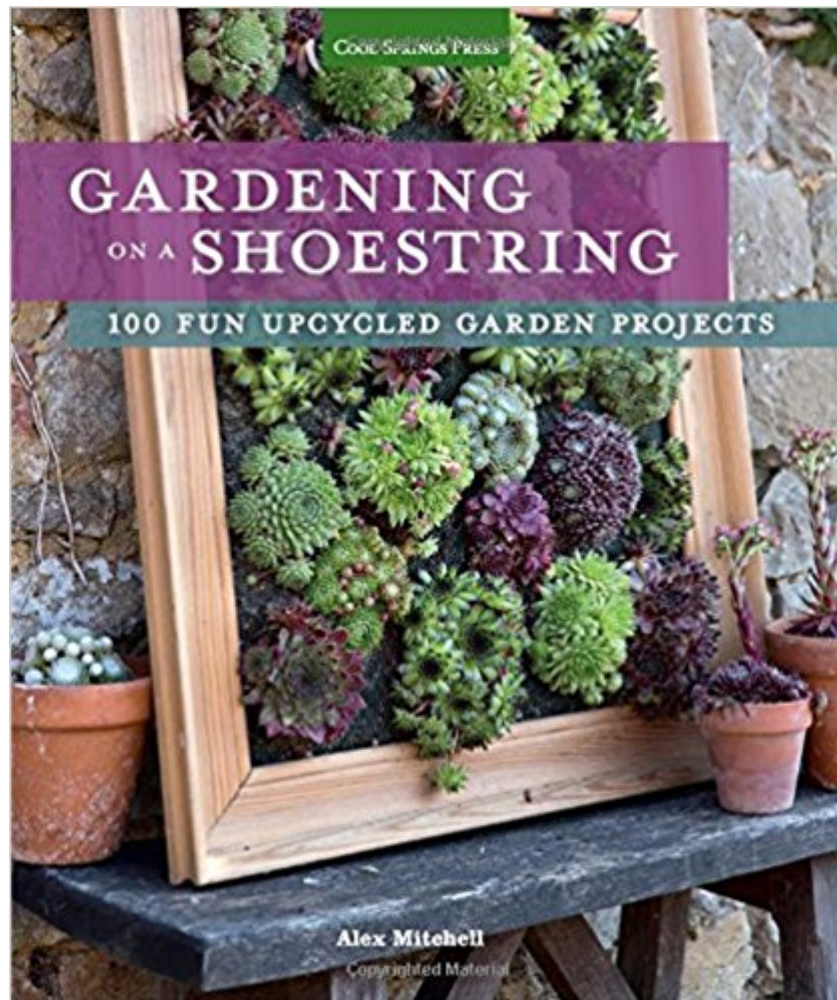


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# Gardening On A Shoestring: 100 Fun Upcycled Garden Projects



## Synopsis

Growing a pretty garden doesn't have to cost a pretty penny--learn how to create a low-cost garden using a little elbow grease, a lot of creativity, and this book. Gardening on a Shoestring will ease the tension on any gardener's pocketbook, while inspiring them with fun, creative projects for up-cycling, gardening ideas, tips, and alternative designs that will make gardening a pleasure--and an economical one, to boot! By combining classic gardening skills with ultra-creative ideas, author Alex Mitchell teaches readers 100 ways to up-cycle their gardens by creating ingenious green-thumb DIY projects and grow lush gardens. From up-cycling common objects (such as tin cans, old potato sacks, and colanders) to revisiting basic garden techniques (growing from seed, for example), a garden's overall cost can drop dramatically. Thanks to photography, illustrations, and plenty of additional tips, this book has plenty of fodder for readers to create a better garden. Included in Gardening on a Shoestring are outdoor furnishing projects, edible gardening information, and sage advice for garden upkeep. Examples of what you'll find include: Vintage tin herb garden Tapestry of succulents Garden center shopping tips Water-bottle watering system Gardening stools from old tires How to not spend a fortune online. . . and much more! Whether you're a new homeowner tackling the mortgage monster, a renter not wanting to leave permanent traces in your temporary home, or a cost-conscious gardener looking for a slew of creative tips, this book belongs on your bookshelf.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Gardening on a Shoestring” offers both beginner and experienced gardeners some creative and affordable tricks and tips. With information about both edible and ornamental gardening, it is a delightful resource and a charming inspiration.” - Plant Talk - New York Botanical Gardens blog  
“Whether you’re an “upcycler,” a “repurposer” of just a plain old creative gardening soul who likes a bargain, you’re sure to find a few good ideas to copy from the 100 projects here.” - The Patriot-News, Harrisburg, PA

Alex Mitchell studied at the Chelsea Physic Garden and writes regularly for magazines and newspapers, including the Sunday Telegraph and Gardener’s World magazine. For years, she has grown her own fruit, vegetables, and herbs, transforming her garden into a verdant and edible treasure trove. Mitchell is the author of *The Edible Balcony* (2010) and *The Rurbanite* (2013), both published by Kyle Books.

What a great book. Tips for beginners and ideas for experts. And, if you can’t bend, like me, you can begin your gardening experience at the kitchen sink. This is a pleasure to read and a pleasure for the eyes. Really great, ordering a second as. A Mother’s Day Gift!

A really good book.

A wonderful collection of creative projects and ideas for anyone who loves plants and gardening.

My parents gardened extensively, both decoratively and for fruits and vegetables, but I never had the time or money. I’m happy to find that I could find success gardening conveniently and inexpensively with very little prior knowledge. Gardening on a Shoestring is a well-conceived and very well thought-through book offering a multitude of ways to garden without spending a lot of money. Many of the ideas are based around upcycling recycling junk to create gardening spaces and containers for one or more plants. Gardening in boxes created from old pallets is one idea we’re looking into, and we gathered our old decorative tin containers from around the house to cover our dining nook’s window sill with a lovely and useful herb garden. I’m delighted to discover the secrets about how to deal with short-lived supermarket basil and now we ended up with several long-living plants instead. There are many, many great tips that anyone could/would actually do, including lists of easy to grow plants that require little maintenance. I’m sure this will help our family with our own gardening efforts.

Gardening on a Shoestring: 100 Fun Upcycled Garden Projects speaks to the home crafter in us all. The newest book from Alex Mitchell (author of several titles including The Edible Balcony: Growing Fresh Produce in Small Spaces), Shoestring offers simple gardening tips, plant recommendations, and money-saving shortcuts to achieve popular garden plantings. My initial expectation was for Shoestring to be laid out somewhat like Pinterest, but in book form. I expected each project to be numbered, and each task to be a simple, one-off guide for a particular gardening craft. Actually, Shoestring is laid out more like a conventional gardening book, with sections dedicated to topics such as initial garden set-up, container gardening, food gardening, and pest control. Although this wasn't what I was expecting, the format works incredibly well. Not only does Mitchell offer garden projects within a variety of topics, the layout of the book acts as a clear narrative for the beginner gardener. A section of Shoestring even addresses how to achieve particular garden designs such as a prairie garden or a topiary garden on a budget. Garden tool hacks and high-performing plants are sprinkled liberally throughout the text. Each project in the book is ranked in terms of difficulty, from simple to fairly challenging. A section titled "Wonderful Willow" covers eight pages and might be my favorite section of the book. Mitchell first addresses what willow to buy for garden tasks and then takes the reader through various projects using this organic, renewable, and affordable resource. Willow can be used to create tepees, arches, and even raised beds. Other sections follow a similar pattern: garden topics are introduced, plants and tools are suggested, and projects are then presented all with affordability in mind. Photographs accompany the projects, acting as guides for the home garden crafter. Gardening on a Shoestring offers both beginner and experienced gardeners some creative and affordable tricks and tips. With information about both edible and ornamental gardening, it is a delightful resource and a charming inspiration. (...)

This book is fun - if you're into repurposing and upcycling, this book has got some great ideas and projects for you. A lot you can do inexpensively. Besides the 100 projects there's lots of gardening advice and information, too. The photography is great.

I received a copy of this for review, and my husband an avid gardener and money-saving aficionado, is a huge fan of this book! He looked through cover-to-cover and got some fab ideas!

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