This book focuses on the fundamental principles that affect the design of architectural details. These are the “patterns” that affect the function, constructibility and aesthetic qualities of a building. These detailing patterns can be used to produce countless effective detail solutions. Rather than being a review of stock details, this book guides the reader through the process of designing details.

Readers gain a working knowledge of a set of detailing principles that represent an accumulation of wisdom about what works in building construction and what doesn’t. Many detail patterns are firmly grounded in scientific fact. Others are based just as solidly on common sense and the realities of human behavior.