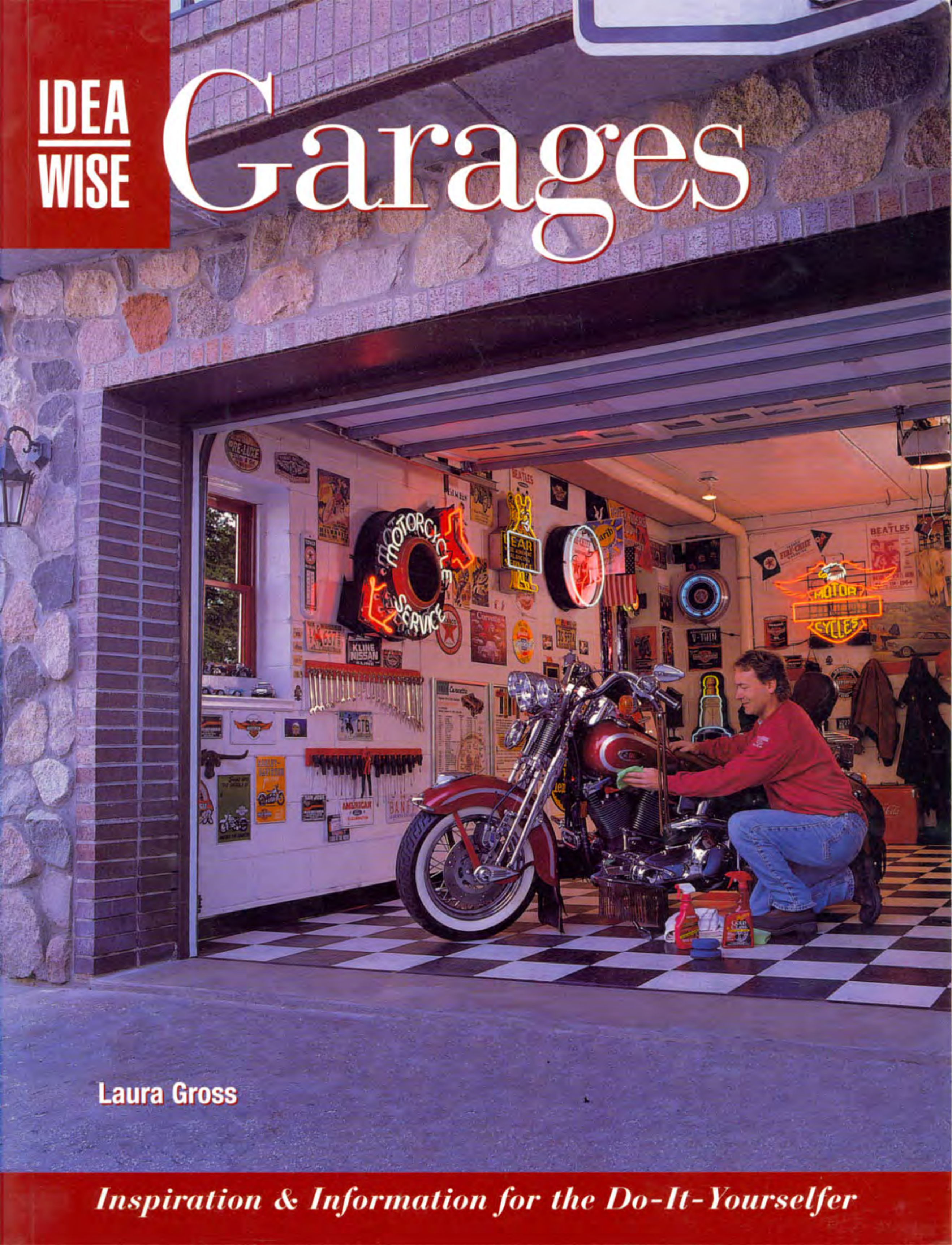


**IDEA  
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# Garages



**Laura Gross**

*Inspiration & Information for the Do-It-Yourselfer*



# Heating/Cooling

An efficient and safe heating and cooling system is a major concern when you convert garage space into living space. You can usually extend your home's existing heating system to the garage if you have one of the following systems: forced-air heat (oil, gas, or electric), electric baseboard heat, or hydronic (hot water) heat. The first step is to have a contractor perform a heat-loss calculation for your home and the garage space you want to heat. This calculation will reveal whether or not your current system can handle the extra load of heating the converted space.



*Wall-mounted electric heaters can be installed in a garage no matter what type of heating system is in the rest of the house.*

*Baseboard heaters come in 4 or 6' lengths, use electricity, are controlled by a thermostat, and come with safety thermal cutoff switches. They can be hard-wired to an electrical circuit or simply plugged into a wall outlet. Though expensive to operate, baseboard heaters are a sensible option for rooms that are not used often, especially on perimeter walls that tend to retain a chill in colder climates.*







## Arts, Crafts and Hobbies

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