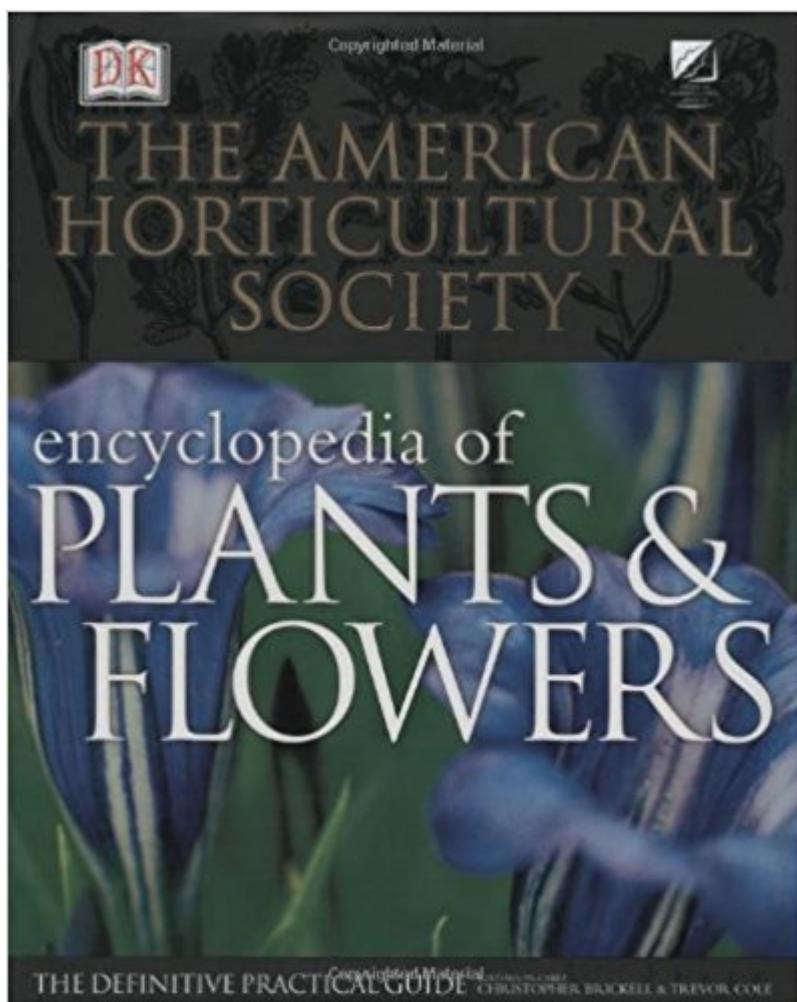


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# The American Horticultural Society Encyclopedia Of Plants And Flowers (American Horticultural Society Practical Guides)



## Synopsis

Combining the authority of the AHS with the visual expertise of DK, this full-color gardening reference is the definitive guide for gardeners. Simply the definitive full-color reference to the horticulture of North America, AHS Encyclopedia of Plants & Flowers contains more than 8,000 plant profiles, over 4,250 photographs, and practical advice on everything from cultivation, pests, and diseases, to plant selection and identification

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This lushly illustrated and exhaustive gardening reference, an update to the 1989 original, is sure to gratify greenthumbs all around the U.S.: comprising three main sections (the plant selector, the plant catalogue and the plant dictionary), it's an excellent resource for anyone looking to fashion a beautiful and environmentally sustainable garden. The plant selector points gardeners toward flora appropriate to their environmental or aesthetic needs (e.g., plants that do well in sandy or alkaline soil, make good windbreaks or have aromatic leaves), while the plant catalogue, organized into sections by type (perennials, shrubs, bulbs, water plants) and boasting thousands of photographs, delves into greater detail about the characteristics of individual species. Each section is helpfully organized by seasons of "interest" and plant size or color: the yellow asphodel is a medium yellow perennial that looks its best in spring, for instance, while *Gentiana septemfida* is a large blue rock plant whose best months are autumnal. The dictionary lists more than 8,000 plants, from abelia to creeping zinnia. For the garden enthusiast, this volume will likely prove as indispensable as a good

If only one gardening resource is purchased this year, let it be this book, a revision of The American Horticultural Society Encyclopedia of Garden Plants (1989). Tightly packed into a single volume is nearly everything that amateur landscapers and gardeners need to consider for outlining, designing, and planting their outdoor growing areas. Two indispensable tools, the 2002 USDA plant hardiness zone map, upgraded to 15 zones, and the 1997 American Horticultural Society plant heat zone map, appear on the front and back endpapers. Of utmost importance is the "How to Use This Book" section, which explains how best to navigate through the charts, symbols, color codes, abbreviations, and special features of the text. Following this, the arrangement of information resembles the organized subconscious thought process associated with the planning and preplanting seasons. "Creating a Garden" takes the reader step-by-step through the entire process of creating an appropriate landscape and garden design. Everything is to be considered—plot size, style, structure, proportion, texture, colors, plant selection, and the year-round maintenance, appearance, and growth factor. Basically, this is how the professionals do it. "The Plant Selector" offers advice and recommendations for particular sites or uses. The main portion of the encyclopedia, "The Plant Catalog," is divided into 10 sections (for trees, shrubs, roses, perennials, rock plants, cacti, and more). Within each section, plants are arranged by size, season of interest, and color. Each description includes botanical and common names, portrait, plant size (height and spread), shape, cultivation and hardiness zones, color range, and toxicity. Whether one is planning a full-scale garden, a postage-stamp garden, or simply a container garden, the plant catalog has the appropriate selection. The book's final section, "The Plant Dictionary," compiles more than 8,000 readily obtainable plants for temperate zones, with full descriptions for 4,000 of these not already covered in the catalog. A glossary completes the text. Authoritative, beautifully designed, and lavishly illustrated (but not to the point of overshadowing the text), this hefty practical gardening encyclopedia deserves far more than a mere glance. RBBCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Helped a lot with the planning of my garden.

My wife is a Master Gardner in the state of North Carolina, and is also a landscape designer. She is always on the look out for reference material to help her with her designs. This truly is an encyclopedia! A huge book with great pictures and information. This is a great addition to her library,

and would be great for any gardner

Everything I hoped for. Very useful and way better to find certain flowers then the internet.

It is very informative but unfortunatley I am a novice at gardening and the 'official' names are not quite what I wanted.

I lost this book and my other great plant books in a flood and I was really disappointed because there is nothing on line that compares to this book. When a fellow plant lover told me I could get it on I was so excited. Although I'm not a fan of receiving things through the US postal service the book arrived within a reasonable time period.

I bought the book a while ago. I give the book four stars and the seller (outlook\_books) a one star. I paid for a new book and the copy they sent me was clearly used. It even had writing in marker on the side of the book. This was supposed to be a gift and by the time I got it, it was to late to send it back. Thanks to this seller my mom thinks I am to cheap to buy her a new book.

This book was exactly what I was looking for. I love the detail and pictures which make it easy to identify plants. This would make an excellent gift for the flower garden lover in your household. I highly recommend it. The service I received and the condition of the book were excellent.

This book is beautifully designed, illustrated, photographed and probably has almost every plant in it.... well, close enough. Lots of important information contained in it. I bought it to just have it handy.

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