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## Royal Horticultural Society Small Garden Handbook: Making the Most of Your Outdoor Space

*Andrew Wilson*

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**Andrew Wilson : Royal Horticultural Society Small Garden Handbook: Making the Most of Your Outdoor Space** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Royal Horticultural Society Small Garden Handbook: Making the Most of Your Outdoor Space:

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reference on garden design, plant advice and more for many years

A comprehensive guide to planning, planting and maintaining a small garden. This in-depth reference packs a lot of information and expert advice into one easy-to-use resource. It is designed to help home gardeners discover the potential in a small piece of land and guide them step-by-step through the process of transforming it into a garden with oversized impact. The book works forward from planning a garden and making difficult design choices, to installation and maintenance. Each chapter instructs on numerous related topics (such as the examples below) and presents an illustrative case study: Basics - 15 ways to reveal your plot's potential, understanding soil, evaluating hardscaping, making a plan Design - 15 ways to make instant impact, principles of design Styles - 15 ways to find your style, Style Portfolio Materials - 15 ways to exploit materials, simple rules of laying paving, changes of level Boundaries - 15 ways to buff up your boundaries, materials, plants Structures - 15 ways to use garden structures, storage, hideaways, green roofs, raised beds, an outdoor office Water - 15 ways to enjoy water, planning a pond, mirror-like water, dynamic water, plants, fish Planting - 15 ways to improve a planting design, habitats, styles, long-term and short-term, design statements Upkeep - 15 ways to simplify the garden, seasonal and monthly housekeeping tasks. The book also features an inspirational portfolio of small gardens and provides all the information needed to install these designs. For example, the handy "7 steps to create..." lists cover Japanese, Mediterranean, Exotic, Ecological, Cottage-garden, Arts and Crafts, Modernist, Conceptualist and Urban gardens. Small Garden Handbook is ideal for the home gardener. Each of the gardens featured in the book's 300 photographs provides exceptional inspiration for gardeners at all levels of expertise.

With magnificent color pictures on every page and an easy-to-read format, this book is a valuable and inspiring resource for both advanced and beginner gardeners... The advice, offered in concise paragraphs with lots of lists and bullet points, is easy to comprehend and follow. Each chapter includes a list of 15 well-articulated ideas that readers can implement at home... While many gardening books assume readers are already experienced gardeners, this one starts at the beginning... Between useful, practical and easily implementable ideas and the attractive images of gardens that work well, Wilson offers a fantastic handbook to anyone with an interest in gardening -- green thumb or no. (Publishers Weekly 2013-04-15) Andrew Wilson's Small Garden Handbook will come in handy... Especially helpful is its 15 ways series, including how to reveal a plot's potential, how to spruce up boundaries, how to use garden structure, and how to simplify gardening. (Texas Gardener's Seeds 2013-05-06) About the Author Andrew Wilson is an award-winning garden designer of contemporary gardens worldwide. His books include Book of Plans for Small Gardens, and he is the founding editor of The Garden Design Journal. The Royal Horticultural Society is the UK's leading gardening organization, dedicated to advancing horticulture and promoting good gardening. Steven Wooster is a well-known photographer and artist who specializes in garden photography. He has contributed to dozens of books and publications over a long career.