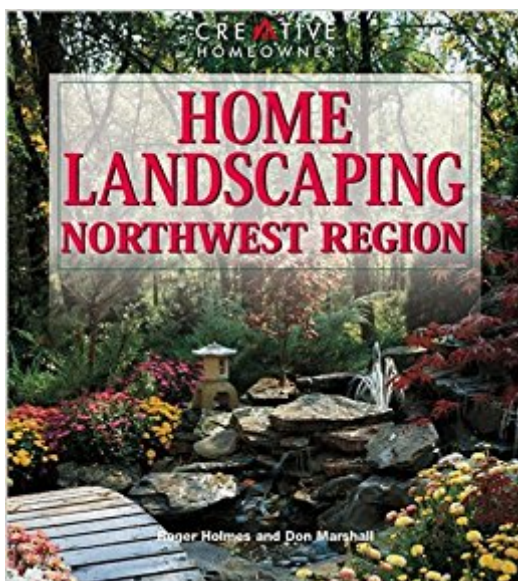


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Home Landscaping: Northwest Region



Synopsis

Home Landscaping: Northwest Region joins Creative Homeowner's consistently popular Regional Home Landscaping series as the sixth title. Readers will applaud this book's attractive yet practical designs. Using about 200 plants that thrive in the region, landscape professionals from the northwestern states created 40 plans for all areas around the home. In addition to giving information about caring for the specific plants in each design, the book also instructs readers on installing the featured paths, fences, walls, and arbors. Like the other titles in the series, this book contains three parts: Design Portfolio, Guide to Installations, and Plant Portraits. Clearly written in a friendly style, it provides the information readers need to know to landscape like a pro.

Book Information

Series: Home Landscaping

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Creative Homeowner (January 28, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580110886

ISBN-13: 978-1580110884

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,581,036 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > Pacific Northwest #958 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Landscape #1404 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Garden Design

Customer Reviews

"How-to gardening guides proliferate in springtime like wildflowers in sunny meadows. So how to choose? In Home Landscaping-Northwest Region, Roger Holmes and Duvall's Don Marshall fill the bill, offering an ingenious, yet down-to-earth reference suitable for laying out new gardens, renovating old ones or devising attractive, low-maintenance treatments for problem spots...Any gardener could spend many worthwhile hours exploring this guide. And, it's a bargain."-Irene Wanner, The Seattle Times
"This is the best book on landscaping for our climate that I've seen. Practical but creative, with hundreds of color photos and step-by-step instructions for building paths, patios, arbors, and more. New homeowners will love the 23 designs that cover the most common

landscaping situations... An excellent price for such an information-packed book, written with the typical Northwest homeowner in mind."Marianne Binetti, Seattle Post-Intelligencer March 21, 2002" There is nothing like it! This idea-filled book takes the guesswork out of landscaping so you can focus on the fun. Designs that work, great plants you can find, accurate instructions, and detailed drawings will help you succeed."Nancy Beubaire, editor, Organic Gardening" The text tackles typical landscape challenges with precise plans and clear instructions for both planting layouts and hardscaping." --Library Journal December, 2005

Home Landscaping: Northwest Region joins Creative Homeowner's consistently popular Regional Home Landscaping series as the sixth title. Readers will applaud this book's attractive yet practical designs. Using about 200 plants that thrive in the region, landscape professionals from the northwestern states created 40 plans for all areas around the home. In addition to giving information about caring for the specific plants in each design, the book also instructs readers on installing the featured paths, fences, walls, and arbors. Like the other titles in the series, this book contains three parts: "Design Portfolio," "Guide to Installations," and "Plant Portraits." Clearly written in a friendly style, it provides the information readers need to know to landscape like a pro.

I had low expectations for this when I ordered it. I figured it would be one of those overly general "how to" books that leave out much of the important information. I was surprised to find that it has very specific plans for a variety of garden situations, plans which already show specific groupings of specific plants. I found this very helpful because I'm not particularly experienced in designing a landscape, nor am I wealthy enough to afford a landscape designer. There is a design for every corner of my new house, tailored to sunlight, etc. I can follow the plans verbatim and end up with a landscape that looks like it was professionally designed, or I can make small changes to personalize it. This is, as the previous reviewer commented, much easier than starting from scratch. Definitely worth the money.

Great book

This book would be awesome except for the fact that it really only details the type of plants one would be able to use in Western Washington State. Most of the plants suggested in this book just aren't hardy enough for the rest of the northwest. I still found some great suggestions in it, though.

Problematic landscape design leads to several problems, I am a professional, and you won't believe what I have seen in the field, I mean if you Truly understand about gardening, then you could see that 99.99% of the landscape you drive by everyday have some of or all of the following problems:

1. Ugly. This is the most common one, some garden looks good at installation, then after a while the garden looks terrible, and no matter how you try to tidy it, it just doesn't look right and you probably wonder why? I tell you why, this is because your designer could not correctly visualize the scale of plant material, so when all the plants are freshly installed, they look very nice and neat because they are from similar sized nursery containers.
2. Weed problems. If you think whatever they sell at the nursery should be non-invasive, then you are dead wrong. Often your designer (or yourself) will buy some pretty plants and plant them in the ground not knowing its true habit. At first, everything looks good, but after few years, you find yourself spending most of your weekends pulling suckers from all over the yard.
3. Maintenance problems. Some nice looking design will lead you big problems. One of the common one is plant a tree or shrub that will grow too big and too close to the house. In the end you will face only three choice, 1. cut it down, which can cost thousands of dollars; 2. Cut the branches that are in the way, often you will make the tree sick and ugly. 3. Remove your house. Some other maintenance problems caused by poor design include planting tress or shrub require high maintenance, for example planting trees that often drop unwanted stuff such as leaves, branches or even worse--aphids poop (on your car or on your head)!
4. High requirement of pesticide and fungicide. Most common is planting rose. If the type of pesticide or fungicide can travel with water, you can ruin the soil of your entire garden. This can easily be avoided if proper plant selections were made.

I can keep go on for a while, but I think you should get my point. If you want to risk suffering as little as possible, this book is your best choice, just make sure you buy this pictured edition not the newer ones (publisher added some plants without notifying the authors). Follow the suggestion made in it down to the letter, I grantee you will have one of the least problematic garden in your neighborhood. This book can save you tons of money, if you like to waste thousands of dollars but save few on this book, then go for it. As a landscaping professional, I can make more money on a problematic garden.

THE BACKGROUND: I know next to nothing about plants, and what little I do know is mainly for plants that grow well in the Deep South, where I grew up. I now have a cute house with a remarkably boring yard 2500 miles away from the "Deep South" - in Seattle, to be exact.

THE GOAL: create some nice-looking, *low maintenance* landscaping for the yard, but without having to become an avid amateur gardener, carpenter or landscape designer.

THE TECHNIQUE: as is my

style, I go in for complete overkill and immediately buy a dozen books on the subject of landscaping and gardening - must be thorough in my research, you understand. I pour through them, make lists, check with local nurseries, draw detailed plans, etc., and after many hours of work and decision-making, finally decide what to buy and where to plant them. THE RESULT: 90% of the plants I finally choose as appropriate to the area, low maintenance, and nifty looking, are in this ONE BOOK already, and there were plenty of others in this one book that could have substituted for the remaining 10%. My planting layouts also fairly strongly resemble several of the suggested layouts detailed in this book. THE LESSON: Should have started and stopped with this one. I coulda fit in tuba lessons or something! Buy this book, Cascadia gardeners and landscapers! It's what you need! Oh, and it also has tons of useful information on creating walls, fences, gates, paths, garden layouts, pruning, planting, etc. VERY highly recommended.

My Mom was a master gardener, and I grew up in a wonderfully landscaped home. However, once I bought my own home I found that gardening talent was not genetic, it was earned. So I bought a ton of books related to Northwest gardening, and read each one diligently. I put into practice Home Landscaping because it was extraordinarily practical and straightforward, the rest tend to be coffee table books. Conceptually, this is just a fantastic book, and while it puts out "bulletproof" gardening plans with specific plants and locations, the concepts of what goes where and why are the most useful. Experimentation is great, but with the concepts used, it's just a little less painful.

This book has colorful drawings suggesting gardens [to scale] for all kinds of settings - shade, sun, slopes, corners, and narrow strips, as well as color photos of the plants and suggested varieties of specific species. Included are directions for supporting structures such as paths and trellises, general plant care, and soil preparation. It's a thorough book with lots of ideas in an attractive format.

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