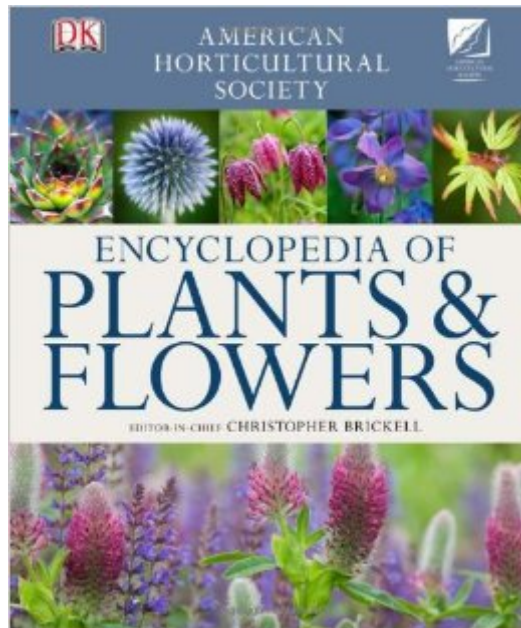


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# American Horticultural Society Encyclopedia Of Plants And Flowers (American Horticultural Society)



## Synopsis

Since its first publication in 1987, the AHS Encyclopedia of Plants & Flowers has sold nearly three million copies worldwide. Packed with 8,000 plants for every climate â inside and out â from trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, biennials, bulbs, water plants, and cacti, the AHS Encyclopedia of Plants & Flowers is a must-have reference for all gardeners! This fully revised and updated edition features a brighter, clearer design and improved navigation â cataloging plants by color, season, and size â that makes the book more intuitive for the reader. The American Horticultural Society (AHS) is one of the oldest national gardening organizations in the country. Since 1922, they have provided America's gardeners with the highest quality gardening and horticultural education possible.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This 720 page reference is well worth the money and is an indispensable tool for plant identification or plant selection. A short article on plant names and origins is followed by a beautiful section on "Creating a Garden" which covers style, structure, planning, seasons, using color and providing texture. The color photographs that accompany the article are outstanding!"The Plant Selector" provides lists of plants that cover seemingly any situation you can think of. Examples - plants for specific soils, deer-resistant plants, hedge and windbreak plants, groundcovers for both sun and shade, dry shade, moist shade, and the list goes on. The bulk of the book focuses on individual plants (Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Perennials, Annuals, Climbers, Bulbs, Rock Plants, Water Plants).

Each section of plants is categorized by size (Large, medium and small) and then by color of the bloom. A color photo of each plant is provided as well as a brief description, size, exposure needs, zone, etc. A page number reference refers to a more in depth description of the plant in the back of the book. Beautiful and plentiful photos, thick glossy pages and a wealth of information make this a reference that you can browse for hours. Happy reading!

This weighty, full-color reference to North American plants and flowers has been revised and completely revamped for this edition, profiling over 8,000 plants and holding over four thousand photos. The American Horticultural Society Encyclopedia Of Plants And Flowers is a gardener's dream reference, and deserves a place not only in the home reference library of the avid gardener, but in any suitable public or school library with strong collections in gardening and plants.

Some other reviewers that own this book are right when giving this book high marks. I am a landscape contractor and can attest to the rich information and pictures inside. Although, I wouldn't recommend this bk for the beginning gardener. It has a 'common names' index by which to cross ref backwards with but, if common names are all you are familiar with, this bk may be a bit much to find what you want. However, this bk will tell you if this plant is evergreen, semi-evergreen, deciduous, its habit, bloom time, hardiness zones, Height & Spread, Light & some moisture requirements, etc. The bk is alphabetized with the genus/ Latin names for a reason. These Latin names are how all plants are traced from their origin and habit, regardless of hybridizing or crossing. A Plant may have several common names regionally or for marketing purposes, but will always have the Latin name to trace its' origin. This is why you will see a lot of bks with Latin names instead of common names. This bk is a must for landscapers and horticulturists. This is one of the best reference sources I've seen.

If you are like me, you have probably looked at the American Horticultural Society's two huge encyclopedias (The Encyclopedia of Plants and Flowers - this book, and the A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants) wondering why they would produce two seemingly similar books and which you should buy. My advice for people looking for a comprehensive GARDENING guide is to purchase THIS book. This one - the Plants and Flowers book - should be viewed as a very comprehensive plant type, size, zone, and technique book - all of which provide the book's context mentioned below - while the A-Z guide really is more like a traditional encyclopedia and is heavily focused on individual plant entries. Much of the same material on plants can be found in both books, but this one structures the entire volume into a gardening context, while the A-Z guide provides more detail

on individual plants (as well as coverage of more plants and varieties). Even a relatively advanced gardener is unlikely to need the additional plants coverage in the A-Z guide, as many cannot be easily found. The reason a number of people end up buying both is that the additional depth of material in the A-Z guide for plants found in both books can be helpful in special circumstances. Naturally, some avid gardeners simply enjoy the additional botanical detail also. This is a superb book for extended study and planning. It is less helpful as an in-season guide and problem solver, due to its size and complexity.

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