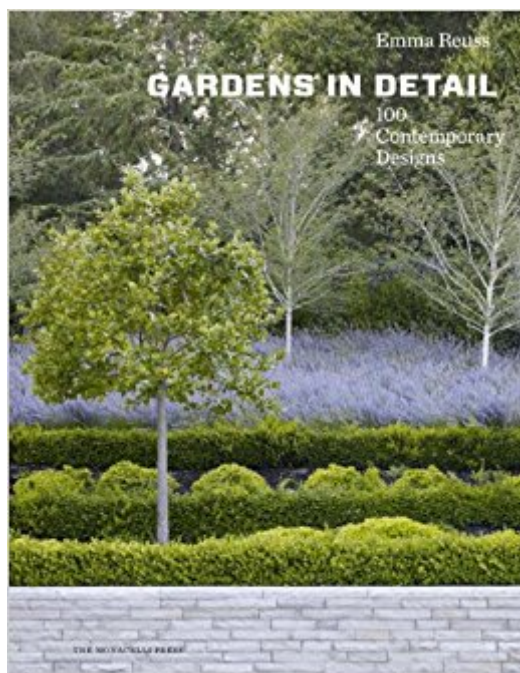


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# Gardens In Detail: 100 Contemporary Designs



## Synopsis

Explore 100 gardens from around the world with this illustrated guide to the design elements of each—from historical style to planting and landscape design. This comprehensive reference offers gardens from many periods of history—Islamic, Renaissance, English Landscape, Arts & Crafts, and more—and geographically diverse environments—from a nighttime sculpture garden on the Oregon coast, to a sustainable water garden in the mountains of Vermont, and the Mughal garden at the Indian president's palace in New Delhi. They are inspirational works made by both talented amateurs and major international garden designers—including Britain's Christopher Bradley Hole, Italy's Luciano Giubbilei and Paolo Pejrone, and Americans Isabelle Green, Raymond Jungles, and Martha Schwartz. In this affordable volume boasting 500 illustrations, readers are led through the details of each garden and provided with the tools needed to understand and replicate each exemplary design—whether the site is rural or urban, a backyard or a beach, in any climate, and on any budget. Each beautiful project photo is followed by a list of key concepts, numbered close-ups that highlight aspects of the design, and expert write-ups to explain how each element serves the garden as a whole. Whether looking for a whole landscaping scheme, or simply an individual idea for a water feature or a wall, readers will find a wealth of ideas to choose from. Both experienced and armchair gardeners will find that *Gardens in Detail* will enhance their appreciation of how good design decisions are made at every scale.

## Book Information

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Gardening & Landscape Design > Reference

## Customer Reviews

"For libraries that serve garden designers and architects, or aspirants in these fields, this book is essential. Humble gardeners, too, will find much to take away from the work, including lots of ideas to ponder and perhaps even to apply in their own yard." â "Library Journal"

Jaw-dropping photographs and truly helpful practical advice aren't common bedfellows-often times, you're lucky to get either. This book has both. Reading this book feels like watching a magician performing a succession of seemingly impossible illusions, before beckoning you closer to reveal the secrets behind each trick-dazzling you to the point when you dare to dream that you too could pull off such magic." â "English Garden"

A beautiful, engaging book that travels to the world's most interesting gardens to analyze why and how they are designed. This pick-and-mix book has the absorbing, time warp quality of Pinterest. I finished reading about one garden and thought, I'll just quickly look at one more but 20 minutes and several gardens later I was still there." â "Gardens Illustrated"

Reaching only for books that feature favorite designers or preferred garden styles broadens neither perspective nor knowledge base. It does a gardener good to see and learn something newâ especially when we can do so for a relatively small expenditure of money, time, and effort. In this regard, *Gardens in Detail* is worth every penny. *Gardens in Detail* is remarkable for author Emma Reuss's consistent and highly effective organizational approach. I loved the fact that I could flip through this book's crisp pages in a spare moment or devote several hours to reading about garden after garden. In each case, I came away with a better understanding of design and a renewed appreciation for the diversity of garden styles throughout the world today." â "Susan Hines, *The American Gardener*"

At more than 400 pages and 3.5 pounds, this tome gives you your money's worth and then some. Despite its size, however, it never bogs down in technical language or esoteric discussion. Mainly from the U.K. and the U.S. but also, refreshingly, countries as disparate as Iran, Australia, Japan, Brazil, India, France, and China, each garden is showcased across four pages and a half-dozen photographs. Reuss includes gardens from all over the world and writes about them with confidence and an accessibility that makes design less of a mystery. *Gardens in Detail* is smart without being dense, with just enough detail to give you a sense of each garden and help you understand what makes it captivating." â "Digging"

The perfect volume to pick up after a day spent digging in your little backyard and wishing you had the budget and room to think expansively. Reuss has selected 100 outstanding gardens from all over the world. They include every kind of style you can think of from a 15th century Japanese dry sand garden to a walled prairie by Piet Oudolf to an acid green Martha Schwartz creation made of plastic trees and shrubs. She dazzles you with gorgeous photos and then turns practical with detailed deconstructions of the features of each garden. . . . how they were

created and why they work. It's informative and fascinating. . . . "A liberating armchair travel book as well as a trove of great ideas." "Gardenista" Reuss highlights the full range of gardening styles, themes, and other possibilities in a stunning book that is encyclopedic in scope. She includes, for example, chapters on the garden as art; gardens around the world; urban gardens; and garden composition. The book simultaneously offers intimacy of detail through its 500-plus illustrations and color photos. These, along with the layout and organization, convey a feeling of welcome rather than overwhelming the reader. Creating a garden theme such as French New Baroque seems as much a possibility even for amateur gardeners as does Middle East Contemporary or English Arts & Crafts. All types of gardens are explained and dissected, and Reuss highlights key garden design principles (unity, simplicity, balance, and proportion, among others), giving readers a vantage point from which to see the architecture of the garden and to understand design choices. . . . A valuable resource for any gardener and an essential tool for the landscape designer." "Publishers Weekly"

Emma Reuss is a garden writer and garden designer with a diploma from the Royal Horticultural Society. She has written for *Country Life*, *The Guardian*, *Saga Magazine*, and the *Garden Design Journal*, and she has contributed to the BBC and Royal Horticultural Society gardening websites. She lives in London, where she cultivates plants and vegetables in her small private garden.

great book. really interesting.

This beautifully designed book profiles 100 contemporary gardens from all over the world. Most of these gardens were obviously designed with big budgets but there is still enough here to give any gardener visual inspiration and ideas of how to apply them to their own gardens. Each garden is given 4 pages with a beautiful photograph and narrative description followed by small block sections that detail specific elements of the gardens. The gardens are arranged in categories (Art, Composition, Lifestyle, Urban, etc.). Although described as contemporary, there is a chapter that includes centuries-old gardens with time-honored designs like Japanese Traditional, Indian Formal and English Arts and Crafts. Outstanding photos enhance this beautiful compact book that is easy to browse and hard to put down.

Emma Reuss, expert garden designer and alumna of the Royal Horticultural Society of London, England, has created a masterpiece of extraordinary photography, immense expertise, clearly labeled explanations, summaries, color-coded outlines, and a wealth of helpful suggestions for

inspired amateur gardeners and established garden designers. These suggestions encompass discussions of gardens as a "visual canvas", and introduce numerous other interesting examples and applicable options for diversifying and beautifying an outdoor space. Reuss includes suggestions and specific examples for "sculpting the garden" through "sculptural hedges" and "staggered hedges". She notes that such tasks add a sense of dimension and volume to the garden. She illuminates as well, the versatility of "compact kitchen gardens", the variation, "multiplicity" and appeal of the color green, and the choice and impact of color schemes, water features, and architectural elements essential for the overall interpretation and application of "hard landscaping". Her insightful definition on the art of "Impressionist planting" in low growing, dense masses and layers is an interesting discovery. She is also dedicated to presenting the best options for draught-resistant plants, ways to construct "meandering paths" for opening up garden vistas, and many more good ideas and personal perspectives. Reuss's exceedingly well-researched book offers an abundance of interesting revelations in its quest to uncover an amazing and "eclectic collection" of 100 of the most characteristic, unique, visually attractive, structurally exceptional, and contemporary "standout" gardens. They range from outstanding and stunning gardens of 15th century Japan, grand palace gardens of India, backyard gardens of California, rooftop gardens of Sydney Australia, formal gardens of the French Baroque style, informal English and Renaissance gardens, wild mountain gardens, woodland gardens, coastal gardens, and waterfront gardens. The book demonstrates that each of these "geographically and historically diverse" surroundings encourage a colorful variety of plant and animal life, as well as particular stylistic trends and lifestyles associated with it. At the same time, the book emphasizes that all gardens are subject to environmental conditions and challenges which must be carefully understood by the garden owner and garden designer. Constructing every "minimalist" or "exuberant" garden is a dedicated team effort. According to the author, garden design is meant to maximize and apply the enjoyment, functionality, and conservative use of natural resources in carefully planned, detailed, and constructed spaces. The diversified viewpoints of "amateurs" and "experts" are ultimately and successfully unified by a mutual love and respect for nature and its beneficial abundance. The entire conception and goal of the book provides a unique opportunity and journey for the reader. He or she is transported and given access to these fascinating, extended "open-air living rooms". The book invites us to become acquainted with both the spontaneity and the discipline of garden design. After such an enlightening natural and historical journey generously offered by the book, we can better appreciate the importance and influence of these environments over time. The 10 informative chapters and the carefully chosen, connected, and visually captivating sites of the book, introduce a

renewed originality, excitement, practicality, allure, adventure, and homage to the garden. Each garden space is analyzed in depth as an individual, private place of refuge and retreat from the world and as a communally recognized, honored, and designated space. Reuss explores gardens, which are both small and modest ventures into a "change of scenery", as well as gardens that involve extensive remodeling, specific "truth to native materials", a great sensitivity and "sympathy to surroundings", and the successful incorporation of these ideals into concrete form. According to Reuss, these expansive gardens also thrive as famous creative showcases displaying "pride of ownership" and group gatherings on an updated and impressive scale. However, the author also notes that despite differences in motivations and applications of garden design, the traditional and modern garden is uniformly transformed as a "protected" space, a sanctuary, and a place of admiration and exploration of "lasting" purpose. As an extension of a livable space and agenda, all garden spaces and designs ultimately function and co-exist as representations of a necessary, healthy, innovative, dynamic, nurturing, and harmonious place of consistent, brilliant, evocative, spiritual, universal, cross-cultural, and international fascination and adventure. Reuss's book makes the point that the carefully maintained and preserved garden serves as a nostalgic and tenacious landmark in diverse styles and locations around the globe. Gardens can function to document the essential, perpetual, ornamental, and educational contributions and quests for beauty, survival, and humanity. In fact, gardens may be one of the most powerful statements for preserving the best of fragile natural resources and its legacies for future generations.

Great ideas since I am in the midst of re-landscaping my property. I like the idea of showing the various designs for the zones. I highly recommend this book!

Fast shipment. Rich in content, pictures and texts are very well organized. It's an inspirational book with thematic designs, useful for both small and big scale landscaping. As a design professional, I found it a must-have item in my library.

excellent service and price

This is a beautiful book. It has a lovely feel, the photography is superb, the honing in on individual features and explaining them is educational. I first saw this book when visiting a friend, and loved it from the start. There are so many ideas that can be used in your own garden, and the variety of landscapes, and how they have been dealt with, stretches the imagination. As you can probably

see, this book has my highest recommendation - it is one of my most treasured books.

beautiful book.

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