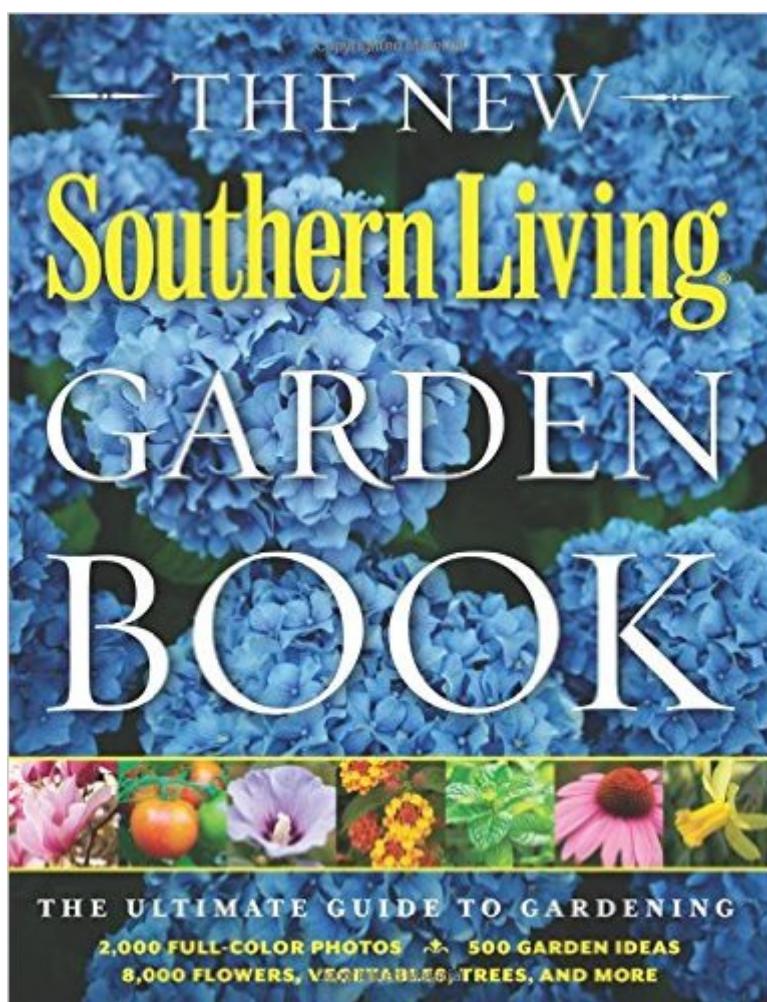


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# The New Southern Living Garden Book: The Ultimate Guide To Gardening (Southern Living (Paperback Oxmoor))



## **Synopsis**

An all-new revised and updated edition, The New Southern Living Garden Book is THE definitive source on gardening from the brand Southern gardeners have turned to for nearly 50 years. Completely redesigned and updated for the first time in 10 years, the new edition features over 1,700 beautiful color photographs and over 7,000 featured plants. Enhanced features include a monthly garden checklist, a Q&A section to tackle everyday problems, and garden design solutions, plus industry experts provide the hottest trends and tips combined with old-fashioned wisdom. From the new homeowner just starting out in gardening to the Master Class gardener, this book will be an essential resource.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 191 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #62,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > South #33 in Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Gardening #34 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Reference

## **Customer Reviews**

For nearly 50 years, Southern Living magazine has delivered definitive Southern food, decorating, and gardening ideas to over 15 million readers monthly, making it one of the most trusted lifestyle brands in the country. A team of dedicated Southern gardeners and writers lent their expertise to this book, led by Southern Living Senior Garden Writer, Steve Bender. Steve grew up in Lutherville, Maryland, and, in his words "was exiled to Alabama" in 1983, for reasons that remain secret to this day. He loves fried okra and often selects dinner wine based on whether it goes well with fried okra. Known as the Grumpy Gardener, his column is one of the most popular in the magazine and his mission is to make gardening uplifting, accessible, and inspirational to all.

I have loved the last 2 editions, and I love that this version has more photos, but I hate the paper and fear it won't be durable enough for a reference book. Also, the table of contents for the Plant Finder section is inaccurate. In fact, there are some sections listed there that I can't find at all in my book. I also would like to see an explanation for the changes in their zone map.

I have anticipated the new and updated Southern Living Garden Book for a long time. So when the new 2015 edition came out I bought it immediately. I want very much to say how wonderful it is, but I cannot. There are two major problems. First, the page numbering is all out of whack. What I realized in comparing editions is that the page numbering and sections in the Plant Finder section in the older edition were simply cut and pasted into the new book. SO the page numbering is obviously way off. Not only that but there were sections in the last edition that are not in this edition, though the cut and pasted table of contents for the plant finder section lists these sections anyway! I thought at first that this was the only page numbering problem but there is also a major error in the primary table of contents as the section "A Practical Guide to Gardening," listed as page 662 does not begin on page 662 at all! It is almost beyond comprehension how the editors let this happen - it is really a huge black eye for Southern Living if you ask me. The second problem has to do with the font in the longest section, "The South's Best Plants." In short the font is too small and too light. If set side by side with the last edition it is clear how superior the last edition is in terms of readability. I think it is worth saying that I have no eyesight issues in terms of reading up close. I don't use reading glasses and don't need help with close up vision. But this font is simply too small and light to read easily. In terms of the page numbering primarily, I would expect an organization like Southern Living, owned by Time, to publish an apology, and to make this right, not by offering an insert that corrects the page numbers but by reprinting the book and allowing people to trade in theirs for a corrected one. It is very disappointing.

After wearing out the first edition of this book, I was so excited to order the new and improved third edition. The pictures and book are beautiful; however, the editing is so bad that I cannot give it a good review. The Plant Finder index on page 37 is completely incorrect, and I had to write the correct page numbers beside each section (for example, it says Houseplants are on page 114, but they are really on page 99.) The Plants for Damp Soil section is listed, but does not exist in the book. Also, my book stops at page 608 and starts again on page 641, so an entire block of pages are missing from the book. Don't bother to look up any plants starting with T or U. So sad that what

could have been the best reference book for Southern gardening, is a complete mess due to elementary errors.

I really wanted to love this book, but there are some major issues. The Table of Contents does not match up to the actual sections in the book. Also, pages 609-640 are completely missing. (This is the entire "T" and "U" of the "Best Plants, A to Z" section of the book). Considering I found these errors within 10 minutes of opening the book, I cannot imagine how many more I have yet to discover. I am terribly disappointed at the shoddy editing - no doubt it will cost Southern Living plenty to do a reprint. I am sending this back in hopes that they will come out with a revised version later.

Just a note, my copy arrived today and all previous editing issues noted have been corrected. Sections are correctly labeled and page numbers are accurate. Plant finder T-U are present.

give me a break!!---someone needs to check the page numbers with the text---its wrong and I want a new book---when should I expect it????

My sweet husband gave me the New Southern Living Garden Book for Valentine's Day. I was thrilled! We have had each of the earlier editions and found them so useful, and we had been looking forward the new edition with bated breath.Unfortunately, the new versions is something of a disappointment. I like that there are actual pictures with the individual plant profiles, and the new listings are pretty wonderful.But here's the downside. The print is very small and pretty light, which makes it hard to read. The previous edition had some very useful tables that provided a lot of detail about the most common plants, but those are all gone. Worst of all, there are pages missing, and the table of contents does not match the actual printed page numbers.Poor job.

This book is very extensive and a great resource for whatever you plan to do in your yard. It includes flowers, trees, shrubs, and lots of advice. You can look up plants by type - i.e. shade, sun, dry, damp, etc. The quality of the paper is very good and quite endurable. It is over 700 pages and a bit heavy to hold, but that denotes quality. I highly recommend it.

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