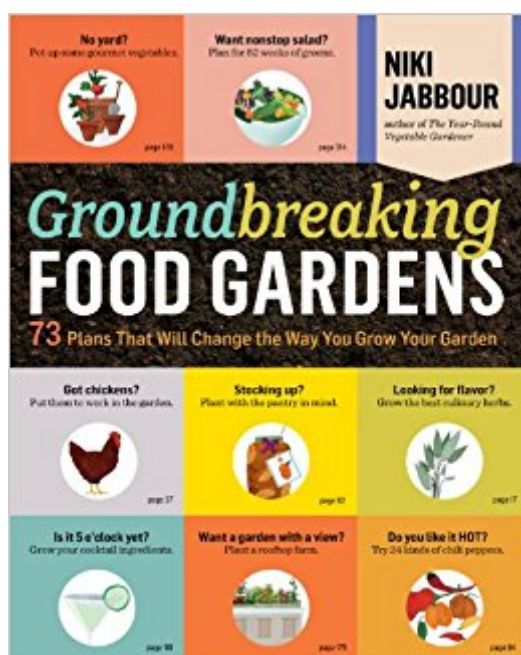


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# Groundbreaking Food Gardens: 73 Plans That Will Change The Way You Grow Your Garden



## Synopsis

Follow your zany muse and get creative with your vegetable garden. Niki Jabbour brings you 73 novel and inspiring food garden designs that include a cocktail garden featuring all the ingredients for your favorite drinks, a spicy retreat comprising 24 varieties of chile peppers, and a garden that's devoted to supplying year-round salad greens. Created by celebrated gardeners, each unique design is accompanied by both plant lists and charming anecdotes. This fully illustrated collection glitters with off-beat personality and quirkiness.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**\*Starred Review\*** As host of the call-in radio show *The Weekend Gardener*, Jabbour fields questions and receives tips from a wide assortment of produce-growing enthusiasts across the U.S. and Canada. In this lively and inspiring handbook, Jabbour puts these networking skills to good use by showcasing the food gardens of 73 master gardeners, from Seattle to London. Whether the allotted space is a balcony or shady backyard, someone has offered an inventive design for it, including notable horticulture experts such as New York Botanical Garden director Toby Adams, landscape designer Jessi Bloom, and best-selling botany author Amy Stewart. Among the most interesting are Stewart's cocktail garden, providing herbs and fruits for mixed drinks, and a Chicago hot-dog garden, producing bread-seed poppies, mustard, and white onions. Every plan is accompanied by full-color illustrations, growing tips, and tweakable lists of crop possibilities. The abundance of creative advice here will help perk up the gardens of both novice and

professional growers as well as satisfy the curiosity of anyone wondering what tickles the imaginations of veteran gardeners. --Carl Hays

Niki Jabbour set out to discover how and why popular gardeners are growing vegetables, fruits, mushrooms, grains, and herbs. The enthusiastic answers and innovative garden plans she received are as rich and varied as the plants being grown. Here are 73 garden designs from horticulturists, community gardeners, bloggers and print writers, television and radio hosts, and other professional gardeners. Contributions include design illustrations, plant lists, and stories explaining the personal quirks and motivations behind the garden. There's a plan to satisfy every craving.

Usually I am not into a compilation book, but this book covers 73 different views of what a 'garden' can be. After a request to my local library so I could preview this book - I bought it! Every page is interesting, every view of what a garden is (or can be) is valuable and the illustrations are great. 5 specific pages sold me on this book and reading through it again I see more useful information.

This book had great variety of gardens to learn from. I loved reading about all of the different types of gardens that she studied and brought to the reader lessons to learn from. It is good for any climate since it shares so many, any style, any taste, and any objective. I learned so much from reading it! And it's beautiful too!

I found this at my local public library and fell in love with it, had to order my own copy because there are just so many great ideas here. First and foremost, you should know what this is NOT. It is NOT a detailed step-by-step guide or how-to garden book. Think of this more as one of the best Pinterest boards you have ever seen. Each garden plan will have something to spark your own ideas, be it layout, plants, or technique. This is book full of inspiration for any gardeners who are looking to mix things up or just need a change from their usual ways of doing things. I should also note that I'm not one of those meticulous, detail-oriented gardeners who have immaculate formal gardens. I grow things on a whim, and "planning" is used very loosely in what I do with our yard. That said, this book was exactly my style of reading. Very visual, very straightforward, and very easy to skim. There are no photos, just a couple different styles of drawing or sketching each garden plan. I do wish some of the illustrations had more details, but I'm still delighted with the book overall.

This is a great book. Good info and lots of pictures and ideas. Literally sitting out so we can

reference it often. Have recommended to our garden club.

Helped me thinking about the goals of my own garden plan. I do wish there had been more emphasis on where each garden is geographically.

Not what I was hoping for. All illustrations without much attention to detail or explanation. Not worth it. Will return.

I absolutely LOVE this book. What a great compliment to Niki's other book. Great for the beginning gardener as well as for someone who is rethinking how they are using the ground that they have to garden. Definitely one to add to a gardener's library.

We have been enjoying this book, reading it in small increments and commenting to each other about what intrigued us with the more memorable designs. Even though these are short articles adapted from a variety of authors, everything harmonizes nicely. Each presentation is about 4-5 pages long and has a nice layout sketch. This is more an inspirational 'wish book' to demo what is practical, than an actual garden planner. I was surprised how many gardeners take the trouble to espalier trees as I thought that was something rather difficult, so I am heartened. Many of the gardens are small enough that you could actually create one of these every few years to add to your own diversity on your homestead. The book is inexpensive, the format makes it easy to hold and there are many interesting side notes that intrigued us to explore. We live in Zone 5 MA and plenty of the exact examples would work for us, but even if the specific recommended plants are not seasonably appropriate to our area, that does not diminish from the value the book offers. It is inspiring to see how many 'victory gardens' everyone could plant if they replaced parts of their lawns with a nice food garden. This book would make an excellent housewarming gift, methinks.

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