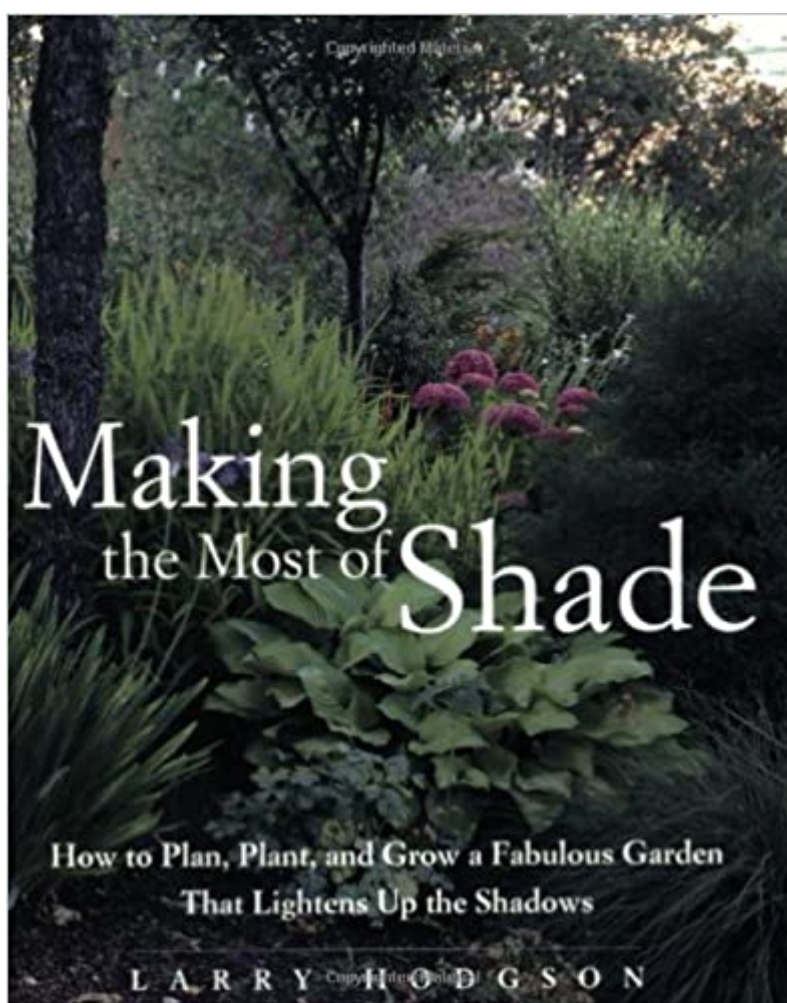


The book was found

Making The Most Of Shade: How To Plan, Plant, And Grow A Fabulous Garden That Lightens Up The Shadows



Synopsis

A gorgeous celebration of the shade garden--featuring nearly 300 perennials, annuals, bulbs, ferns, ornamental grasses, and climbing plants that will thrive without direct sunlight. A shaded garden can be a soothing sanctuary that even the most dedicated sun worshipper can welcome on a hot summer day. But how do you get plants to grow in a spot where trees and shrubs hide the sun? In this stunning volume, garden expert Larry Hodgson shows how to create a lush and lovely garden filled with plants that will flourish in the shade. The first part covers the basics of shade gardening, including planning, planting, and problem-solving. Here readers will find out how to use shade-tolerant grasses and groundcovers for the root-filled areas under trees; discover solutions for dry shade and heavy needle and leaf drop; and learn what to do if a tree should fall and a shade garden is suddenly thrust back in the sun. The second part is devoted to an encyclopedia of shade-loving plants. Complete with expert designs for five different kinds of shaded gardens, *Making the Most of Shade* is a splendid new gardening title by the popular author of *Perennials for Every Purpose*, which Susan McClure, author of *Easy-Care Perennial Gardens*, called "a treasure . . . the next best thing to having a friendly expert whispering in your ear as you plan, plant, and perfect your perennial garden."

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Customer Reviews

Gardeners who weed, plant, and prune under the sun's beneficial rays may think they have it "made in the shade" when it comes to horticultural variety, but there's a downside to all that versatility,

according to Hodgson. Those who garden, figuratively speaking, where the sun don't shine, have less weeds, watering, and other bothersome maintenance than their full-sun compatriots. Sharing his considerable expertise throughout this comprehensive guide, Hodgson entertainingly educates both novice and seasoned gardeners about the myriad merits of shade gardening. From cultural considerations to design decisions, Hodgson covers those relevant topics necessary to transform dark garden corners into radiant exhibitions of texture and color. Hundreds of popular and lesser-known perennials, annuals, bulbs, vines, and grasses are profiled in-depth, their inclusion based on decades of Hodgson's personal and professional experience. With informative special features, helpful at-a-glance tips, and lots of color photographs, Hodgson's enlightening guide is a ray of sunshine for shade gardeners. Carol Haggas Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

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helpful is Hodgson's chapter on how to cope with problems like root competition from trees, growing plants in dry or moist shade, and what to do when your neighbor or a storm knocks down the tree that is your shade source. Along with George Schenk's *The Complete Shade Gardener*, this is an excellent addition for public libraries. • Phillip Oliver, Univ. of North Alabama Lib., Florence, Library Journal

I have spent two years now creating a shade garden in a natural shade area in the front of our house. I have tried a bit of this & that but without much of a plan. This helped tremendously in figuring out what looks well together, types of plants, how to compliment one plant with a different one, or showcase a patch of color & sizes. Only drawback I found (I think) is I live in the no man's land of Zone 5 Michigan where it is hard to find an abundance of plants that can winter zone 5 unpredictability. And I would have liked a few more Zone 5 plants. But great book to design and build on for a shade garden.

Bought this as a gift for my Mother in Law for Christmas. She's from Upstate New York originally but recently bought a house in North Florida. She is an avid gardener but was having trouble figuring out what plants would do well in a densely shaded yard (due to LARGE trees). Well she loves this book, and is really excited to plant her garden! She even told me that this book has taken residence on her bedside table!

I found this book soon after it was published and as I was just beginning to plan my shade garden. I bought several books, including George Schenk's "The Complete Shade Gardener" and Ken Druse's "The Natural Shade Garden". All three belong in any shade gardener's library. Hodge's book, however, is the most useful, because it provides a great deal of information on the primary plants used in most shade gardens as well as many rarer plants. Its pictures, discussions of the various cultivars, and very complete information make it a necessity for any shade gardener. Its discussions on landscape design are also very useful, but perhaps not as unique or complete as the plant descriptions. (Druse's book is therefore a good compliment, although I have yet to find a great beginners reference on that topic. Schenk's book discusses even more plants, but in less detail and is a bit outdated. I find Schenk's book more useful now that I am looking for rarer plants, but its sparsity of pictures makes it hard for beginners.) Two years ago I had become an addicted gardener and began working part time in a plant nursery. I have learned a great deal more on the job and regularly advise new and experienced gardeners. I regularly recommend this book to those just

getting started or anxious to find new plants. Even now, however, I find myself going back to this book for new information or to refresh my knowledge. I, of course, now have access to even more references, including the illustrated wholesale catalogs of many plant suppliers. Nevertheless, this book remains the most useful and my favorite. My only complaint? It needs a hardback version. I have now almost worn out my second copy.

As someone who lives in an urban area I had little choice in the amount of shade in my garden. I've found Hodgson's book to be an exciting read with lots of inspiring photos, plans, and useful tidbits. I did have a few disappointments with this book but they were pretty minor. The small, close-up photos in the plant index are great for showing detail, but are not so great at giving the reader an idea of what the whole plant looks like, how it sits, whether it is compact or expansive, etc. As a beginning gardener I had to look elsewhere for more "in context" photos of the plants. A chapter on shrubs for shade would also have been helpful. These gripes aside, I've found this book to be a great help in designing my urban shade garden and would recommend to any beginner gardener looking for inspiration.

Just as advertised. Early arrival.

When my gardening focus finally shifted from our variety of sun/wind exposures to our mostly still-and-shady East yard, I needed help. "Auditioned" many (many) shade gardening books and, in the process, found Larry Hodgson's *Making the Most of Shade*. Search over. This book has become the Rosetta Stone of shade gardening for me. It contains exactly the information I need, all provided in a format that reads more like a pleasing conversation with a fellow garden enthusiast than a lecture. And the sections containing individual plant profiles are encyclopedic in scope, great both for researching a particular plant or just leafing through for ideas. At risk of evoking hosta humor, this book is my Gold Standard.

Most gardeners love sunny patches. We dream of bright flowers, yummy tomatoes and other garden delights. However, what to we do with the shade? This book opens the door to unthought of possibilities. The plants will shine as beacons in the darkness. If you have a shade problem, get this book. I used it to build a garden underneath a dense canopy of closely placed Douglas Firs. It was worth the effort. I was able to grow food in the shade- you can eat Hostas! Happy Gardening in the shade. It is cool in the hot summer.

This a nice book. Great pictures and reference material. I am experienced gardener and will get a lot of use of this book. I think it would be a great book for someone starting out in gardening.

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