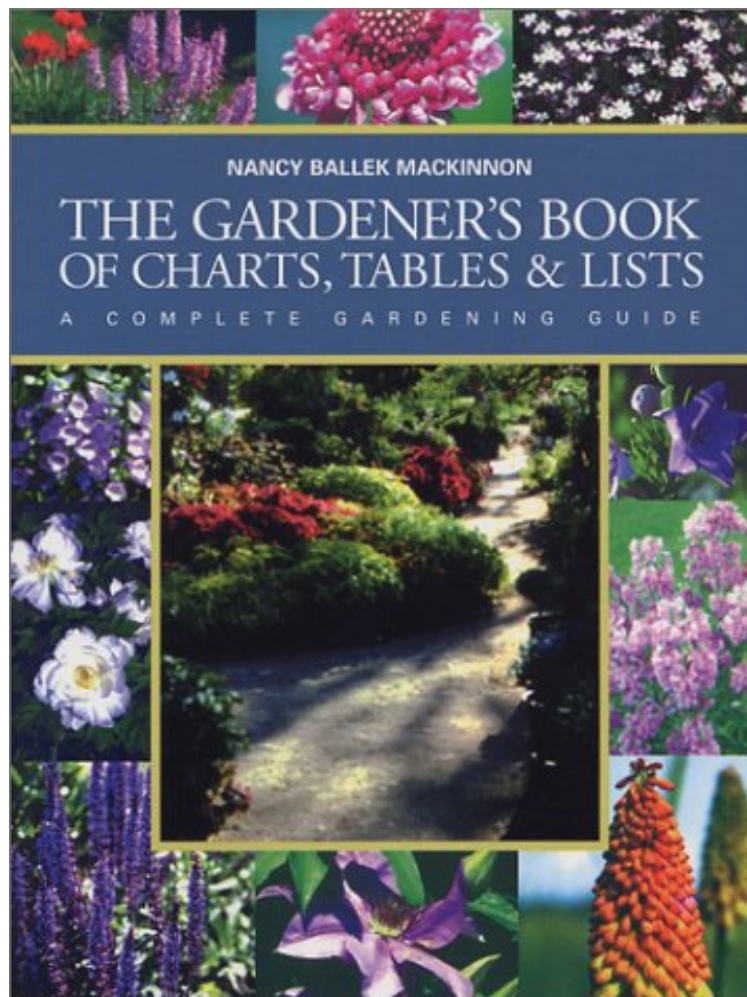


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The Gardener's Book of Charts, Tables and Lists: A Complete Gardening Guide (Capital Lifestyles)

Nancy Ballek Mackinnon

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Nancy Ballek Mackinnon : The Gardener's Book of Charts, Tables and Lists: A Complete Gardening Guide (Capital Lifestyles) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Gardener's Book of Charts, Tables and Lists: A Complete Gardening Guide (Capital Lifestyles):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very limited and confusing.By sandhillsserenityI bought this, enthusiastically, based on a review, but was completely disappointed. The cover is misleading and there is nothing "complete" in it. The inside is entirely black and white and the listings do not have any photos or drawings. This book is basically a list of perennials, in alphabetical order, by scientific name. It sometimes has the common names after the scientific one, but those are not cross-referenced anywhere, so if you try to find a certain plant and don't know the

scientific name, you are out of luck. The list is divided first by preference for sun or shade, then by color grouping (which is needed since the book is entirely black and white and lacks any pictures) and then subdivided by height. Each entry has the very same information you would find on any plant tag at the store, using symbols- little open or blackened circles to show if the plant likes sun or shade, hardiness zone numbers, and whether the plant attracts butterflies, birds, or is fragrant and good for cutting. Like I said, all the information you would get on any plant tag, but plant tags are on plants so you see what you have! There is no mention of the width or spread of the plants and mostly ignores all mention of native origin or invasiveness. Here's an example from the list, under Perennials for the Shade/ White, Cream and Ivory/ 24-36" : "Cimicifuga acerina" 24"-zone 4- Leafless spikes topped white over low basal foliage- then the symbol for shade/partial shade, the numbers 9 and 10 for the months blooming and the symbol for butterfly. That is it. Can you picture the plant? What the bloom looks like at all? You know it is listed as 24-36" tall, but how wide should it be spaced? Will it crowd out other plants? Does it prefer acid or alkaline soil? Acid or alkaline? Are parts of it edible? Poisonous? Who knows! Based on that entry, would you ever go to a place and ask for a "Cimicifuga acerina?" Also, the writer is in Connecticut, so maybe that is why there is no mention of heat hardiness along with cold hardiness, but many gardeners would need that. I was shocked to find that this book was written in 2002. It seems more like the old taxonomy guides from more than 50 years ago. I cannot imagine who the ideal reader of this book would be. For me, it was not worth the shipping. I gave it one star because zero was not an option.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. 5 starBy CustomerGreat product.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This was a disappointment! It was suggested by a great radio programBy Doris GimplThis was a disappointment! It was suggested by a great radio program. Was not what I expected/

Do you want to know the easiest fruits to grow? Which vegetables to plant early? What perennials can border your driveway? The answers to these questions and more are in "The Gardeners Book of Charts, Tables, and Lists," a comprehensive home reference guide to the most important information a gardener needs for yearly growing plans. Gardening is Americas most popular hobby and gardening enthusiasts will find that "The Gardeners Book of Charts, Tables, and Lists" contains all the information they need to plan and plant their gardens and houseplants. With over 200 illustrations, the book includes charts like Vegetables to Plant Early, Plants for Cold Climates, Easiest Flowers and Ornamentals to Grow, Best Bulbs, Tips on Weed Control, Easiest Indoor Plants to Grow, and many, many more.