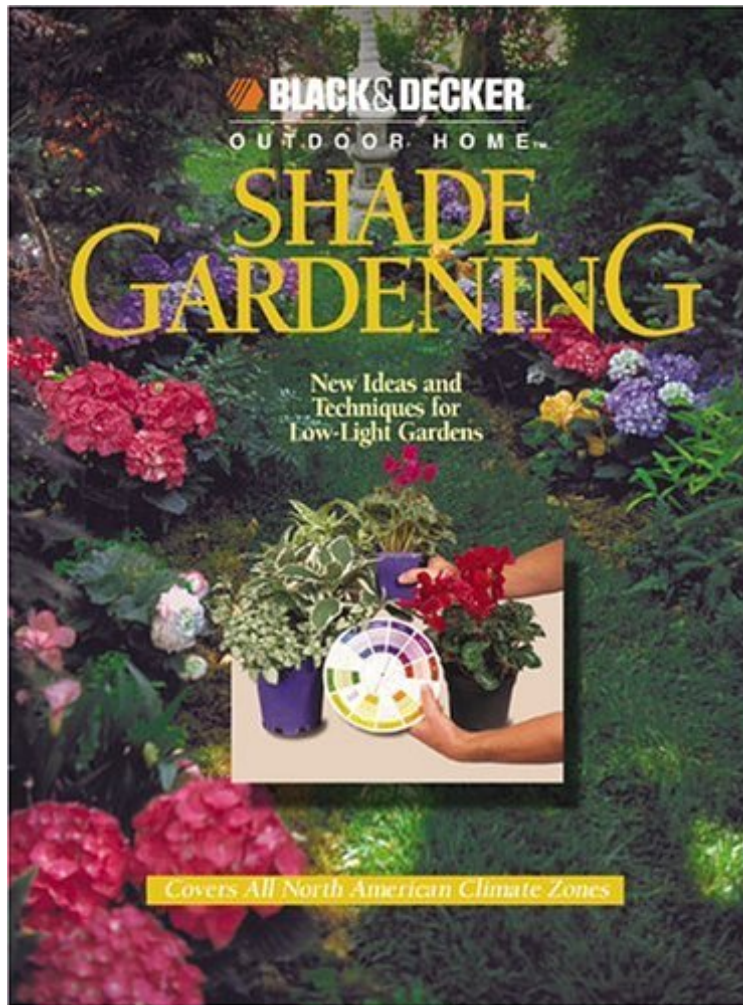


[Free and download] Shade Gardening: New Ideas and Techniques for Low-Light Gardens (Black Decker Outdoor Home)

Shade Gardening: New Ideas and Techniques for Low-Light Gardens (Black Decker Outdoor Home)

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Cowles Creative Publishing, The Home Improvement/Gardening Editors of CPI : Shade Gardening: New Ideas and Techniques for Low-Light Gardens (Black Decker Outdoor Home) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shade Gardening: New Ideas and Techniques for Low-Light Gardens (Black Decker Outdoor Home):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. reallyBy larry dale garrison jr its a book. book book book book book bookb ookb ookbl boo bobo boo bob bill barney love hate death to those that oppose11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Creating and Making the Best Use of Shade for Gardens!By Donald MitchellMany people

associate the coziness of gardens with "cool, comfortable, shady garden nooks surrounded by deep-green foliage and brilliant flowers sprinkled with light . . ." If so, this book is for you. I located this book when my wife began asking me what else we could plant to add color to our yard. I found that everything I said began with, "You have to consider how much sun is available." Because we live in a heavily treed part of New England, no parts of our yard receive full sun except in winter when nothing is growing. During the growing season, we have from 2 hours of sun a day to no sun as our range. This is great for coolness, but limits the flower choices quite a lot. Growing up in a family that did gardening for a living, the degree of shade that plants like is something that I am acutely aware of. On the other hand, I am less sure around the kind of soil moisture and acidity that are desirable. This book was extremely valuable for its encyclopedia of 100 of the most common shade plants. Each listing describes the type of shade, soil, moisture, and care that is best for the plant. For the purposes of this book, shade is considered any area that has less than six hours of direct sunlight a day. If you live in sunny areas, the book also has many valuable ideas for creating shade with screens. There is also an excellent section on how to use sprinkling systems to add moisture. Regardless of where you live in North America, you can use this book because it describes whether each of the plants will do well in your climate zone. If you live in the desert, there are also good ideas for using cacti. The book also gives you a process for evaluating your potential garden sites, adapting them to your desires, planning your garden, and planting and caring for the trees, shrubs, flowers, ferns, and ground cover you choose. So whether you are thinking about impatiens, clivia, hydrangeas, daylilies, forget-me-nots, fuschias or pansies, this book will help you with annuals and perennials. Also, don't forget to think about azaleas, camellias, wisteria and foxglove. If you're not sure what all of these plants are, the many beautiful photographs in the book will fill you in. After you finish thinking about the wonderful choices for your shady areas, I suggest that you think about what you would like to do there. What else do you need to make it perfect? Would a bench suit? Or would a garden swing be better? Or, if you have lots of room, what about a gazebo? Is there room for a bird bath or hummingbird feeder? Help nature weave her magic enchantment into your life!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Average Guide By R. Schultz This book outlines some of the basics about planting and maintaining greenery in shady areas of your garden. It suggests some layouts/designs. This includes the use of containers. The book briefly tells how to test the pH of your soil (dig deep for test patch), how to select appropriate plants and shrubs, how to start them, and then how to permanently install and maintain them. Glossy photographs illustrate most of these points. Probably the average gardener will only want to scan this introductory material though, in order to get to the quick run-down guide of shade-ophilic plants in the back of the book. Here you'll find suggestions under the headings of "Annuals, Perennials, Shrubs, Ground Covers, Trees, and Ferns." There's a glossy photo of each suggested plant, accompanied by a thumbnail description of the plant's requirements and characteristics. This listing is OK, but with so many guides to "Shade Plants" available out there, I think you might be able to do better. There isn't the sort of lively description of each plant's idiosyncrasies that you'll find in somewhat better books such as *Easy Care Shade Flowers* by Taylor, Patricia A. published by Fireside Paperback. This Black Decker Guide adds warnings about a few plants regarding snails and slugs. However, little else about the plant's unique personalities and problems is mentioned. For example, hollyhocks (mallow) and sunflowers are both listed as easy-care options. But their tendency to be attacked by severe, disfiguring rust is not mentioned. What's more, there isn't a very extensive list of ground covers here. Then there's a confusion that pops up in the description of many of the plants' favored circumstances. When their level of shade tolerance is listed, many of the plants are labeled "Partial to light." I couldn't decide whether this meant that, given a continuum of shady circumstances, this plant likes the part of the spectrum between partial shade at one end, and a light degree of shade at the other end - or whether this characterization meant that the plant was partial to (in the sense that it liked) only lightly shaded circumstances. So I wouldn't say this is a definitive guide. It can serve as a starting point or a quick orienting reference, but you'll probably want to supplement it with one of the many, many other special-situation gardening books available.

-- Covers planning a shade garden and selecting shade-tolerant plants.-- Treats shade as an advantage and includes how-to instruction for making projects that work.