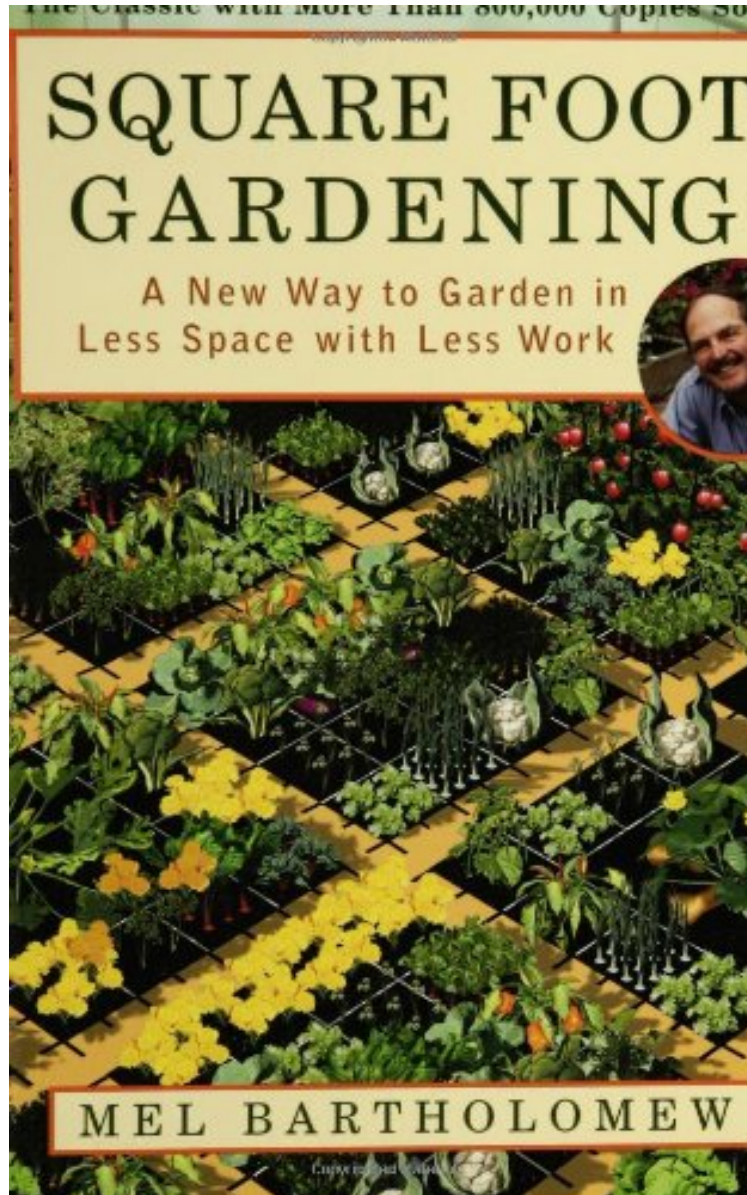


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Square Foot Gardening A New Way to Garden in Less Space with Less Work

Mel Bartholomew

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Mel Bartholomew : Square Foot Gardening A New Way to Garden in Less Space with Less Work before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Square Foot Gardening A New Way to Garden in Less Space with Less Work:

35 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Perfect for beginners and veteran gardeners alike!By D. TremeThis "gardening instruction manual" is a perfect fit for our 90's lifestyle - not enough time, and small yards instead of acreage. Good organic info (fertilizer, compost, etc)too. I first purchased this book in the early 80's as a newly-wed with the idea that I might like to try a small garden. The square foot garden concept is so simple, and the garden is so easy to maintain that I have used it since then.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. CAUTION: Don't make the same mistake I did! Buy the new edition!By MeghanI'm new to Square Foot Gardening and when I read the reviews of the new edition, a few comments jumped out at me about how the new edition seems so much more commercialized and self-promoting on the author's part and seemed more geared toward getting people to buy stuff (including the pre-made "Mel's Mix" soil) and how this version is better. So I got this one. BAD MOVE!I looked at the pre-mixed soil at my local Lowe's and it would have been upwards of \$170 to fill the 4x4, 12" bed we built, so I decided to buy the components separately and mix them myself.The "recipe" for the soil called for vermiculite, compost, and peat moss, and sand, and lime, and fertilizers. When it was done, it was a big, SANDY mess. Not knowing a lot about gardening but knowing enough to realize that the soil seemed VERY sandy, especially in my hot Southern California climate, I asked the nice folks at the SFG forums and was immediately told that the newer, current edition has changed the soil formula completely and it's now 1/3 vermiculite, 1/3 compost, 1/3 peat moss, and NO SAND. And no fertilizers or lime. DOH. Also, this sandy mess in my box is not appropriate for our summers when moisture is precious and evaporates quickly.So now my eventual plans to build a second bed (I wanted to see how the "test" bed went first) have been accelerated. We're going to build it, use the sandy mess for the bottom half, and then top off both boxes with the "real" mix and hope for the best.In the meantime, I've bought the new book on Kindle and just from flipping to the chapter on soil I can see a lot of validity in the comments about it being self-promoting, but as long as the information is accurate I guess I can deal with it while I nurse my sore wallet and blistered hands. :)3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Easy funBy EBI started vegetable gardening at a community garden last year. I have a 4' x 8' raised bed. This book is my bible. His website is also very helpful. I didnt follow Mel's formula for the dirt. I used the dirt provided by the community garden. I followed Mel's instructions about putting the garden to rest. I didn't have 3" of compost, only about 1" (this was still a lot of bags) and I think it made a difference w/ the tomatoes this year. Square foot gardening is the way to go. We have a short growing season and it provides a variety of vegetables with ease. And it's fun!

One of the bestselling garden books ever is fresher than ever! Ready to inspire a whole new generation of gardeners.When he created the "square foot gardening" method, Mel Bartholomew, a retired engineer and efficiency expert, found the solution to the frustrations of most gardeners. His revolutionary system is simple: it's an ingenious planting method based on using square foot blocks of garden space instead of rows. Gardeners build up, not down, so there's no digging and no tilling after the first year. And the method requires less thinning, less weeding, and less watering."I found a better way to garden, one that's more efficient, more manageable, and requires less work," Bartholomew explains. Not surprisingly, his method quickly received worldwide recognition and has been written up in every major newspaper and gardening magazine. His book, which served as the companion to the nationally acclaimed television series, has sold over 800,000 copies. Now freshened with new illustrations, the book Ingram calls "the largest selling garden book in America" is reissued for the delight of a whole new generation of gardeners.

The book is great and the method is even better. Bob Thomson, host of Victory GardenTop 10 Gardening Best-Seller. Publishers WeeklyThis is a good, competent gardening book, well written and sensibly presented. Library JournalHow to get more from less is one of life's major challenges today. Here is a book that does just that for those with a hoe... BooklistBartholomew is a welcome presence... Kirkus sThis amazing discovery truly makes gardening fun and easy. Mike Levey, host of Amazing DiscoveriesThe approach is fascinating. It's new, different and very innovative. Long Island Horticultural SocietyIt's one of the few garden books that offers something new to the reader. Christian Science MonitorFrom the Back CoverAs seen by millions on national television"The book is great and the method is even better."--Bob Thomson, host of Victory GardenTwice as much in half the space!* A complete garden book for both the beginner and the expert* A new way to garden with 80 percent less space and work* The companion book to the nationally acclaimed television series* Over 900,000 copies in printAbout the authorMel Martholomew, a retired engineer, found the answer to the frustrations of most gardeners, "I found a beter way to garden," says Mel, "one that's more efficent, more manageable and less work." The result is Square Foot Gardening. His method has received world-wid recognition for its simplicity and uniqueness and has been written up in every major newspaper and gardening magazine.What they're saying"This amazing discovery truly makes gardening fun and easy."--Mike Levey, host of Amazing Discoveries"The approach is fascinating. It's new, different and very innovative."--Long Island Horticultural Society"It's one of the few garden books that offers something new to the reader."--Christian Science Monitor"Top 10 gardening best-seller."--Publishers Weekly* Grow a perfect garden in only 10 minutes a day.* Harvest the biggest tomatoes.* Enjoy spectacular flowers every day.* Ideal for beginners from 4 to 94.* Simple, easy, attractive and rewarding gardens.About the AuthorMEL BARTHOLOMEW, a retired businessman and engineer, found the answer

to the frustrations of most gardeners with his square foot gardening method, which has received worldwide acclaim. He also created the non-profit Square Foot Gardening Foundation to promote easy gardening methods for people around the world. He lives in Utah.