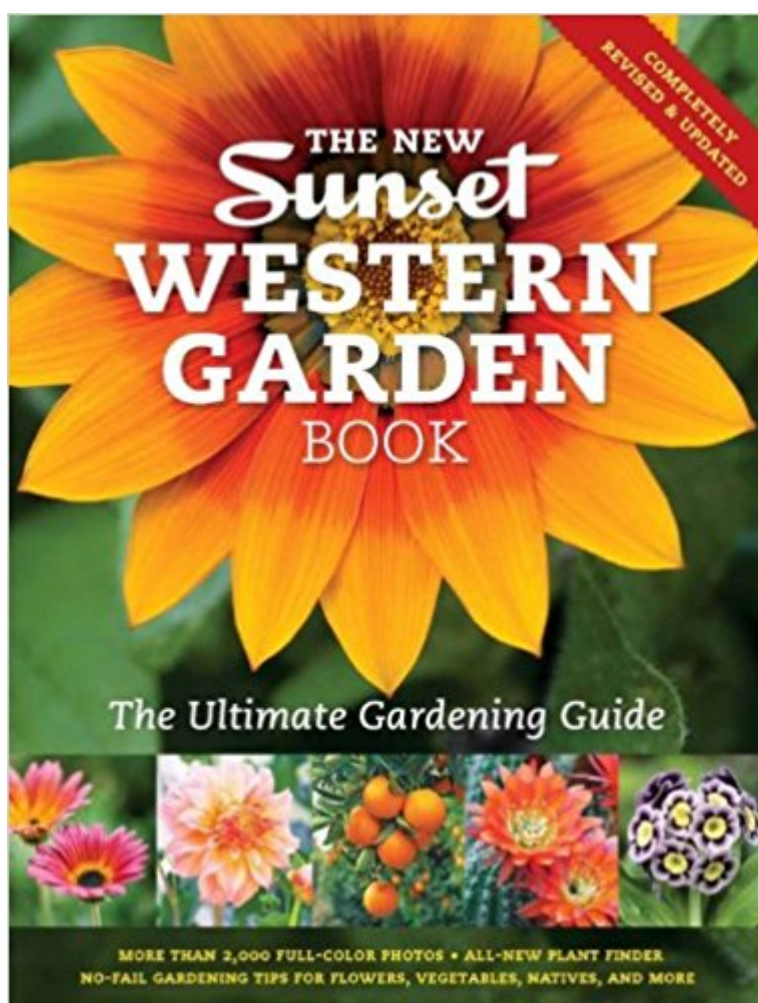


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The New Sunset Western Garden Book: The Ultimate Gardening Guide (Sunset Western Garden Book (Cloth))



Synopsis

As surely as gardens change with the seasons, gardening is ever changing. New plants, techniques, materials, and lifestyles are constantly broadening the choices you have and reshaping the way you garden in the West. In response to this natural evolution, the editors of Sunset-the West's most trusted source of gardening information for more than 80 years-have completely redesigned and updated The Western Garden Book in this new 2012 Ninth Edition. Following the best-selling success of the previous editions of The Western Garden Book, this edition includes a fresh new look, thousands of color photographs, fresh illustrations, and an easy-to-follow format. Written by experts for gardeners in the West, this book is an indispensable reference for beginning and expert gardeners alike. The New Western Garden Book features include: A photo gallery shows the West's most innovative gardens, from all-edibles front yards to stylish water-wise and fire-wise gardens to living walls and green roofs-all with ideas you can use. Climate Zone Maps and growing-season graphs for all regions of the West including Alaska and Hawaii. A new "Plant Finder" section helps you choose plants for their garden's problem areas or for special effects. "A to Z Plant Encyclopedia" lists some 8,000 plants that thrive in the West, including more than 500 new ones. Gorgeous color photographs illustrate all plant entries-for the first time ever in The Western Garden Book. "Gardening From Start to Finish" is a new visual guide that leads readers through all steps of making a garden, from soil prep through planting, growing and care, with special sections on natives, veggies, grasses and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sunset magazine (www.sunset.com) is the premier guide to life in the West, covering the newest and best ideas in Western home design and landscaping, food and entertaining, and regional travel in 13 Western states. Sunset Magazine has a circulation of over 1.25 million and a readership of 4.864 million.

This is THE gardening bible if you live in the west. Go to any nursery and you'll find a worn copy stashed behind the register. Find yourself at a nursery without your copy you can ask to borrow theirs. When I'm stateside I usually carry a copy in the car spring and summer in case I stop at a nursery. It's the undisputed authority on plants out here. However I have a beef and hence the four checks rather than five. I'm in Hawaii, specifically H1 and eagerly looked forward to this edition hoping there would be some expansion on the section dealing with Hawaii. Alas, there was even LESS included than in the last edition. Go to the local Home Depot and you'll find many plants not included in the book. The stores are all located in zone H1 and info re their suitability to survive in zone H2 where I live is sorely lacking. So we here in Hawaii are a small group with a myriad of unique plants unheard of in other western states. I think devoting a page or two more would go a long way in addressing our needs here. Another solution would be a separate book like others Sunset offers for specific situations like Easy-Care Plantings, Western Landscaping, Problem Solver, etc.

The Go-To for me in landscaping research. I just bought a house in a totally different zone than I'm accustomed to, so needed this book to find out how to care for my new landscaping. I have had different versions of this book over the past 20 years, and this is my favorite. The pictures are clear, the drawings are clear, and they have even more common sense tips for people like me, who struggle to care for plants properly. I have crepe myrtles in my yard, and this book explained exactly why we were seeing yellowing of the edges of leaves. This is SO helpful! I can now treat the plants accordingly (potassium deficiency) without worry. It told me how to prune them (different than most trees/shrubs) and gave common sense information about traditional pruning of our other new trees and plants. I actually got better information from this book than I did the local nursery's specialists. That says a LOT.

I have owned several Sunset Western Garden books over the years. I do a lot of gardening and update the books every 5 years or so. I recently purchased this edition to help me with plant selection for a landscape remodel at my daughter's home in California that I had been asked to plan. As usual, the book did not disappoint. The previous books had most plant pictures hand drawn. This book has replaced them with actual color photos for every plant described which is a more accurate view of what the plant actually looks like. It is easy to use, extremely informative and updated with many new varieties. What ever western climate zone you live in or whatever size area you want the plant to fill, you will find plants for your specific need (climate areas for western states are well defined). This book is a must for anyone planning landscaping or planting or caring for plants and trees in the western states (including Alaska and Hawaii). 5 stars!

My uncle told me that this was the must have gardener's bible. He went so far as to tell me to walk out of any nursery or garden center that doesn't have one of these behind the counter. After seeing the wealth of information in this book, I'd have to agree. Did you know that creeping thyme and creeping chamomile exist? You can have ground cover that isn't grass, and actually is useful! I have seed packets of both on the way.

The format is not as user friendly as the previous issue. I used to be able to look up common names of plants and would be referred to the botanical name right in the column. I was looking for a new plant that came out in 2004 and it is not in the book. I will continue to use my 2007 edition.

Not sure how much new content is in this edition because I went straight to the Salvias and Sedum and am sort of stuck making notes and applying sticky tabs. What I've seen is well done, prettier with color photos on every page, I think. The flex binding is a plus. Handy maps and a plant finder are always useful.

It's pretty much like an encyclopedia specific for the Western states. It won't tell you how to do everything, but it will give you the basics and to-the-point information that will get you started or answer your question. With so many DIY posts, articles, and forums on the Internet, it has gotten more difficult to find specific information for your very area. When you do an Internet search for a specific gardening question, you may get someone's advice from a completely different climate zone and you won't necessarily have the same gardening criteria (and therefore, successes) if you live in the desert and you're looking at advice from someone in a more rainy

Maine. You can trust The New Western Garden Book to give you the right information for your area. It's the first place I turn now when I need to look up information about landscaping and gardening.

I was told that, as a beginning gardener, this was a "must-have" book. It is a beautiful piece of work, no doubt, if you have some knowledge of gardening and plants in general. Because the book takes in so many climate zones, I found it difficult to navigate. I would have preferred a book that sorted plants by climate zones rather than alphabetically. Of course, this would probably make the book too big to handle. The sections that designate good plants for shade, seacoast gardens, slopes, etc., are helpful but too limited. Although the photographs are beautiful, the book, in my opinion, is better suited to someone that has a more extensive knowledge of plants than I do. It will make a nice reference book with the help of a landscaper.

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