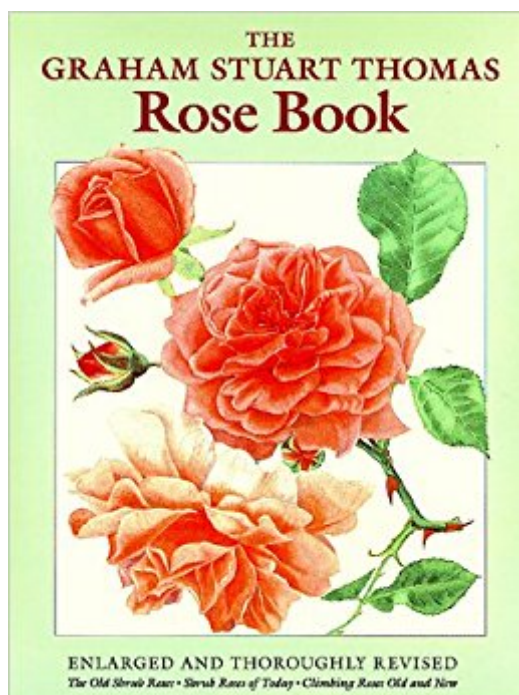


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The Graham Stuart Thomas Rose Book



Synopsis

An omnibus edition of three classics---The Old Shrub Roses, Shrub Roses of Today, and Climbing Roses Old and New---that were largely responsible for kindling modern enthusiasm for historical roses. All have been revised and expanded for this new edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Graham Stuart Thomas' *The Old Shrub Roses* was first published in 1955, his *Shrub Roses of Today* appeared in 1962, and his *Climbing Roses Old and New* came out in 1965. The three books have now been revised and enlarged for this new compiled edition, and new illustrations have been added along with "Notes on the Origin and Evolution of Our Garden Roses," C. C. Hurst's classic essay on the subject written in 1941. Thomas, now 85, is the author of 15 other garden books and garden adviser to Britain's National Trust. In this luxurious book, Thomas lists hundreds of roses, each with the plant's garden forms, varieties, hybrids, the name of the raiser, and the date it was introduced. He describes in detail the plant's leaves, blooms, height, and growing season. But the book is more than just a list of roses; Thomas includes an essay on the appeal of roses, one on old shrub roses, one on wild roses, one on climbers and ramblers, and another on cultivation, pruning, and fragrance. This is truly a comprehensive work on the subject, with 158 color photographs and paintings. Some of the paintings are by the author, as are 21 pencil drawings. George Cohen

"More than anyone else, Graham Stuart Thomas launched the revival of interest in roses long out of favour.' Henry Mitchell, *Washington Post*; 'The greatest gardener of our time, perhaps of all time.' *Daily Telegraph*" --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A foundational text for anybody serious about rose gardening. Thomas has perhaps more to say about roses than anyone else. And he says it better than most. The color plates seem a little dated, but they are still useful. Most useful is the text, however. If you are serious about rose gardening, this is one to have on your shelf.

Long ago I got the original three works, *The Old Shrub Roses*, *Shrub Roses of Today*, and *Climbing Roses Old and New*, which I have treasured greatly. The current work is a union of the three in one volume, printed in a larger format, revised, and with a multitude of new color photographs. You need this book. The seller provided a brand-new unread copy and it arrived as it were even before I submitted the order, or so it seemed.

I love this book, but found it a little daunting when I first unwrapped it. It is not your standard "lots of beautiful pictures" book. There are a few pictures, but they are not particularly good. It is the writing and the information contained that make this book so valuable. I keep it on my bedside table now and browse through it regularly, to read the fascinating histories and yummy descriptions of roses. One thing that makes this book so excellent is the beautiful writing and the fact that he includes text and information from older rose resources/material that would be difficult to find without going to an extensive library. It is informative and gives detailed histories of old garden roses with descriptions that truly give you a feel for the roses. There is a rich section on propagation and the cultivation of roses, as well, although I found this less interesting than the historical information. I am particularly interested in Moss roses and this book had excellent material relating to the development of this type of rose, as well as all the other categories such as Portlands, Gallicas, Albas, etc. If you are confused by the categories, you cannot find a better source for explaining how these classes are different and how they may have come into being. I highly recommend it for people who are interested in history and development of roses. I have not seen a better book in this category, and I have quite a number of rose books. If you are fascinated with the history of the rose, you should get this book--I read this time and time again when considering additions to my garden or when I simply want to know more about the old garden roses I grow and get the characteristics of the various classes of rose straight in my mind.

Designing a classic garden with herbs, perennials, boxwood, and of course, roses. Read Graham Stuart Thomas's *The Old Shrub Roses* and loved it. Very informative regarding history of roses as

well as growing habits of individual roses. Thrilled to find this book compiling three of his classic books in an updated version. Even more excited about the condition and price of the used book - like new and very inexpensive. Already have many expenses with plants, tools, soil amendments, etc. so really appreciate the book. Arrived early, too!

I am astonished at the expanse of knowledge of Graham Thomas, and as I read this book I am gaining a lot of knowledge about old roses. I thought I knew something about these old flowers, but I think by reading this book I've learned more than I already knew. A must have for serious rosarians.

This book has turned into my best and most accurate reference on roses, especially historical roses. Graham S. Thomas has given fascinating and thorough information on the development of roses. I have also found his descriptions of many varieties of roses to be superb and thorough. Gardeners who prefer a more lush and informal style of gardening will also appreciate his information on growing roses as he doesn't carry pruning to the extreme that so many gardening books advise. On the whole, if you are interested in the history of roses and growing Old Garden Roses, you must get this book.

This book is a great reference book in my research to learn about old garden roses and species roses. It contains information to help me identify and classify old garden roses and gives me important information on caring for these roses.

great remembrances of a great rosarian, and a lot of info.

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