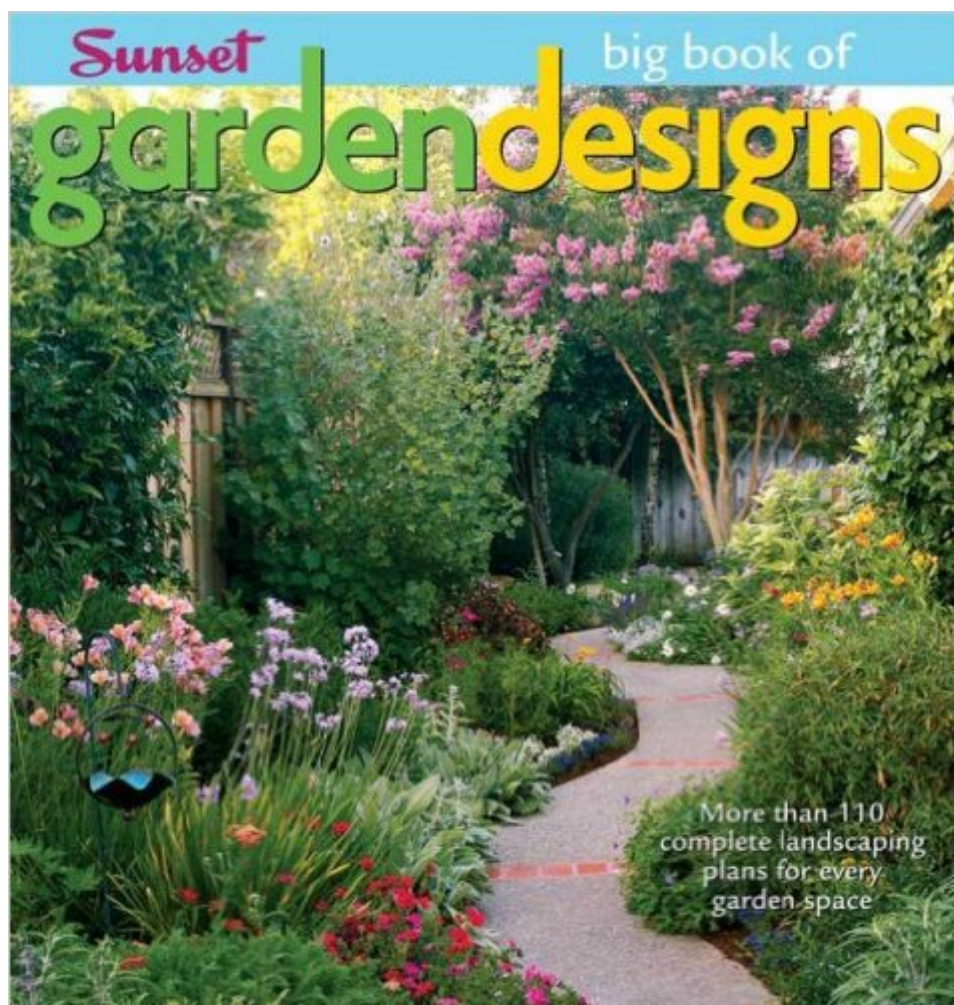


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# Big Book Of Garden Designs (Big Book Of)



## Synopsis

Whether you're starting from the ground up or rethinking your existing outdoor living areas, you'll find plenty of inspiration in *Big Book of Garden Designs*. With over 120 garden plans designed to fit every imaginable landscape situation, this new volume guides you through the issues that perplex anyone planning a garden. Such as, which plants are appropriate for your climate? What species will give you the look you want? How much maintenance is involved? Each plan includes a flexible planting list adaptable to your climate and personal style. For every space and every need, from entries to side yards to specialty color schemes, you'll find a multitude of options that will fulfill your gardening desires. Features:

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book had a lot of ideas but I feel that it needed more photographs to give be a better visual. It has tons of water color renditions but I rather see actual photos since I'm just a novice at this.

Are you looking out at a bare patch of ground and wishing you knew what to do with it? Look no further than this book, which is chock full of suggestions. One of the smartest things they have done is to give you a photo of the garden as well as a sketch of the garden in color. It means that whether you live in Maine or San Diego you can adapt the design to your weather zone. Design ideas include sitting spots, passageways, beds and borders, specialty gardens, flower gardens and color gardens and backyards. Even if you have the brownest of thumbs and have never planted anything, this in-depth, practical guide will be of help.

Just like the title states, this book is a simple book of garden designs. It shows a picture of a garden, then shows the actual planting guide that makes up the garden. There are many different designs to choose from, some for specific areas like the front entry of a house, shady areas, hot areas, side yards, etc. This is pretty much all the book contains. For my needs, it was exactly what I was looking for.

Overall, I am happy with this book. It provides a ton of landscape ideas for different areas throughout the yard. The water color pictures are beautiful, but like many others I wish there were more actual pictures. Actual pictures would provide a better idea of what the landscape plan would actually look like rather than the "ideal" idea from the painting which may be a bit unrealistic. From my own personal experience and research of plants, I can attest that many of the plans in this book will provide variety and interest throughout the growing season. However, unlike the water color pictures, all of the flowers won't be in bloom at the same time. If you want season long bloom you will want to add more annuals to your garden than the book suggests. Also, many of the plans are more of a cottage or informal garden look. If you are looking for more formal gardens or ideas for hardscaping, this book may not be for you. One other thing I was hoping for in this book is landscape plans with a more broad perspective (the entire front yard for example). I was a little disappointed to find the focus is more on improving separate areas of the yard rather than an overall yard plan. I have found a lot of ideas from this book and plan to put them into practice this summer. I would buy this book again despite the few things above that I found a little disappointing.

I believe that all the photos or sketches in the book come with a plant list. Yet none were entered for pages 60 and 61. Did the author simply forget? What a shame! I would have liked to see a reference to plants' growing proclivities, i.e. suitable for cascading, upright, ground cover etc.

Gardening is an exercise in creative horticulture that when done well gives as much attention to esthetics as it does all the other elements contributing to a healthy garden. Fundamental to considerations of a garden's esthetic appearance is its design which can be either formal or informal. Offering more than 110 complete landscaping plans covering a wide range of garden spaces, the "Big Book Of Garden Designs", co-authored by garden design and landscaping experts Marianne Lipanovich and Tom Wilhite, provides even the most novice gardener with practical ideas with respect to specialty gardens, flower gardens, garden beds and borders, sitting spots in a

garden, and passage ways. From first impressions and curb appeal, to a horticulturally customized back yard, the "Big Book Of Garden Designs" offers a wonderful combination of practical ideas, inspirations, and examples. Beautifully illustrated throughout, and featuring a chapter on Climate Zones that includes maps and descriptions, the "Big Book Of Garden Designs" is one of the newest additions to the Sunset Books gardening series and a welcome addition to personal and community do-it-yourself gardening guide reference collections.

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