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Small Garden



Synopsis

The dean of garden design gives you all you need to know to create the garden of your dreams, even if you have only a balcony, rooftop, or a small yard to plant. Using a variety of structural materials and designs with appropriate plants, a small area can be developed into an extension of your home.

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Customer Reviews

There are other, better books on the small garden out there. This book is filled with obvious statements e.g. "choose plants and containers that suit the style of your window space." Duh. The words and the design solution aren't the reason I bought the book. I bought it because first of all, there are a lot of pretty pictures. It's nice to page through if I'm bored or need a break. It's something to page through in 5 minutes. The second reason I bought the book is that I was really impressed with John Brookes years ago, before I had any training in design. I loved his gardens. So I wanted this book to see what he was up to. Nostalgia, really. Take it for what it's worth as part of a library. Other books to check out: David Stevens' Small Space Gardens, Joan Clifton's Courtyard & Terrace Gardens, James Grayson Trulove's Pocket Gardens, Katsuhiko Mizuno's Landscapes for Small Spaces: Japanese Courtyard Gardens, and Jamie Durie's The Outdoor Room, to name just a few.

This was a very good introductory book for a beginner like myself to basic principles of garden designing for small spaces. Brookes has separated the major concepts into six easy to read chapters: linking living/outdoor space, style, case studies, design (planning), structure (ground

pattern, paving, fencing, furnishings) and planting. Each well-written chapter is accompanied by beautiful pictures to illustrate his point. I've tabbed more ideas from this book, than from any of my other books on garden design. If you are a beginner and have a small or tiny back-yard or no back-yard (roof top, apartment terrace), really consider getting this book.

This is a great small garden book with a wide variety of contemporary gardens. Exciting gardens created on rooftops, basements, etc. I particularly loved the understated contemporary ones that used limited plantings and modern water features.

THIS book is heavy -- high quality paper, excellent pictures. It has a lot of really unique and beautiful gardens. More photos than any I have come across; I found the text to be helpful but I'd put this in the category of "inspiration" rather than "instruction." If you know something about gardening and want ideas, I highly recommend it.

As a NYC home and garden designer, I am always on the lookout for fresh ideas for designing for small spaces. This is one of my all-time favorite design books. The projects featured are spot-on. John's design sense is always fresh, innovative, and the projects are truly stunningly beautiful. I do wish there was a bit more how-to instruction given in this book, but there is little info on how to go about creating these projects from the ground up. Nonetheless, it's an essential part of any small space garden designer's collection.

Small gardens present the gardener with a host of problems, but also with the rare opportunity to demonstrate a flair for creativity and style in a small setting. In this book, the reader is treated to many wonderful ideas of how to use flowers and plantings to best advantage. Scale must be maintained in a small garden and the color photographs in this book will help guide the gardener establish a truly tranquil and beautiful setting in even the smallest of spaces. Well worth it.

I LOVE THIS BOOK. It provides wonderful inspiration. Brookes is in a league of his own in terms of smart and creative design. If you love clean lines and contemporary/modern styles, GET THIS BOOK.

Don't go buy this book if you are looking for instructions on how to do what. It's a wonderful book as inspiration. There are many photos of wonderful gardens that will make you get ideas for your own.

That is really all I have to say about the book.

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