The Complete Perennials Book

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Synopsis
This book combines in-depth information on using, selecting, and growing perennials with inspiring photographs in one easy-to-navigate package. From start to finish, this is the handbook on creating beautiful perennial beds: Design inspiration Colorful garden plans In-depth care instructions At-a-glance charts simplify buying decisions: Plants by size and shape Flower color and bloom season Materials for mulching An all-new edition written for gardeners from novice to expert: Comprehensive plant-selection guide Techniques for growing success Planning a garden for year after year of beauty

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Customer Reviews
My wife and I are love flowers and are quite "into" their cultivation, growing and general overall care along with bed design. For us, perennials are the way to go. We found long ago the yearly preparation of flower beds, and annuals do require yearly preparation and lots of it, was extremely time consuming and at times unpredictable. Add the fact that weed control is often times an issue in larger annual beds along with the fact that seed cost has skyrocketed over the years and the answer to most of our needs were perennials. With these lovely flowers, and there is a tremendous variety out there now which is growing each year, there is indeed bed preparation but it is about one half of what is put into the annuals. We also enjoy the lush foliage that many of these plants produce, even when they are not in bloom. Owning many books on the subject, we were reluctant to purchase this one so we check it out of the library. After one quick scan read, we went ahead and bought the thing and have not been sorry once. Now keep in mind that I am not normally a big fan of
many of the Ortho Books, but this one is certainly an exception. The bed preparation section of this work which I will lump into designing, color schemes, depth requirements, placement and so forth, is a wonderful, if for not other reason that it has given me many moments of inspiration, which, when followed by action and not just daydreaming, have paid off big time. I also found that the section concerning choices to be extremely helpful. Our property is heavily shaded for the most part but we do have some large areas of full sun. Couple this with my tendency to use a lot of rock for my beds, and the choice of plants can become quite tricky at times. This book helped.

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