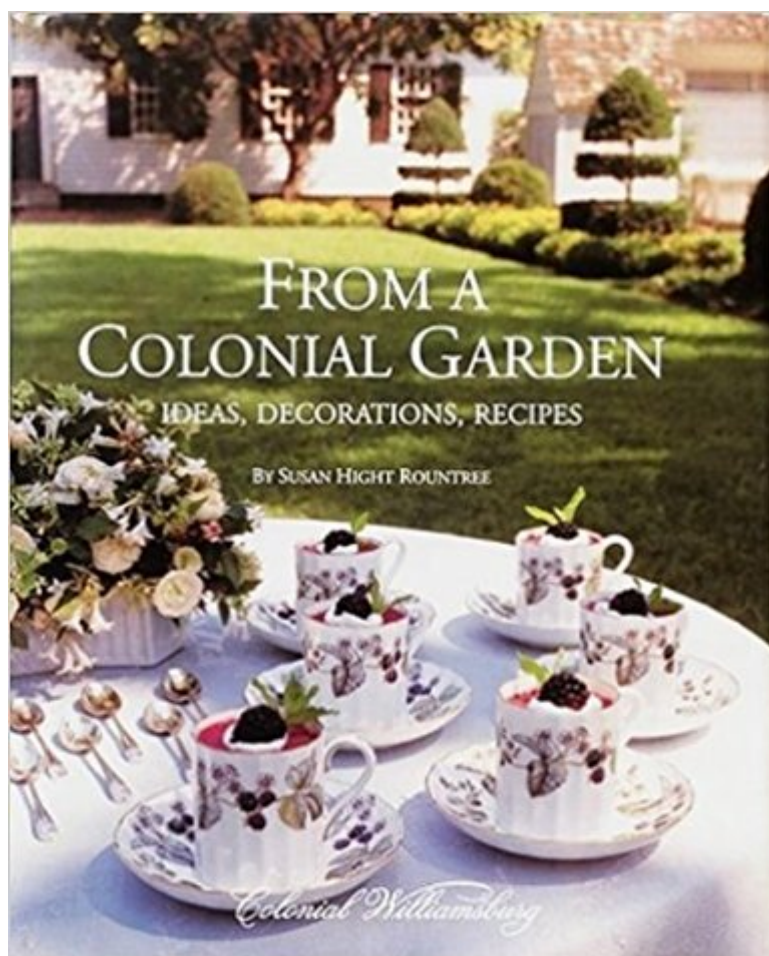


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From A Colonial Garden: Ideas, Decorations, Recipes



Synopsis

Colonial Williamsburg's renowned gardens have always played a major role in the life of the town. Their beauty and bounty inspired *From a Colonial Garden*. The author harvests a wealth of clearly written and illustrated entertaining and decorating how-to's and recipes from these famous gardens. *From a Colonial Garden*, with its myriad of ideas, deserves a special place on the bookshelf of any host, hostess, or gardener

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Author Susan Hight Rountree's latest work follows the best-seller tradition of her two earlier books, *Christmas Decorations from Williamsburg* and *Entertaining Ideas from Williamsburg*, published by The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Using the beauty and bounty of Colonial Williamsburg's renowned gardens as inspiration, Rountree harvests a wealth of clearly written and illustrated entertaining and decorating how-tos and recipes appropriate for any season of the year. *From a Colonial Garden* includes seasonal garden projects that suggest myriad ways to use flowers, fruits, herbs, and foliage, including a spring colonial garden for a mantel or a summer berry topiary. Autumn brings a harvest brunch to the table and a pumpkin snowman to delight Halloween trick-or-treaters. Celebrate the holidays with a selection of five themed special trees or create unusual wreaths, swags, and cones. Rountree also explores new ways to use the tried-and-true holiday floral forms any time of the year. *From a Colonial Garden* offers year-round life to the traditional fruit cone, the very essence of a Williamsburg Christmas, with a fruit and berry garland or

a summer centerpiece that brings fiery color to the table. A special section on weddings provides ideas for summer and winter receptions, bridal showers and rehearsal dinners, and party favors to create the perfectly memorable event. The volume features lush color photography by Tom Green, Colonial Williamsburg staff photographer and member of the Professional Photographers of America. Illustrations are by Elizabeth Hundley Babb, the skilled artist whose how-to drawings illustrated Rountree's earlier books on Christmas decorations and entertaining ideas. The hardbound 224-page volume with 287 photographs, 24 color how-to illustrations and 11 black-and-white drawings is available for \$24. Established in 1926, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is the not-for-profit educational institution that operates the restored eighteenth-century capital of Virginia. Known worldwide as the nation's largest living history museum, Colonial Williamsburg recently was recognized as the Best Historic Site by readers of Southern Living magazine for the seventh straight year. Colonial Williamsburg is located 150 miles south of Washington, D.C., off Interstate 64.

Colonial Williamsburg's renowned gardens have always played a major role in the life of the town. Their beauty and bounty inspired Susan Hight Rountree's latest book, *From a Colonial Garden: Ideas, Decorations, Recipes*. The author of two best sellers, *Christmas Decorations from Williamsburg* and *Entertaining Ideas from Williamsburg*, Mrs. Rountree harvests from the restored capital's gardens a wealth of clearly written and illustrated entertaining and decorating how-tos and recipes. Seasonal garden projects suggest many ways to use flowers, fruits, herbs, and foliage. Discover how easy it is to make a spring colonial garden for a mantel and a floral-decorated hoop, or a summer berry topiary. Learn how to prepare an Easter cake with strawberry and lemon filling, a Cheshire cheese hedgehog, or plantation rum punch. Fall brings a cornhusk wreath to your door, a harvest brunch to your table, and a pumpkin snowman to delight trick-or-treaters. You can celebrate the holidays with a special tree; five different themes are featured. Or, create unusual wreaths, swags, and cones. New ways to use old forms any time of the year, such as topiaries, wreaths, cones, and candle adapters, are included. You will learn ways to plant a living or portable topiary or create a "faux" topiary with fresh and dried plant materials. A cranberry and kumquat garland gives a new look to the traditional fruit cone, the very essence of a Williamsburg Christmas. This same form can be used covered in the summer with a variety of peppers to bring fire to your table. Use the special section on weddings with ideas on summer and winter receptions, a shower, a rehearsal dinner, bridal flowers, and favors to create the perfect event. You can make a gift to give anyone who appreciates gardens or gardening from the final

section on gift suggestions. From a Colonial Garden, with its myriad of ideas, deserves a special place on any gardener's bookshelf.

I not only enjoyed perusing this book and the beautiful pictures but I know it will be one I will pull off the bookshelf a great deal for good ideas. Not only does it give pictures of some of Colonial Williamsburg's pretty gardens but it is loaded with ideas for using items from our gardens and nature to create beauty in our homes. This book is especially good for the person who loves to decorate their home with seasonal beauty brought in from the garden. There is also a very nice section about garden decorations for weddings. While the book contains many recipes, it is not really a recipe book. Having said that, there are enough interesting garden fresh recipes given that I know I'll enjoy trying a few.

Really love this book. It is so evocative of life in Williamsburg and gives lovely ideas and recipes too. I think Williamsburg is a delight to visit, even though it appears to be called the "revolutionary city" now which I personally think detracts from the wish to portray life as it was in that era. I was so pleased to find these books from .com as they were much too heavy to carry home in April when I was there!!

I got this book just as a resource to make a few recipes and table decs for a colonial tea. After paging through the first section, I was hooked -- read the book straight through, and the next day did the same thing all over again. This is a gorgeous, creativity-boosting reference, with unusual ideas and lots of historically inspired recipes. It's already one of my favorite entertaining books!

Beautiful photography and great recipes. Full of ideas!

received as described and on time

Love the book!

The newest entertaining and decorating book from Colonial Williamsburg combines touches of elegance with moments of fun and fantasy. The 212-page book, "From A Colonial Garden: Ideas, Decorations, Recipes" is divided into chapters that take you through the seasons and many special occasions such as weddings, bridal showers and rehearsal dinners. There are 287 color photos and

24 illustrations to guide you every step of the way. Best of all, most of the projects are simple to create... For example, veggies such as colorful peppers are used to create a zesty-looking centerpiece on the nail-studded wooden cone that's typically covered with apples and sprigs of boxwood... One of her easiest and sunniest table arrangements is perfect for a summer picnic or cookout. A partially hollowed-out watermelon serves as a container for a bouquet of zinnias, rudbeckia, coreopsis, apple mint and rosemary... Rountree says the chapters on ideas from the spring garden are her favorite sections because they encourage you to use so many fresh flowers. "I'd like to see more people doing that," she says. "Fresh flowers are so many places these days--in the markets or you can grow your own." A chapter on garnishes from the spring garden also features Rountree's garden pet--the Cheshire Cheese Hedgehog... English folklore says it's a sign of good luck when you find a hedgehog in your garden. The book features an easy cheese-based recipe for making the hedgehog. "I've had such fun with him, he'll be in every book," she says.--Kathy Van Mullekom, Daily PressNewport News, VA

Colonial Williamsburg... sets a high standard for illustrated books on gardens, the Colonial kitchen, and the decorative arts in the occasional books it publishes. The latest from CW's presses is Susan Hight Rountree's "From a Colonial Garden: Ideas, Decorations, Recipes" (\$24.95). The first section introduces the reader to the formal but colorful gardens visitors can admire in the restored area -- but these gardens also serve a practical purpose as succeeding sections attest... The book is strong on weddings, offering a winter reception at the Williamsburg Inn or a summer ceremony at a James River plantation. Ms. Rountree... also uses garden materials to make gifts, wreaths, table decorations, and other items throughout the year. The section on Christmas is especially useful, and readers will want to remember to consult the book in early November, before the holidays, for fresh ideas. This not primarily a cookbook, but Ms. Rountree includes recipes for seasonal dishes to round out her sections... As with all CW publications, this new book upholds the benchmarks of taste and style readers have learned to expect, and will rate a place on the bookshelf of gardener, cook, and home decorator.--Ann Lloyd Merriman, editor, commentary/books "Between the Bookends," Richmond Times Dispatch

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