

Construction Project Management Reading List

Here is a list of the top construction management books from the past 10 years to guide you through the best resources for students, professionals, and field leaders.



Category	Title	Author	Description	Most Suitable For
Best Overall	<i>Construction Project Management: A Complete Introduction (3rd Edition)</i>	Alison Dykstra (2018)	This practical guide uses real-world examples to discuss the entire construction process, from early development to bidding, selecting a contractor, construction, and closing out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Students✓ New professionals✓ Structured learners
Best for Beginners	<i>Construction Management JumpStart (3rd Edition)</i>	Barbara J. Jackson (2020)	This bestselling guide is popular in training programs, providing an introduction to construction management basics, practical skills, and an aptitude quiz.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Beginners✓ Anyone new to the field✓ People making a career change
Most Practical On Site	<i>The Lean Builder: A Builder's Guide to Applying Lean Tools in the Field</i>	Joe Donarumo & Keyan Zandy (2019)	This book focuses on a field-oriented approach and actionable tools that can be applied on site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Superintendents✓ Foremen✓ Field managers
Best for Combining Theory and Practice	<i>Construction Project Management (5th Edition)</i>	Frederick Gould & Nancy Joyce (2022)	This guide provides a structured foundation on the construction project management, including current methods and technologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Students✓ Early-career professionals like interns and junior project managers
Best for Business-Focused Professionals	<i>Managing the Profitable Construction Business</i>	Schleifer, Sullivan & Murdough (2014)	This book focuses on the financial and operational strategies needed to run a successful construction company, and explores common causes for contractor failure. It provides practical frameworks for improving cash flow, productivity, and long-term business health, and for protecting a company against risk and downturns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Contractors✓ Financial managers✓ Firm owners looking to build a resilient business
Best for Quick Reference	<i>Construction Project Manager's Pocket Book (3rd Edition)</i>	Duncan Cartlidge (2024)	This portable guide is best for bringing on site or into meetings, providing a step-by-step guide to a full project and updated information on regulations and more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Project managers✓ Architects✓ Surveyors
Best for Advanced Students	<i>Modern Construction Management (7th Edition)</i>	Frank Harris & Ronald McCaffer (2016)	This popular textbook covers industry best practices, new technologies, ethics, case studies, and discussion topics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ College and graduate students✓ Early-career managers✓ Educators

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