Principles of Structures

Description: This book provides an introduction to the conceptual design of structure for students of architecture and civil engineering.

Using a highly visual approach and presenting concepts in a concise way, it provides an understanding of the fundamentals of structures and clear definition of technical terms, whilst avoiding extensive mathematical formulation.

The book consists of two main parts. The first introduces the basic concepts essential to the understanding of structural behaviour. The second part is a survey of structural systems and their main structural features. Throughout, the central theme is the close link between form and structure, and between geometry and the flow in the structure.

Contents: Preface; Part I Basic concepts; Introduction: The design process; Structure; Forces in structure – equilibrium; Computation of internal forces – examples; Force-displacement relations in structures; Properties of materials and their employment in design; Part II Characteristics of structures: Stability, rigidity, classification of structures; Planar bar structures; Cables and arches; Introduction to spatial structures; Shells; Tension structures; Further reading; Index of Keywords


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