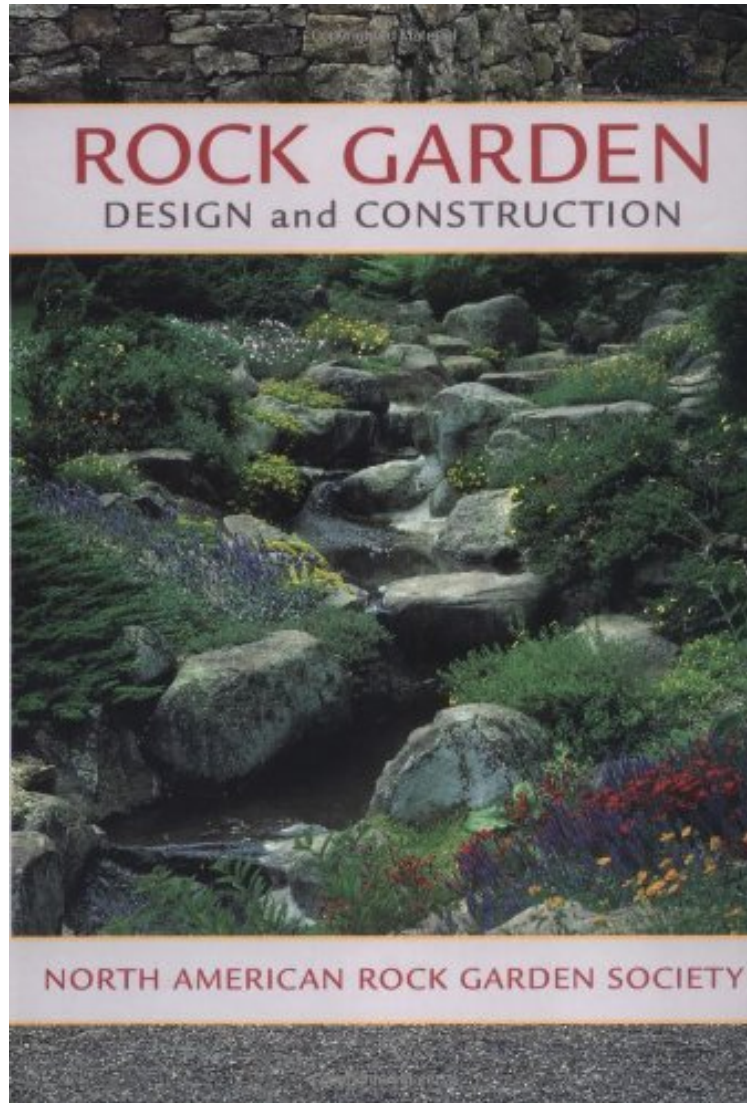


[Free] Rock Garden Design and Construction

## Rock Garden Design and Construction

*North American Rock Garden Society, Jane McGary*

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**North American Rock Garden Society, Jane McGary : Rock Garden Design and Construction** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rock Garden Design and Construction:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy Retired SheepdogToo much DIY verses real ideas.18 of 21 people found the following review helpful. DisappointingBy DKIt's a shame; the subject is a fabulous hobby and I love what rocks can do for a landscape but this book is not the answer for the person asking "how do I do it?" I honestly don't see who this book is intended for (the beginner? The pro?) and that's ultimately where this book fails

(i.e. poorly thought-out "purpose.") My guess is that the U.S. rock garden society aimed to please everyone (including their member-writers) by compiling essays on various subjects (i.e. soils, different types of rocks used for landscaping, and regional factors) from people across various U.S. regions who have some degree of "experience." However, it ends up accomplishing very little because there is mostly very little detail. There are some good color photos that give the reader some visual ideas but many of them look nearly impossible for an amateur to execute. For example, there are some very general tips on how to mix a suitable soil but never any methodical step-by-step instructions with specific sketches how to place rocks and plants. Are we just supposed to know this from their high-level discussion? And what about the plants? Again, some general suggestions but didn't it occur to them to simply put in a detailed chart of plants for sun or shade that work well in the different regions they cover? Obviously, a rock garden in California is going to have much different plants than a shade garden in Maryland. They go into only the most general of suggestions. The writing style of the essays is quite "arrogant" too. Hardly written in plain English; seems almost like a transcription of some lectures they've given to their local societies; hardly anything that would be useful for an actual class. There was one good piece of research on the water-carrying characteristics of different soils and soil combinations, to their credit. Unfortunately, there are not many good "how-to" books on rock gardening to be found. Try to find something else but this one though. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good book, informative and fun. By Steve N. Lauria I recently became interested in rock gardens and this book was very helpful in designing my own. My only complaint is I wish it had more pictures. Otherwise, very good.

Few gardens can transport visitors to wild and rugged landscapes as well as rock gardens. Eye-catching rock gardens are among the most challenging---and satisfying---expressions of the gardener's craft. A true rock garden is a specialized habitat that allows the gardener to grow plants that do not flourish anywhere else. This book offers the first comprehensive treatment of building rock gardens in all parts of North America. Topics covered include rock placement, materials, and planting and maintenance. Variations on the rock garden theme, from planting troughs to creating water features are also discussed. The book presents regional styles and techniques and profiles a dozen public rock gardens from Oregon to Newfoundland. More than 100 inspiring photos accompany the lively text.

From Booklist In his foreword to this information-filled guide, Panayotti Kelaidis posits that although rock gardening can be difficult to define, rock gardeners indisputably share a passion for plants. And whether one's focus is on dwarf conifers or a collection of succulents, the aspiring rock gardener will find chapters filled with advice from the bright lights of the rock-gardening world, who contribute expert recommendations and a multitude of ideas. An array of artistic gardens is shown, indicating possibilities for sites located in cold and warm regions alike. All sorts of practical considerations are covered, from suitability of the setting to soil to water features. Assorted styles of gardens--scree, berm, tufa, and natural outcrops--are discussed, with hands-on instructions provided for making troughs or container gardens where space may be an issue. The writers' enthusiasm for the subject matter will inspire some to start a rock garden from scratch and inspire experienced gardeners to enhance an existing design. Alice Joyce Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved These hands-on gardeners write not just for specialists, but for beginners, too. -- Sally Ruth Bourrie Oregonian 20031023 The aspiring rock gardener will find chapters filled with advice from the bright lights of the rock-gardening world ... The writers' enthusiasm for the subject matter will inspire some to start a rock garden from scratch and inspire experienced gardeners to enhance an existing design. -- Alice Joyce Booklist 20031015 Rock Garden Design and Construction is the first book on the subject to attempt to serve gardeners in all parts of North America, and we are in debt to the North American Rock Garden Society for this fine contribution to the literature ... the novice and advanced gardener are both well-served by this new reference. Pacific Horticulture 20031106 This is a very personal book, despite the fact that it has 40 authors, all of whom...are experts in their fields, and their love of plants shines through their worlds. -- Patricia A. Taylor Trenton Times 20040425 The scale of projects varies from extensive areas to small troughs and "rock gardening on a balcony," while a section on design basics and materials incorporates a fund of warnings and wisdom. Newcastle Journal 20040609 Lovely examples of berm, scree, and xeric gardens, both public and private, with a welcome emphasis on the aesthetics of integrating these various contrivances, from rock outcroppings to expanses of gravels, into the larger garden picture. Horticulture 20040609 Relies on the expertise of more than 40 members of the North American Rock Garden Society. The photographs are excellent and quite tempting, particularly in the variety of styles shown. -- Ann Milovsoroff Royal Botanical Gardens Newsletter 20040509 Though its pages are graced with more than 100 color images-many showcasing exquisitely conceived and executed rock gardens-this is by no means a mere coffee table book, but rather a treatise that covers every aspect of rock gardening, from sitting and construction to plant selection, culture, and ongoing maintenance. -- Barry Glick American Gardener 20040414 Comprehensive. Perennials 20040711 Well-conceived guide on the development of rock gardens in different regions of the country and on widely diverse sites. -- Marilyn K. Alaimo Chicago Botanic Garden 20040707 The information is all there...excellent and quite tempting. -- Ann Milovsoroff Royal Botanical Gardens Newsletter 20040331 A comprehensive foundation for building rock gardens in all parts of North America. Michigan Gardener 20040709 Lovely, informative and useful. -- Rachel

Shaevel E-Streams 20040616 This is a book I have read cover to cover and expect to read many more times. -- Carmel Tysver Garden North 20040930 This is a book I have read from cover to cover and expect to read many more times. -- Carmel Tysver Gardens North 20040908 Full of ideas for rock gardens of all kinds and sizes and for every climate. -- Marty Ross St. Louis Post-Dispatch 20050610 Reading like a Who's Who of those that have attained 'guru' status in the world of rock gardening, the contributors' list alone would be reason enough to garner a space on your bookshelf for Rock Garden Design and Contruction. ... Shattering the myth that you have to be an expert plantsman to have a rock garden, the basic thought that I was left with after reading the book was that anyone could have a rock garden anywhere. -- Barry Glick American Horticulturist 20060701 The book is indeed a treasure trove of ideas, full of accessible, down-to-earth information, useful for novices and experienced rock gardeners alike. -- Ethel Fried Manchester (CT) Journal Inquirer 20070224About the AuthorThe North American Rock Garden Society, with members throughout the world, is devoted to all aspects of growing plants in rock gardens: what they are, where to obtain them, and where to observe them in the wild. The society publishes Rock Garden Quarterly and holds national meetings; more than 30 local chapters in the United States and Canada convene regularly.