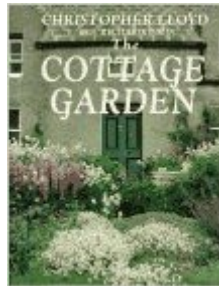


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# The Cottage Garden



## Synopsis

The cottage garden--a paradise of scented flowers--has a special place in the hearts of gardeners everywhere. This handsome volume traces the development of the cottage garden through Christopher Lloyd's elegant prose and specially commissioned photography, evoking the charm of the garden in all its beautiful variety.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons Inc; 1st Prenti edition (August 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0131812319

ISBN-13: 978-0131812314

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 9.5 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 13 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #681,902 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #192 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design > Small Homes & Cottages](#) #534 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Garden Design](#)

## Customer Reviews

Cottage gardens are popular in North America for their abundant informality, but British gardener Christopher Lloyd reminds us that a working cottage garden isn't all hollyhocks and lamb's ears. In its Old World origins, it served many purposes: as vegetable patch, cutting garden, and a place to sit in the cool of the evening. "It has evolved through common sense, combines need with enjoyment and is entirely unpretentious." *The Cottage Garden*, by Lloyd and photographer Richard Bird, is an homage to this centuries-old style that allows a multitude of plants to flourish in a small space, with a minimum, if crucial, amount of control exerted by the gardener. Lloyd's introduction is a brisk examination of the cottage garden tradition, after which he describes a large number of cottage garden plants. Happily for North American gardeners, these include plants that are commonly found outside of Great Britain as well as those that have been in the English cottage garden for centuries. A chapter on cottage garden features addresses hedges, waterways and ponds, garden furnishings, and outbuildings. The book's final two chapters are "Planning the Cottage Garden," with several different layouts emphasizing different types of plants, and "The Working Cottage Garden," which offers details for tending the garden through the seasons and

using its produce. Some of these seem rather deliberately quaint, such as the recipes for parsnip wine, mead, and pickled eggs. But overall, Richard Bird's serenely intimate photography and Lloyd's affable, opinionated erudition make *The Cottage Garden* a book to linger over. It's a pleasant addition to the lush DK Living series, which includes other notable gardening titles, such as Anna Pavord's *The New Kitchen Garden* and Pippa Greenwood's *The New Gardener*. --Barrie Trinkle  
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I love cottage gardens, real cottage garden, not those perfect ones you see in some books and magazines that claim to be cottage gardens. I've read a lot of books about this topic and I found this to be one of the best, both in content and in photos and drawings. I found myself getting this book from the library so often that I finally bought myself a copy. I'm constantly looking through it when I'm wanting inspiration for my gardens, or when I need something to help get me through a long winter's evening. It's truly a charming book. If you like cottage gardens and like growing vegetables you'll be delighted by the garden plans and all the information, plant suggestions and photos in this book. The drawings of various cottage garden layouts in the back are really fantastic, as are the photos throughout the book. After reading through this book, you'll definitely find yourself dreaming of a small cottage surrounded by a riotous mass of herbs and flowers out front with a few hedges and a bountiful vegetable garden out back, and perhaps a few chicken running around.

As someone that is actively planning and creating a cottage garden of my own, I found this book to really hit all the points! From the history of the cottage garden, to the design lay-outs for your own, and on to maintenance tips, this book really tells you all there is to know. Lovely pictures only further the elegance of this book. One note... I bought separate books for the necessary descriptions and pictures of specific plants and their growing habits. Although this particular book delves into what plants are traditional in the cottage garden, it is more about the function and form of the cottage garden itself. And for that, I recommend it highly!

After checking this out of the library, I had to have my own copy. Excellent book, and excellent service from the seller.

Probably the best book on Cottage Gardening available anywhere. Excellent pictures, well put together and lovely descriptions. It is like an instant vacation. The book empowers you to create something similar on your own plot of land, and is not overwhelming. Gives some charming history

as well as some useful garden designs. It is a shame it is out of print-- dont let it set you off, scoop it up.

His writing style is so personal and idiosyncratic, fun to read, if only for his use of the English language. Would have loved to meet the man, quirky and excentric. I have many of his books, and will strive to complete the set.

We have a bonafide Cottage garden. American yes but quite a strong touch of old fashion English Cottage garden influence. This book is soo informative and thrilling for me. (i wish you could see our gardens today. 5/12/13...Thrilling! :) A bit of Glorious Disarray going on and wonderful. ) Great book for any one that truly want to know what a cottage garden is about.

It is an excellent book for anyone interested in cottage gardens!

great book

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