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# Dream Gardens Of England: 100 Inspirational Gardens



## Synopsis

The perfect companion to Merrell's bestselling Dream Gardens (Sunday Times Gardening Book of the Year), Dream Gardens of England is a beautifully designed sourcebook of 100 gardens of all styles in all parts of the country. It presents a wonderful variety of garden-design ideas, ranging from modern sophistication to lush romanticism, and from small city plots to large gardens in breathtaking rural locations. Each garden is photographed to show all its key features and essential details, while concise descriptions offer a rare insight into the aims and achievements of some of today's leading gardeners. With captions identifying the plants depicted, this book is an invaluable source of information and inspiration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This inspirational work is worthy of the highest recommendation to all gardeners. Chicago Botanic Garden It would be hard not to find something to stir the soul in Dream Gardens of England ... Not only are the gorgeous high points of summer celebrated in gardens both open to the public and behind closed gates, but the team also captures the quirky and the seemingly ordinary Sunday Times

Barbara Baker is a writer and keen gardener. She is the author of *Why We Garden: Stories of a British Obsession* (1998). Jerry Harpur and Marcus Harpur of Harpur Garden Images, based in Essex, are critically acclaimed photographers whose work appears in many books, magazines and

newspapers. Jerry was awarded the Garden Writers' Guild Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.

I saw this title recommended on the NGS website and I was so excited when it arrived today. The book was bigger and heavier than I anticipated and the cover paper felt wonderful. I knew I'd be in for a treat. Imagine my disappointment when I opened the book and every third picture was blurry/pixelated! Not overly so, but just enough to ruin the enjoyment of what is otherwise a gorgeous book. It's as if these images were shot for web use and not at a high-enough resolution for quality printing. The gardens themselves are beautiful, the writing, while minimal, is top notch. But this book is 99% images and too many of the larger pictures just aren't up to snuff. The photographer got everything else right--the compositions, the colour balance, such beautiful light captured. What a shame!

It is true, as other reviews say, that the photo quality in this edition is not exemplary (Probably due, not to the photographer, but the publisher using too low a resolution of the photograph. One wonders how those oversights slip through the cracks.). In other respects, the book is an excellent and inspiring addition to the coffee table collection.

This book is absolutely gorgeous! I am re-doing my front and back yards and this book has provided me "inspirational" designs. The pictures are amazing and you just want to walk thru the pages into the gardens.

English gardens are justifiably world famous for their elegance, charm, and beauty. In "Dream Gardens of England: 100 Inspirational Gardens", Barbara Baker (an accomplished gardener with a small, densely planted walled garden of her own) has compiled a 352-page compendium surveying one hundred diverse but authentically examples of English gardens and gardening styles.

Comprised of the expert color photography of Jerry and Marcus Harpur, each superbly presented photograph is accompanied by a succinctly informed and informative caption. The result is a tour-de-force excursion exploring gardens of all sizes and styles. Of special note are the gardens that are open viewing by the general public. A visual delight to simply browse through and a source of horticultural inspiration for gardeners everywhere, making "Dream Gardens Of England" a popular and highly recommended addition to personal and community library Gardening/Horticultural reference collections and supplemental reading lists.

The perfect pairing to the earlier bestselling *Dream Gardens*, this volume picks up the subject across the pond. Featuring gardens and garden design that run the gamut from wild to formal, lush and exotic to simple and chic, *Dream Gardens of England* is a beautiful source of inspiration and ideas. Whether you've got a small plot in the city or sprawling acres in the country, you'll find something in these pages to suit your fancy. Each of the 100 gardens featured is photographed to show both an excellent overview as well as key features and details, which means they not only inspire, but also provide information and details (including the names of plants) on how to recreate them on your own. Accompanying descriptions provide information on the owners' and landscape designers' goals, offering insight into the gardens' planning and execution.

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