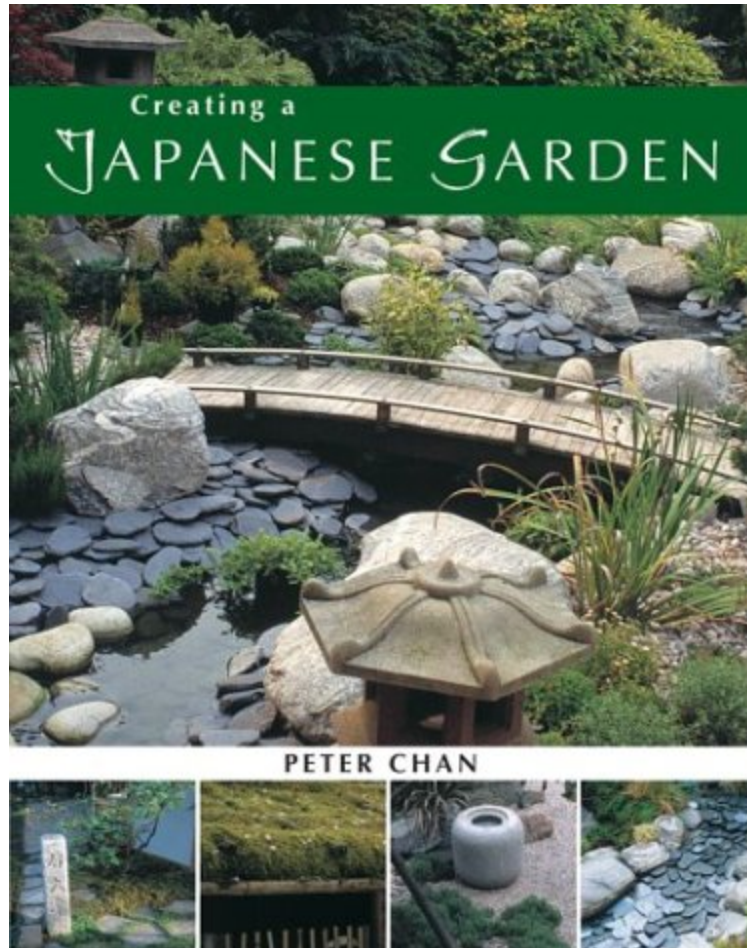


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Creating a Japanese Garden

Peter Chan

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Peter Chan : Creating a Japanese Garden before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creating a Japanese Garden:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Chic catalog pictures of traditional Japanese gardens. By Volodymyr Glukhomanyuk Chic catalog pictures of traditional Japanese gardens. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A knowledgeable intro with stunning photos. By Dale Miller There is no shortage of books on Japanese gardens. This offering, by bonsai expert and designer of Japanese gardens (including that at the Royal Horticultural Society) is notable for its stunning photographs, shot by the author in Japan and the UK. The text, while thin, covers the basics: types of gardens (stroll gardens, courtyard gardens, rock and gravel, etc.) and the prominent features (rocks, plants, water, etc.) The section on plants is especially thorough, reflecting the author's experience as a nursery owner/manager. But let's face it. Reading about these gardens, or any gardens, does little to bring the subject to life. Photographs are "the next best thing to being there," and Peter Chan's are exquisitely made. They represent most of the famous and some not-so-famous gardens in Japan, as well as the author's own designs. Despite the title, this is not

really a how-to manual. Some of the author's large-scale projects described here involved the use of massive construction machinery, or plant species that the average gardener would have a hard time finding. Still, Peter Chan's book is a great source of inspiration for those embarking on the creation of a garden, or simply a guided tour of some of the most noteworthy examples.

Draw inspiration from a colorful photographic tour of outstanding examples, and follow a master designer as he goes one step at a time through the entire process of constructing a unique Courtyard, Strolling, and Zen Garden. Each project includes illustrated instructions, and covers an assortment of garden elements such as rocks, water, plants, fences, ladders, stepping stones, lanterns, and gates.

From Booklist Stressing simplicity and elegance, Chan explains the key elements of Japanese gardening: rocks, plants, water, paths, gravel, and stepping stones. He describes the four main types of Japanese gardens--the stroll garden, the Zen temple garden, the tea garden, and the courtyard garden--and suggests trees and plants for each of them, chosen not just for their beauty and gracefulness but also for their symbolism. The cardinal rule, he writes, is "less is more." There's a list of shrubs, trees, evergreen conifers, herbaceous plants, cycads, grasses, bamboos, and moss to create a garden as well as suggestions on choosing lanterns, bridges, fences, and water basins. There are suggested projects, such as a riverside garden and a large stroll garden the author has worked on. All 176 pages have color photographs that will encourage readers to create Japanese gardens in their own backyards. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author Although Peter Chan is very well known for his bonsai, he is also a prolific designer and builder of beautiful Japanese gardens. In fact most of his bonsai displays are set in Japanese gardens. His work has been featured in numerous glossy magazines and Sunday supplements. The Japanese garden setting which houses the Wisley bonsai collection was designed and built by Peter and his Herons team. The roof top garden at St. George's hospital, and the Metropolitan Hotel in London are also his creations. Peter is a member of the prestigious Association of Professional Landscapers and is the author of Bonsai.