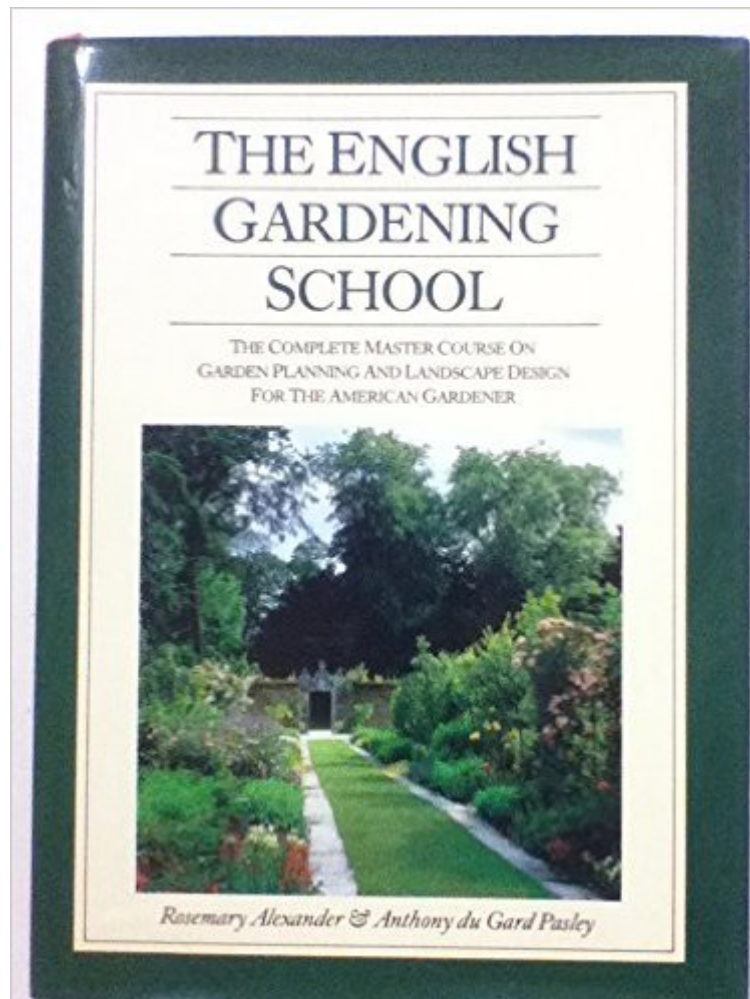


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# The English Gardening School: The Complete Master Course On Garden Planning And Landscape Design For The American Gardener



## Synopsis

Book by Alexander, Rosemary

## Book Information

Hardcover: 223 pages

Publisher: Grove Pr (January 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1555840310

ISBN-13: 978-1555840310

Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 7.5 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,395,050 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #110 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > English Gardens

## Customer Reviews

The English Gardening School at the famed Chelsea Physic Garden, London, is highly regarded for its courses in amateur and professional landscape gardening. Now, for the first time, this course is available, fully adapted for the American climate, conditions and indigenous plantings, for the american gardener. This book is a distillation of the courses, and as such is a complete master class in planning and realizing the perfect garden. Its principles and approach are fully applicable to garden planning virtually anywhere in the western world. The essence of the course is to start from the basics of the site, soil, and climatic conditions before designing the structure of the garden and its planting schemes. Other sections of the book deal with construction and practical gardening. Finally the principles of design are applied to special projects such as conservatories, roof gardens, and water gardens. The text is profusely illustrated with diagrams, line artwork, and full color photography, accompanied by easy-to-follow plans. In providing a comprehensive course in garden design this book, employing the professional expertise of the school, is different from any other for it treats the concept and realization of a garden in its totality.

I think I said it above in the title - I highly recommend this book. As a landscape designer myself, I found it engrossing. Something to keep in mind, although it applies to "Landscape Design" in general, it does not particularly cover plants you might want to use, say here in Southern California, but the concepts, "how to do it", are all here. This book is written by one of the best in the industry,

even though she is from England, that is actually where some of the best gardeners in the world come from, and pretty much everything in this book is applicable to anywhere you live. This particular edition was written for the American gardener actually. Lots of basic "design" info here for the layman starting out, or even those with some experience under their belts.

I found the book of limited usefulness because it addresses only a specific type of garden--the formal, country house garden, with clipped hedges, topiary, statues, paved pathways, and fountains. If this is the type of garden you are planning to create, you may find this book helpful--although the advice is largely theoretical, and directed towards garden design professionals.

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