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Concrete Garden Projects: Easy & Inexpensive Containers, Furniture, Water Features & More



Synopsis

For gardeners and backyard do-it-yourselfers, concrete is a revelation. It's durable, weatherproof, impossible to steal, and it provides much-needed insulation for outdoor plants. Concrete weathers beautifully, softening around the edges, developing moss, and becoming more picturesque with age. Concrete Garden Projects takes advantage of concrete's numerous assets, showcasing an inspiring array of creative options. The step-by-step instructions for dozens of easy, do-it-yourself décor ideas include containers of all shapes and sizes, elegant benches and stools, miniature ponds and birdbaths, stepping stones, a barbecue, and a fire pit. The authors use a variety of molds easily found or made, household items like bowls and baking pans, and simple wooden frames and boxes. At pennies per pound, and so simple to use—just mix with water and pour—concrete is the key to hand-crafted backyard décor.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Stylish concrete vessels and creations.”—Library Journal
“The texture and color of concrete provides a pretty vessel for blooms and foliage.”—Better Homes and Gardens
“Will get your creative juices flowing.”—Miami Herald
“Gives budget-minded gardeners pages of arty projects.”—The Houston Chronicle
“A convenient and inexpensive base for garden projects.”—San Francisco Chronicle
“Useful, fun, and sure to ignite imaginations.”—American Reference Books Annual
“Features

easy-to-follow projects that will keep any gardener busy creating new vessels for their plants. •Twin Cities Pioneer Press •“Stylish concrete vessels and creations. •Argus

If you like making things for your garden, you will love concrete. Durable, beautiful and inexpensive, it is also surprisingly simple to work with. Best of all, it weathers elegantly, softening around the edges to become more picturesque with age. Concrete Garden Projects offers up an inspiring array of creative projects that can be made for next to nothing. Follow the easy, step-by-step instructions to make containers of all sizes, benches and stools, ponds and birdbaths, pavers and stepping stones – and even a barbecue. The forms for the projects range from household items like bowls and baking pans to simple wooden frames and boxes. For elegant, individual, garden décor, don't spend a fortune, just mix and pour.

I first learned of "Concrete Garden Projects: Easy and Inexpensive Containers, Furniture, Water Features and More" from an issue of "Better Homes and Garden" magazine. The book promises much, but falls short on basic information. For example, the "recipe" for concrete for the projects is limited to pre-mixed concrete. There is little information on finishing the projects, coloring concrete, polishing or achieving special effects. The gallery pictures are inspiring, but the text left me needing to find more in depth sources.

I selected this book because a few years ago my friend and I made a project from the internet to create beautiful concrete bird baths from rhubarb leaves. It was fun, relatively easy and quite rewarding when complete. This book offers a myriad of similar fun, easy projects and so now my friends and I will have even more projects to try. I read through the book and with my prior limited experience I understood all of the directions. They are clear and concise and seem to include all the steps to complete the project for a rewarding outcome. If you've never tried making items from concrete and you are even a bit crafty, you'll have fun. I also envision it as a good catalyst to do parent-child projects or grandparent-grandchild projects. Nice, wholesome, meaningful memories!

Looks like a good book and hope to make some of the projects shown.

Great book. The projects are first with instructions in back of book. I would prefer them together. Too much flipping back and forth

This book is fine for pictures and ideas of small finished projects. It is only adequate when it describes processes for actually making and finishing the projects, however. Large photos are the first 4/5ths of the book, showing the finished setting aided with lots of greenery. The last part has small photos and barely adequate explanations of the process. There is little or no talk of using techniques to get a different look to concrete (color tints, different texture techniques, etc.) Perhaps OK to start out with, but nothing that gives a hint of larger projects or more advanced projects.

The book had some nice garden projects that were different from other typical concrete books. I haven't made any of the projects yet, but have bought the concrete and hoping to try a few of the projects soon. Very informative, and nice photos to go along with the projects.

It is a book with a number of doable and interesting projects. The instructions and photos are quite helpful. There were a few projects that I was hoping to see in the book that were not available but overall I would recommend the book.!

I guess I was expecting more on the types of concrete, concrete dyes and more on finishing as an alternative to expensive stones.. good book for decorative ideas though and it's inspired some thoughts that I'll have to experiment with...

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