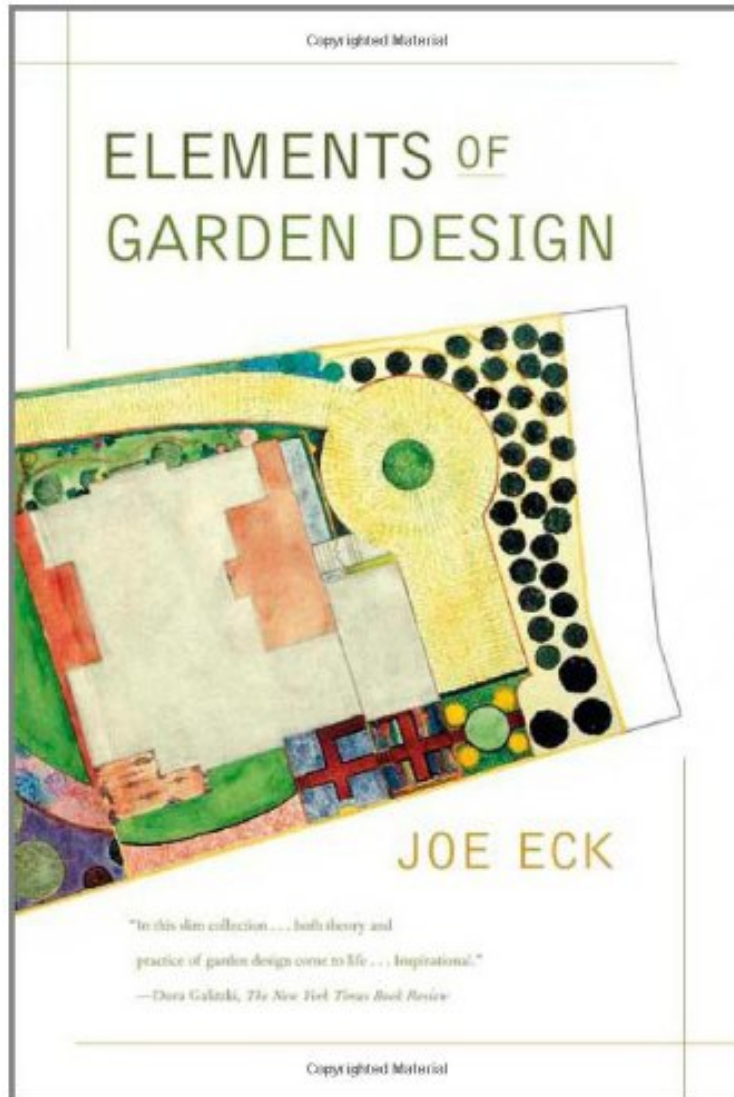


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Elements of Garden Design

Joe Eck

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Joe Eck : Elements of Garden Design before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Elements of Garden Design:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Garden Theories That are Useful!By CustomerI'm a direct, bottom-line kind of person with little patience for abstract theories. This book discusses the theoretical underpinnings of gardening, but I found it very useful. My husband and I just built a house and our yard is a blank slate. I had no idea where to start. After reading this book, however, I have a better understanding of what kind of garden should be planted in my yard. This book would be helpful to anyone who loves plants but doesn't t understand which plants to

get or where to put them. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Intro book on garden design principles, get it!
By Linda This is a book done by one of the top professionals in the industry. It gives you a good background on the principles involved in designing a garden/landscape. I highly recommend getting it. There are no color photos here, but that's not what this book is about and for what I am seeing you can get it for on (9 cents!!) I suggest you grab it. I wouldn't particularly recommend this for just the homeowner interested in "doing her yard", however, this is a starting point for those who really want to utilize the principles involved in creating a great garden space, it is a "reading" gardening book, not an "inspirational" gardening book, more "educational". 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Well-Written and Informative
By DC Payne Unlike other garden teaching texts, I looked forward to reading this one as one might a good novel. Joe Eck's writing style is elegant and conveys information most enjoyably. I feel I learned a great deal more from this single book than I have from whole stacks of texts on the same subject.

Elements of Garden Design does what few gardening books do--it addresses the process of conceiving a whole garden, as opposed to a single element like color or a particular class of plant. Joe Eck explores the idea of a garden, and offers a practical approach to translating concepts such as "intention" and "harmony" into the solid forms of hedges and terraces, paths and rooms. Novice and experienced professional alike will find both food for thought and down-on-the-ground advice on such matters as creating child- and pet-friendly designs.

.com "The great problem with rules," writes Joe Eck, "is that once they are laid down people tend to obey them." In this slender book of essays about gardening, Eck's goal is less to provide diagrams and formulas about how to build a garden than to share with the more experienced gardener his philosophy of why garden in the first place and what it is that can make a garden so pleasing to the eye and the soul. From Publishers Weekly
Written for serious gardeners at any level of expertise, these thoughtful essays transcend the how-to genre and speak rather to the fine art of gardening as Eck defends his "argument" that "what defines a garden is less what is grown in it than how what grows is arranged." Drawn from a series of articles Eck wrote in the early 1990s for Horticulture magazine, the book is divided into two sections, "Theory" and "Practice," covering such principles as "Scale," "Structure" and "Symmetry," along with more concrete topics, e.g., "Lawns and Ground Covers," "Water in the Garden" and "Utility Areas." In the chapter entitled "Repose," for instance, Eck explores ways to achieve this quality in a garden, whether through a balance of mown grass against a border, the repetition of elements or the creation of a secluded corner. Eck, who coauthored *A Year at North Hill* with Wayne Winterrowd, writes a formal, elegant prose illuminated by wisdom gleaned from years of experience and sparked with flashes of dry wit. Inviting serious study as well as browsing, this volume deserves a spot on any dedicated gardener's shelf. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From Library Journal This volume consists of articles reprinted from Horticulture magazine. Eck, a landscape designer, discusses the basic garden design concepts that people might consider when planning a garden. He also includes chapters on garden elements such as foundation plantings, water features, greenhouses, sculpture, and the like. The book works well as an introduction to design concepts for gardeners who want to take a thoughtful approach in creating a garden that will reflect their individual taste. The lack of an index is a problem, however, for quick location of information. For comprehensive gardening collections or where there is an extensive demand for garden design materials. Dale Luchsinger, Athens Area Technical Inst., Ga. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.