Still, *The Encyclopedia of Country Living* is a useful reference on traditional horticulture, animal husbandry, preserving and preparing food. Plus the author includes an extensive bibliography of books to read for anyone wishing to research a subject in detail. Furthermore, the author adds lots of recipes from anything on making bread to cooking wild game. I particularly enjoyed the sections on growing quinoa, and raising guineas and quail. I did get a little bogged down in all the recipes that were offered, however, as a resource on raising and preserving food I give this book a thumbs up. For a resource on traditional architecture skills, I guess I will have to look elsewhere.

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