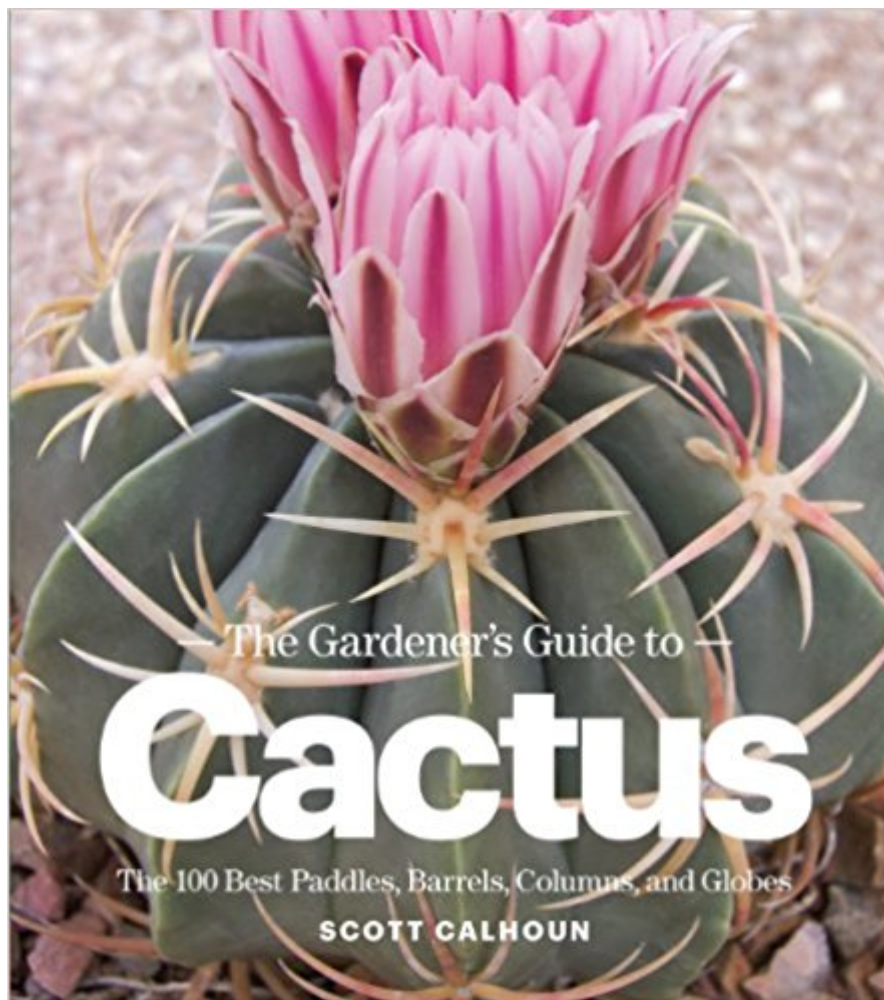




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The Gardener's Guide To Cactus: The 100 Best Paddles, Barrels, Columns, And Globes



Synopsis

When it comes to garden plants, cacti are anything but standard issue. The bulk of home gardens contain exactly zero species of cactus, and the thought of growing them makes gardeners think, "Ouch!" In *The Gardener's Guide to Cactus: The 100 Best Paddles, Barrels, Columns, and Globes*, Scott Calhoun is out to change that perception, and bring the beauty and ease of cactus home. It's high time that cacti took their place alongside the trendy succulent.

Book Information

Paperback: 228 pages

Publisher: Timber Press (January 11, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1604692006

ISBN-13: 978-1604692006

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 40 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #409,903 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Cacti & Succulents #30 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Climate > Desert #96 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Container Gardening

Customer Reviews

Calhoun lovingly showcases cactus, some generations old, with informative text and stunning photos. A wholly New World family of 2,500 species, cacti photosynthesize with stems and, unlike 90 percent of plants, do so at night, dramatically reducing water loss. Organized by morphology, the shape of the plants, Calhoun's guide shows how cactus can easily be combined with other arid-adapted plants, indoors and out. He shares his passion for the most sought-after landscape cactus in the world, the golden barrel cactus, with its showy golden spines, and cactus with segmented pads and rods, including prickly pears and chollas, which are the most cold-hardy. Columnar varieties, the least cold-tolerant, include the iconic saguaro, America's largest cactus, a symbol of the Southwest that can soar to 50 feet and branch to 8 feet across. Habitat, growth stats, cultivation, and design suggestions supplement detailed profiles, while back matter covers culinary uses, pest-control tips, and plant hardiness zones, for an outstanding volume that is both beautiful and useful. --Whitney Scott

The Gardener's Guide to Cactus by Scott Calhoun offers a clear, helpful, well-presented text -- trust me, this is an art form all too often neglected in garden books -- along with reliable design suggestions. Dominique Browning, The New York Times, Dec. 2, 2011 If the title of Scott Calhoun's new book from Timber Press doesn't grab you then maybe the subtitle *The 100 Best Paddles, Barrels, Columns, and Globes* will. One hundred, the perfect number. You are virtually assured to find something, but not be overwhelmed at the choices. -- Danger Garden Blog, Feb. 10th, 2012

It offers a clear, helpful, well-presented text.

- "New York Times Book Review" An outstanding volume that is both beautiful and useful.
- "Booklist" A totally amazing and really fun book.
- "Garden Rant" Scott shares his love for desert plants and the knowledge he's acquired planting, selling, and designing with these plants for years.
- Scott's book provides cultural information in an easy-to-use structured layout.
- "Pacific Horticulture" Has a little something for every garden but it's not overwhelming.
- "Su Casa" Gardeners new and old will close this book with an arsenal of ideas on how to take their cactus cultivation to a new level.
- "Terrain" More than a primer, this useful guide provides cultivation tips for practiced gardeners.
- "New Mexico Magazine" Scott's firsthand knowledge and experience of working with these plants shines.
- "Danger Garden"

I am slowly but surely obtaining every single book written by Mr. Calhoun. I am absolutely in awe at how clearly and down to a novice gardening level Mr. Calhoun explains every thing in detail. No pretentious airs, just plain info that is tailored to the particular plant or subject. I've often wished I could live in a less dry climate so I could have beautiful plants, but now with Mr. Calhoun's direction I have and fully understand my southwest area garden and am very excited at expanding it to include many dry climate plants.

I learned several helpful and intriguing facts in the first 25 pages and the book answered a number of questions that I could not find answers to online. It would have saved me a lot of headaches and lost plants if I had read this book when we moved to the desert 6 years ago. My only criticism is that 100 varieties barely scratches the surface! (Pun intended.) There are so many cactus, cacti, cactuses--yes, all three words, Mr. Calhoun tells us--are correct.

If you like Cactus and want to grow them, this is a great basic book to start with. I must say, if you've been collecting cactus for some time and have basic skills of planting, repotting, feeding, etc...then

this book is probably not for you. BUT...if you are just beginning, or have tried and not done too well, this is a wonderful book for you to pick up, own, and keep handy for when you run into problems. A really good reference. Buy it and you will be happy...and have it handy when you have questions. Really good book.

I like reading and learning about different cactus plants. I have around 50 different kinds of cactus and most need different care than just out in the sun and winter. Reading and learning from the experts who wrote this book has been a big help.

Wonderful! Lots of helpful information.

I really like this book. One of the best things about this book is every cactus discussed in the book has a color picture of that cactus. Every cactus is defined by native habitat, mature size, hardiness zone, and flowering seasons. Also, included is the culinary value, design suggestions, cultivation and notable varieties, forms, and subspecies. The cactus in this book are the most common ones you see in gardens. Now I would like to see this author create a book of the less common and more exotic cactus I have been collecting in the wild.

I bought the kindle version of the book as it was economical and a handy portable guide. This book is written for Western gardens, however it provides useful information for selection of cacti for other regions. The pictures are good and also provides information as to culinary use. The author provides specific characteristics of varieties in addition to species giving common names and scientific nomenclature.

This book is wonderful the Lake Havasu City AZ area! Has all the cactuses we have with pictures and everything you want to know! Great must have book

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