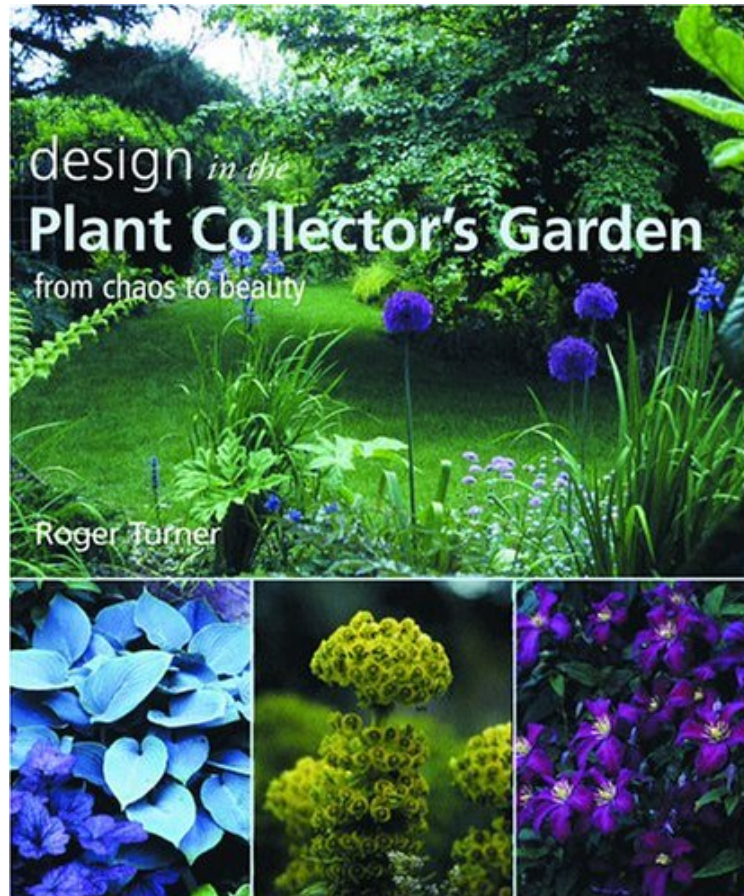


[Get free] Design in the Plant Collector's Garden: From Chaos to Beauty

Design in the Plant Collector's Garden: From Chaos to Beauty

Roger Turner

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Roger Turner : Design in the Plant Collector's Garden: From Chaos to Beauty before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Design in the Plant Collector's Garden: From Chaos to Beauty:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Author needs clarity on who he is writing for - not perfect for either homeowners or professionals
By Gen of North Coast Gardening
This book has a great concept. Many people I consult with, as a gardening coach and landscape professional, have a hodge-podge of plants because they love gardening so much that they "have to have" one of this and one of that. I fall prey to the same disease in my own home garden, so I was excited to see what was recommended for when you want one of everything. Problem is, when I think of a book on design concepts or inspiration on what to do in my garden, I think of photos. Lots of large and juicy photos. Instead here there is a lot of text. The text is helpful, the author spends most of his time outlining basic design concepts, and not enough time showing specific out of the box ways of handling this design issue. He does bring all the discussion of design concepts around to his theme, but it's more that he touches on how to design with a lot of eclectic plants, rather than focuses on it. I was kind of disappointed with this book because the text didn't delve into such great detail that I

felt like I understood the issue better conceptually, and then with few photos illustrating the basic principles he outlines, I didn't think that the clients I have with this issue would benefit from the book either. I mean, they would certainly benefit from learning the basic design concepts in the book - but I don't have much faith that non-professionals are going to sit down and plow through all that text when it isn't illustrated lavishly with photos so you can really "get" the concepts. My advice to the author - either write a basic design book for homeowners with a lot of splashy photos illustrating the text, or write an in-depth conceptual book (also hopefully with more photos) for professionals. Don't try to sell to both groups, because in the process neither is fully served. That said, his design advice is patient and correct, and very well-written. If the author went into a bit more detail on how to design with this issue and included a large photo every 2-3 pages illustrating his concepts, it would have gotten a much higher rating from me. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By choyoungchilGoooooD0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By paulagood

All gardeners love plants but if you love them too much the chances are you will end up with a plant collection rather than a garden. Help is at hand from confirmed plantaholic and architect Roger Turner, who describes how to indulge a passion for collecting plants without forfeiting the joys of a coherent, well-designed garden. Happily, the book prescribes little need to curb the excesses of plant addiction but simply recommends ways of focusing it to the advantage of all who share or visit your garden. Good collections need to be displayed well so that you can see them properly. The first part of the book looks at the structure of the garden as a whole, the balance of 'empty space' to 'planted space', the use of framing devices, and the value of paths in providing routes around the garden. At the heart of the book is a large section on plants that proposes ideas and solutions for making gardens with different types of plant collections. Here you will find schemes for displaying collections of trees from small groups to full-scale arboreta; recommendations for single-genus collections that look well planted together in one bed; and the ideal 'space-holder' plants that cover bare earth before prize bulbs emerge. Over 200 eye-catching and informative photographs highlight successful planting methods and illustrate the rewards to be gained from finding the perfect setting for a treasured plant. Plant enthusiasts, collectors and gardeners everywhere will unite in their enthusiasm for this practical book that provides the key to making beautiful gardens while keeping the spotlight on the plants.

From Booklist Every garden-design manual devotes some space to the problem of collectors bent upon having at least one specimen of every trendy plant that comes along. Architect and landscape designer Turner has both a trained eye and voracious regard for exceptional flora and, thus, is perfectly suited to instructing gardeners on how to create a highly satisfying layout that incorporates a vivifying plant palette. From gatherings of species in a single genus to diverse collections, Turner points out the challenges involved in bringing together a jumble of plants to form a coherent garden vision. Guiding readers in how to achieve maximum impact, Turner discusses the characteristics and structure of perennials and climbers, shrubs and bulbs, and grasses and ferns. Design strategies, advice on tree selection, and a sophisticated overview taking in various types of flower borders should give much food for thought. And the beautiful illustrations promise endless inspiration. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Emphasizing compatibility and successful relationships, Turner aims to let gardeners have both their ferns and euphorbia (and alpines, bulbs, viburnums, too). -- Valerie Easton Seattle Times 20050320 It's one of the best inspirations to look through before heading out to your next collecting spree. -- Jean Starr Munster (IN) Times 20050407 This book shows how to indulge a passion for collecting plants without forfeiting the joys of a coherent, well-designed garden. Publishing News 20050225 Turner understands the collector's psyche. This book is one of the best inspirations to look through before heading out to your next collecting spree. -- Jean Starr Munster (IN) Times 20050407 I always pick up new garden books at the library but never read them. ... Turner's humor hooked me into reading the entire book. His writing is excellent and his suggestions practical. -- Cheval Force Opp Washington Gardener 20060301 Plant enthusiasts, collectors and gardeners everywhere will unite in their enthusiasm for this practical book that provides the key to making beautiful gardens while keeping the spotlight on the plants. Rainy Side Gardeners 20060508 Good advice from a plantaholic on how to create a well-designed garden. -- Lorraine Flanigan Canadian Gardening 20060401 About the Author Roger Turner trained as an architect and now works as a landscape designer. He is a knowledgeable plantsman, active in the Hardy Plant Society and founding member of the Gloucestershire group of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens (NCCPG). Author of the monograph, *Euphorbias: A Gardener's Guide*, Roger Turner also wrote *Better Garden Design* and *Capability Brown*. He contributes to a number of journals and magazines including *Hortus* and *The English Garden*, and lectures on a wide range of subjects.