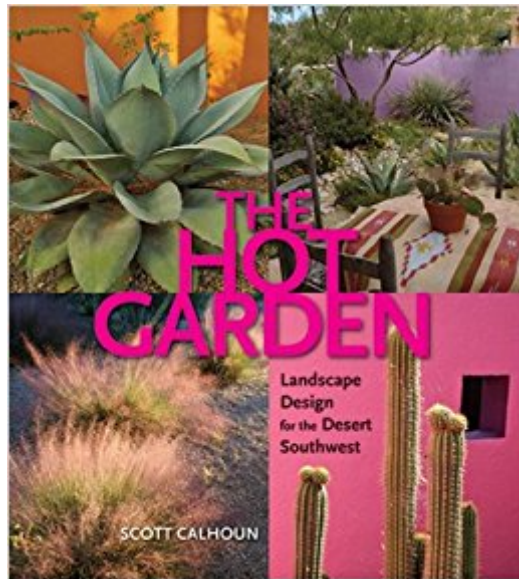




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Hot Garden: Landscape Design For The Desert Southwest



Synopsis

Put your desert eyes on, is Scott Calhoun's first advice to gardeners facing arid Southwestern regions with extreme climate conditions. Then he shows how to translate the natural beauty of the region - mountains, canyons, sculptural succulents, and incandescent sky - into gorgeous yet water-thrifty landscape designs that complement existing architecture as well as the environment that surrounds it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Scott Calhoun is the author of *The Hot Garden, Yard Full of Sun* (which was a 2006 American Horticultural Society Book of the Year), and *Chasing Wildflowers*, which was a winner of the Garden Writers Association 2008 Silver Award of Achievement. A full time freelancer maintaining a rigorous schedule, Calhoun works as a writer, teacher, and garden designer. His company, Zona Gardens, is located in Tucson, Arizona.

Love all Scott Calhoun's books on desert gardening. He lives in Tucson and is a garden designer in the desert areas and knows what he is talking about!

I live not in the Southwest but on a hot, dry Caribbean island. This book is a great resource for gardening ideas and lists of plants to try, together with lovely pics. I already grow agaves, yuccas etc. but I liked learning about the drought tolerant flowers I can add to complement these such as

desert senna, Mexican poppies, gallardia etc. There is also a neat section when discussing any plant with edible parts. I wish there were more landscaping idea pics but the focus of the book is a basic how to for gardening in hot, dry climates, and in that respect it excels.

Bought this book to get some ideas how to deal with my Central Florida landscape due to recent droughts over the past few years. We have basically given up on growing grass - so I bought this to get some practical ideas to expand my landscaping and work towards a "xericlandscaping".

Although the book has great ideas, pictures, and explanations, I noticed a lot of the suggestions and photos are of professionally maintained parks in the southwest and not necessary real-life homes. The color wheel suggestions are great - but more "practical applications" would have been useful for the average gardener - rather than a museum like park with somewhat overwhelming expectations. Overall - great book, lots of information, and definitely aesthetic photographs.

This book is full of useful information about desert gardens and the plants that live in them. Calhoun has an engaging, down-to-earth writing style. He's funny, too (see the story about pack-rats).

I am getting to landscape my yard and found Scott Calhoun's insightful, humorous, informative, and honest. Well written, nice photographs, and good schematic drawings make Hot Garden a pleasure to learn from. It's not the only book you'll need to read before you rip out your lawn, but it's an excellent place to start.

This very intelligent writer looks at landscaping from an environmental perspective but there's nothing preachy here --it's all fun! Excellent photos that will inspire, and many design ideas. While the book includes practical info (i.e., plant lists, and even recipes), its unique strength is the discussion of a sense of place and the logic of harmonizing your garden with the desert climate.

Being new to AZ I need help with southwest landscape-this book had lots of great ideas and awesome photos!Keep on my book shelf as a great reference book!

just the book for the desert

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