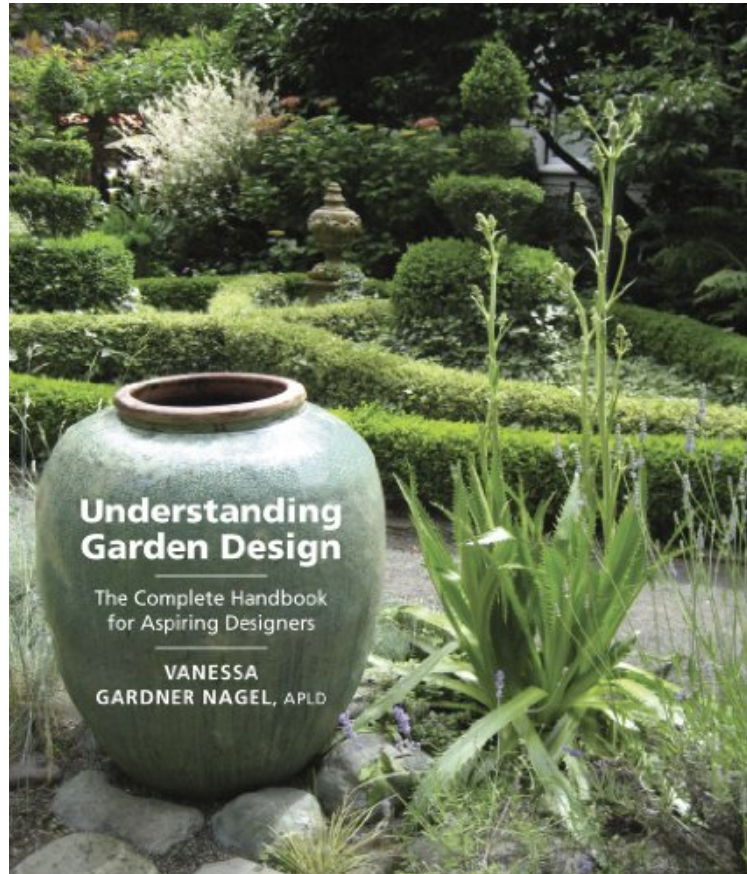


Understanding Garden Design: The Complete Handbook for Aspiring Designers

Vanessa Gardner Nagel APLD

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Vanessa Gardner Nagel APLD : Understanding Garden Design: The Complete Handbook for Aspiring Designers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding Garden Design: The Complete Handbook for Aspiring Designers:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Exactly what I neededBy C. MostI am not a landscape designer, I am a very methodical panning oriented person who is interested in redesigning the yard. This book is fabulous and exactly what I needed. It does detail the principles of design (Visual balance of leaves, the importance of height for single story structures etc.) but as the book says, that all starts somewhere in the middle.The most helpful part of the book for me preceded that; it discussed how to assess the landscape and what you need from it. This is something I discovered when I tried to map out my house. It sounds stupid, you should just grab a measuring tape right? But what about slopes? How do you measure door thickness? Do you account for trim? Just how thick are my walls? Do I measure clockwise or counter clockwise around the room? Why is this not lining up? How much space should I allocate for the new tub? How about walking around the tub? All of this becomes even more difficult outside where

things are no longer nice rectangular boxes. Thumbing through the various books at the hardware store I was unsatisfied with all of them, I'm glad I went with this one first. It seems rather thin and isn't stuffed with pretty pictures but it takes you through designing a garden from before you start to after the contractors are gone in a organized, clear, and unrepitative manner. I value the quality of a book's text above all else, and I could not be more satisfied with my purchase. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. written as if the author is explaining simple basics to ...By Ptinkiewritten as if the author is explaining simple basics to a five year old. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It had been recommended by some fellow members of Dave's GardenBy Evelyn V BishopA book I have been needing. Thank you. It had been recommended by some fellow members of Dave's Garden.

Designing a garden is a complex task. Where do you start? What kind of skills do you need? What are the logical steps in creating a design? How do you communicate your ideas to a client, and how do you accommodate a clients requests while maintaining the integrity of the project? The answers to these questions, and many more, can all be found in *Understanding Garden Design*. Most books on garden design focus on only one or a few aspects of garden designchoosing plants or creating a hardscape, for example. This comprehensive, accessible book lays out the entire process from start to finish in clear, precise language that avoids the pitfalls of designspeak. In fact, garden owners and clients of garden designers who want to understand more about the designers craft will be able to profit from the books lessons. Among the many topics covered are how to document a site, how to determine what a client needs and wants from the garden, how to take architectural features into consideration, how to think about circulation and lay out paths, how to use basic design principles, how to work with plants, and how to create a final design. Practical aspects are clearly laid out, including working with contractors and staying on top of the various phases of construction. This thorough handbook is profusely illustrated with helpful photographs and diagrams. A particularly interesting tool is the hypothetical garden plan that appears in each chapter to show how to apply the topics at hand. A practical, logical approach to the planning, design, and installation of a garden, this volume will be an invaluable resource for students, landscape professionals, and garden designers.

From BooklistA former interior designer who embarked on a second career in landscape planning, Nagel bemoaned the dearth of resource material necessary for her new endeavor. Knowing that nature abhors just such a vacuum, Nagel fashioned a guide to her own specifications. Starting with the basics, Nagel ventures from concept to completion in a logical sequence, covering topics many other design manuals overlook. Not only does she pay particular attention to the intangible aspects of the design process, such as a gardens effects on physical health and mental attitude, she also delves into the practical side of landscape projects, from spatial allowances for patio furniture to working with contractors. Along with essentials such as traffic flow, focal points, and sun exposure, Nagel also provides thoughtful coverage of secondary, but no less important, topics such as hardscape, furnishings, and ornamentation. Thorough and thoroughly accessible, Nagels reasoned yet personable approach to an often intimidating subject will benefit both homeowners and design professionals. --Carol Haggas Thorough and thoroughly accessible, Nagels reasoned yet personable approach to an often intimidating subject will benefit both homeowners and design professionals. Booklist An excellent guide for beginning home garden designers as well as students in the field. Library Journal For aspiring designers, Nagel, a commercial interior designer who became a landscape designer, details the process of garden design. Using photos and diagrams, she explains aspects like documenting the site, lighting, working with contractors, components of a garden, irrigation, finishes and furnishings, plants, and basic design principles. Book News Everything you need to consider is here. Green Bay Press-Gazette A wonderful handbook for anyone to own. Garden Design Online Details the process of garden design. . . and basic design principles. SciTech Book News Nagel has opened a window into the processes of our closest allies in our professional endeavors. Williams Landscape Lighting Design