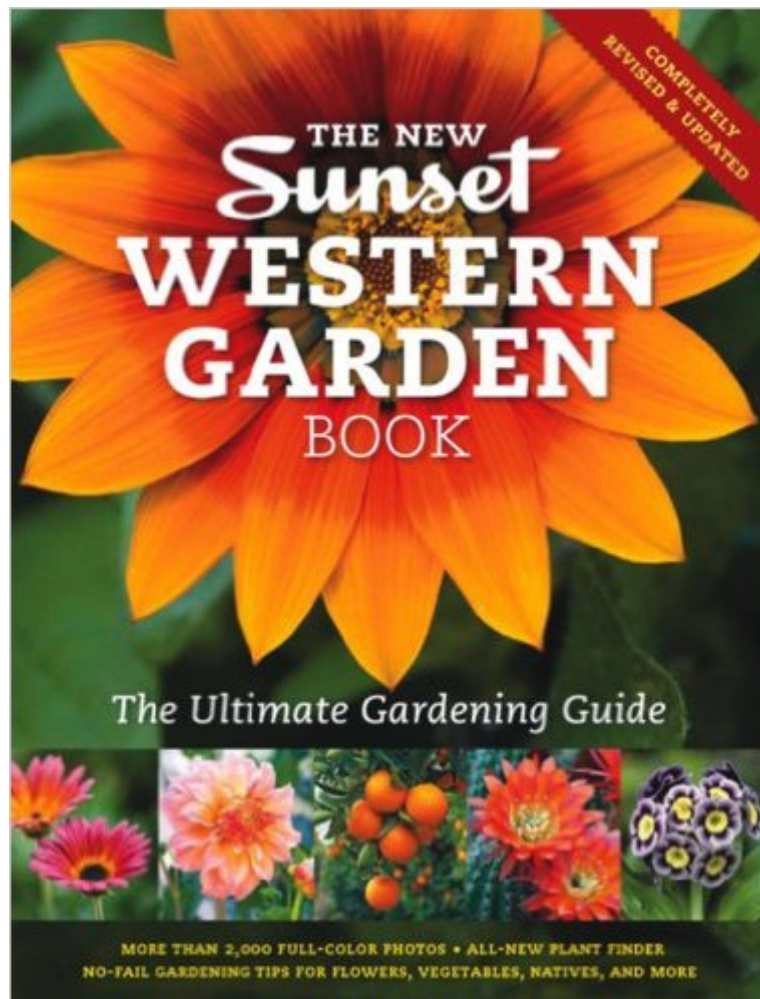


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The New Western Garden Book: The Ultimate Gardening Guide (Sunset Western Garden Book (Paper))



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

Series: Sunset Western Garden Book (Paper)

Flexibound: 768 pages

Publisher: Oxmoor House; 9 edition (February 7, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0376039205

ISBN-13: 978-0376039200

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (330 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,861 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > West #5 in Â Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Gardening #6 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home >

Customer Reviews

If you're a gardener on the West Coast, you already know this book is a must-have. The only real question is, will you upgrade to the new edition? You may be wondering how different it could be from the old version. Well, for one, it has photos in the encyclopedia. Yep, the charming but often-frustrating illustrations have been replaced with vivid, beautiful photographs. And thank god, they put back the plant index, which was missing in the last edition. The Plant Finder lists in the front have been revamped, with the old sections on broad categories of plants such as "annuals", "vines" and "ferns" replaced with more useful sections on "ornamental edibles", "plants that attract beneficial insects", "sculptural plants", "plants for moon gardens" and more. Altogether a solid improvement, given the Plant Finder lists are already broken down by type of plant. Having "trees" listed separately was kind of overkill given that you'd be better served by going to the section that most matches your garden, such as "plants for shade", and looking for tree ideas there. Even better is the thematic direction they're taking. There's a definitely move towards clever sustainability and a contemporary style. While I buy the book for the Plant Finder lists and encyclopedia, I confess that the new emphasis on gorgeous design had me sitting down to read more carefully. The sections in the back about different ways to use both small and large succulent plants had me jotting down ideas. I just wish the book had a "pin it" button so I could add the pics to my Pinterest boards! My very favorite aspect of the new book is their serious discussion of regional design. A garden should have a sense of place and reflect the region it grows in.

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