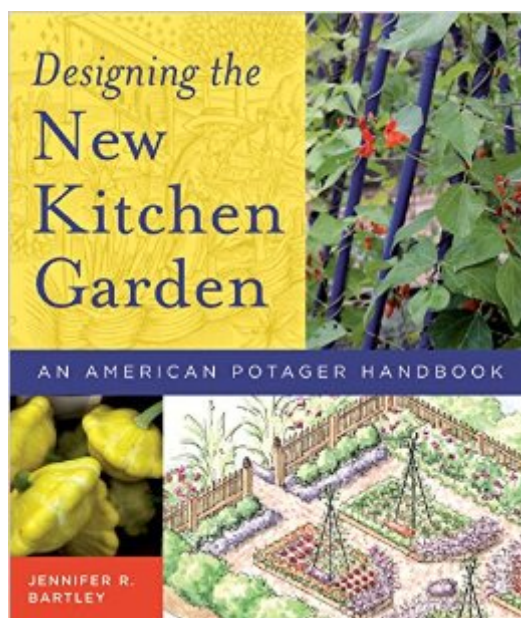


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# Designing The New Kitchen Garden: An American Potager Handbook



## Synopsis

Most gardeners know how rewarding it is to harvest ripe, sun-warmed tomatoes or pungent herbs straight from the garden. But those pleasures can be multiplied a hundredfold by creating a garden that is not only productive, but also a beautiful, well-integrated part of the home landscape. In this handsome volume, Jennifer Bartley shows how the traditional features of the classic kitchen garden, or potager, can be adapted to contemporary American needs and conditions. The book is informed by her conviction that the nurturing, preparing, and eating of fresh, home-grown vegetables contributes enormously both to our ties with the natural world and our ties to each other. Copiously illustrated with photographs and with the author's delightful watercolors, *Designing the New Kitchen Garden* offers the perfect blend of inspiration and practical guidance.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 222 pages

Publisher: Timber Press, Incorporated; 1st Edition edition (May 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881927724

ISBN-13: 978-0881927726

Product Dimensions: 10 x 1.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #484,647 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > English Gardens #166 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Fruit #276 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Herbs

## Customer Reviews

`Designing the New Kitchen Garden, An American Potager Handbook' by professional garden design consultant, Jennifer R. Bartley is a very serious book, absolutely perfect for the zone 6 snowbound gardener to buy in December, when nothing is growing, and it's even too cold to start hardscaping projects. What I mean here is that not only does the book give very serious guidance on how to build a potager garden, it gives oodles of historical perspective on how the potager garden design evolved from pre-Christian times, through the Middle Ages and Renaissance, with it's flowering in the monastery and royal gardens of France. One thing to point out early in this review is that the book covers practically nothing about things culinary, in spite of the fact that various

methods for categorizing this book put it cheek and jowl with books on culinary subjects, which is how I happened to run across it. But as long as I'm on the subject, it's important to note that a good reference on gardening techniques must almost by definition have lots of interesting text and pictures for the armchair. While you can always cook, you cannot always garden, and in temperate climates, there will always be many months of down time. This book is the perfect antidote. In fact, as good as this book is, it is almost completely composed of material for thinking and planning and not about digging, laying stone, or planting. The 'Designing' of the title must be taken very seriously. There are no recipes here for laying a gravel walk or laying out a herringbone brick path. Go to your Home Depot manuals and hardscaping texts for these skills.

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