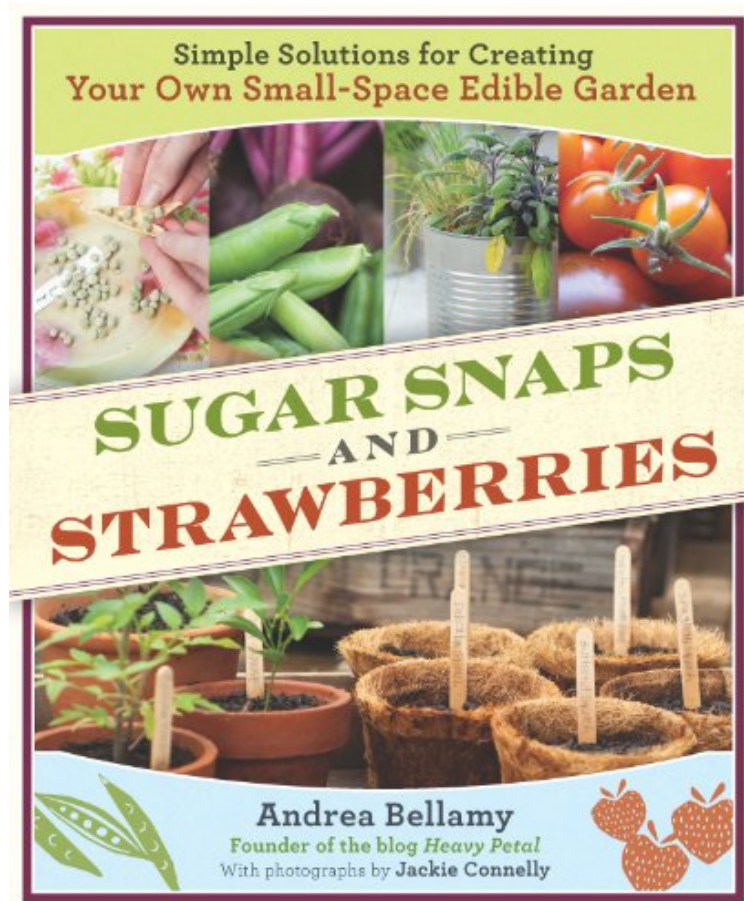


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# Sugar Snaps and Strawberries: Simple Solutions for Creating Your Own Small-Space Edible Garden

Andrea Bellamy

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Imagine savoring fresh-picked strawberries on a weekend morning, plucking plump figs from your mini-orchard to quarter and serve at a farm-to-table meal with friends, or harvesting and sauting the edible stalks of garlic bulbs. If the size of your space is bringing you back to reality, here's the best part: you don't need a big backyard to grow your own food. In fact, you don't need a yard at all. Andrea Bellamy, founder of the acclaimed blog Heavy Petal, gives you the dirt on growing gorgeous organic food with very little square footage. Simple, straightforward, design and growing advice can help you transform just a snippet of space into a stylish and edible oasis. Bellamy goes beyond the surface and shows you how to create and maintain healthy soil, decide what and when to plant, sow seeds and harvest, and most importantly, enjoy the process. So go ahead, picture that tiny nook, corner, strip, porch, alley, balcony, or postage-stamp-sized yard overflowing with fingerling potatoes, fragrant herbs, sugar snap peas, French breakfast radishes, and scarlet runner beans. Armed with luscious photography, encouraging tips, and sophisticated designs, you're sure to be inspired to join the grow-your-own revolution.

From BooklistA movement to embrace home-grown edibles, whether propelled by economics or the hope for sustainability, is taking shape around us, writes Bellamy, setting the stage for a thorough introduction to the basics of creating a small-space garden, in which beauty combines with functionality. Bellamy offers design tips as she discusses assessing space and common site problems (e.g., poor drainage); preparing containers, raised beds, and soil; sowing; growing; maintaining plant health; pruning; and harvesting. Highlighted are edibles from apples to zucchini, with details for the cultivation and enjoyment of each fruit and vegetable, including useful growing tips and information on the most popular varieties. Of particular inspiration are Bellamys suggestions for veggie patches on balconies, patios, and the tiniest of city plots. Many full-page color photographs by Jackie Connelly complete this yummy and useful presentation. --Whitney Scott Inspiration for veggie patches on balconies, patios, and the tiniest of city plots. . . . yummy and useful presentation.Booklist A fine piece of informational, inspiring and winning work.Horticulture Particularly useful to those urban/suburban homes with very limited space.Sustainable Horticulture A marvelous book thats entertaining, extremely useful, and lovely. I recommend it highly.Garden Rant Full of wisdom and practical advice. . . . Stands apart for its tone, which is both gentle and practical, and its many fascinating sidebars and offshoots. Easy to flip through and find something fun to read in a hurry.Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Whether youve got a porch or just a windowsill, Heavy Petal blogger Andrea Bellamy has you coveredher Sugar Snaps and Strawberries is an accessible, comprehensive guide to small-space gardening.Portland Mercury An invaluable resource for aspiring greenthumbed terrace farmers.The Source Weekly A great book for beginners and for those of us who need winter eye candy.Red Dirt Ramblings Chock-full ofwisdom, pluck, and good ideas.Midwest Home Full of smart ideas for how to deal with a seemingly impossible growing situation.ReadyMade Bright, cheerful, and motivating. . . . you will wonder why anyone would ever hesitate to grow a few edibles even if they have only a fire escape or deck.Commonweeder Id recommend it to any new gardener of edibles, particularly one who has limited or no access to a plot of earth she can call her own.Digging An inspiring book for those with a can-do spirit but not much gardening space.Life on the Balcony