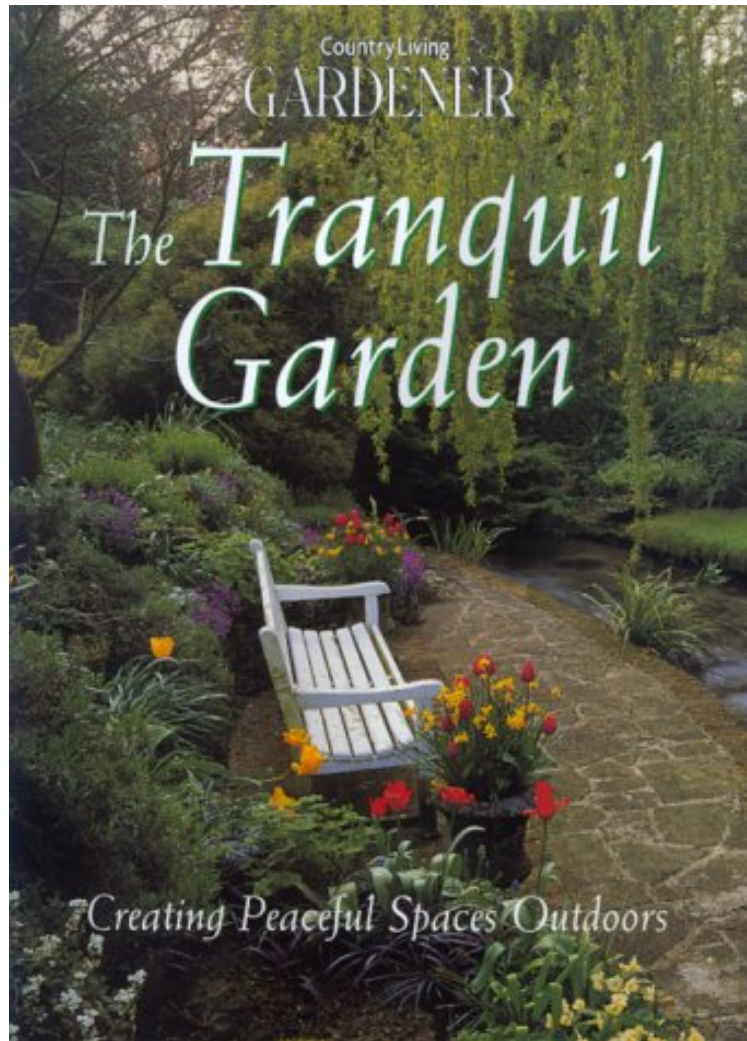


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Country Living Gardener The Tranquil Garden: Creating Peaceful Spaces Outdoors

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From Brand: Hearst : Country Living Gardener The Tranquil Garden: Creating Peaceful Spaces Outdoors before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Country Living Gardener The Tranquil Garden: Creating Peaceful Spaces Outdoors:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not a serious gardeners book but prettyBy K. PartridgeNice coffee table photos, except for one terrible page, but I wish I'd spent my money on something else. The content was not focused on 'tranquil', it covered a little on lots of garden themes. The writing just fills up the spaces. I wanted exactly what the title promised, I'll probably never use it.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Too many topics

with little substance. Pictures are decent though. By E. Clarke I read through this book yesterday and was not a big fan. It tries to cover too many things and fails to really go in depth on any of them. For example the "Seaside garden" chapter is one photo and half a page of text. Many others only get two pages. The photos are just fine, but I did not come away with any ideas I would use. Seems like most of the gardens are larger than the average person would have space for. It's ok for a quick browse if it's on a coffee table, but not worth buying. 54 of 57 people found the following review helpful. A Comforting Retreat By A Customer The lush, unpolished gardens featured in this book are a pleasant deviation from the tidy, nothing-out-of-place gardens in many books. The idea is tranquility, creating a retreat, a place where you can loll in the sun and breathe the fresh air without thinking of the next garden chore. Water gardens, outdoor "living rooms", and ornamentation is covered too. Very nice. -Linda Fry Kenzle, author of Gathering

Creating a calm oasis outdoors is an appealing idea, but many gardeners believe that to do so would be time-consuming, expensive, or both. Here's the book that shows you how to achieve that small paradise without lots of time, money, or space. First, *Country Living Gardener: The Tranquil Garden* guides the reader through the principles involved in creating a peaceful garden, then shows how to achieve such a haven through the implementation of a variety of ideas. Planning is the key; to lay the successful groundwork, each section of the book concentrates on one of the broad tenets of successful gardening, then encourages the reader to seek inspiration from a wide range of sources. Developed logically and clearly, the book invites the reader to first consider the options: what suits in terms of overall atmosphere, the sort of garden that is appealing, a "new" or settled-in look, what to add or subtract. Then, the heart of the book concentrates on the balance that will be achieved when the reader considers the elements: what to create, in terms of sight (color, light, pattern); touch; texture; sound (water, plantings that catch breezes); scent; and taste (herbs, vegetables, fruit) -- and makes well considered choices. Best of all, *Country Living Gardener: The Tranquil Garden* provides basic ways for the reader to maintain the garden by using shortcuts. And this means there is room for the best part: enjoying and relaxing in a tranquil space.

.com The folks at *Country Living Gardener* present a casual, informative book guiding readers in creating garden spaces that serve as peaceful sanctuaries from the stresses of life. Written by Australian gardening expert Kay Fairfax, the guide is organized into three main sections dealing with choices, perspectives, and details with beautiful color photos throughout from which readers can draw ideas and inspiration. What's refreshing about *The Tranquil Garden* is its lack of preoccupation with the many design choices available to gardeners. Instead, Fairfax focuses on the larger issues such as garden types (romantic, natural, fragrant, etc.), composition, vistas, and structures. She speaks to readers like a well-educated gardening friend, saying, "Try this plant, or add this flower for this effect," rather than providing a list of 100 perennials and their characteristics. It's almost as if the book's writing is in sync with the gentle aim of tranquility: no overwhelming amount of information to make your head spin, just plenty of suggestions per section, and excellent ones at that. Readers searching for the philosophy of garden as escape may want to look for a more text-based book, but for those in need of a practical resource that generates inspiration, *The Tranquil Garden* is the perfect first step toward a dream garden retreat. --Karen Karleski