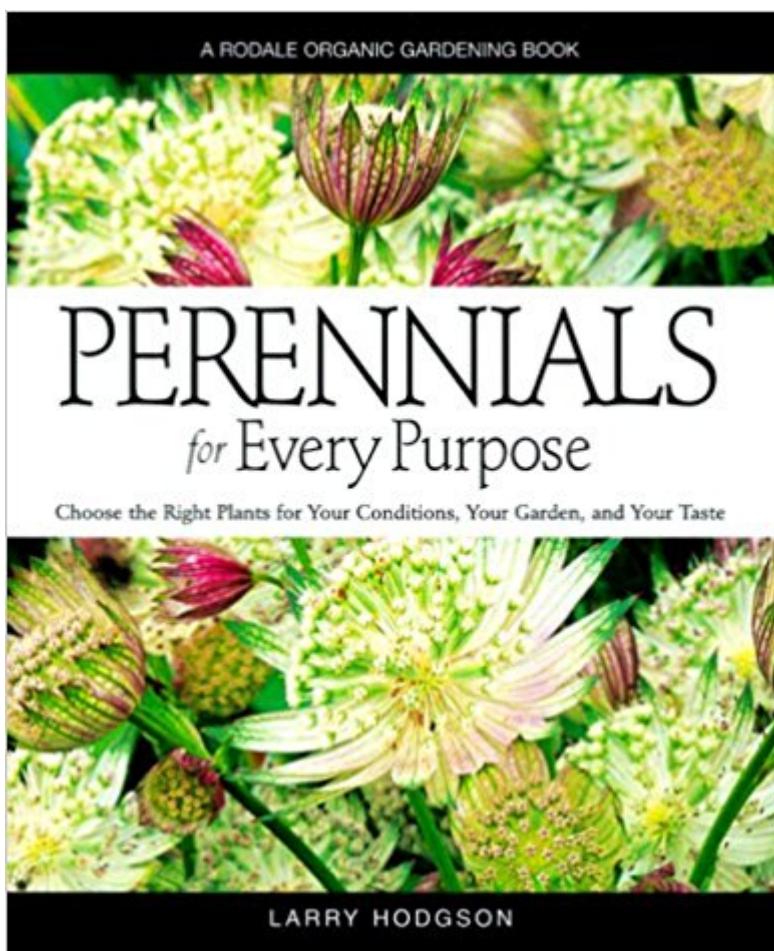


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# Perennials For Every Purpose: Choose The Plants You Need For Your Conditions, Your Garden, And Your Taste



## Synopsis

The title says it all-- there really are perennials for all of your gardening sites and needs. Whether you have a shady spot or want a plant that attracts birds, *Perennials for Every Purpose* features plants that are perfectly suited to your needs. Author Larry Hodgson expresses his passion for perennials with hands-on advice and tell-it-like-it-is descriptions. Larry never gives up on a plant until he has learned its strengths and weaknesses, and he delivers his hard-won secrets in this book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Hodgson's (*Ortho's Guide to Successful Houseplants*) comprehensive guide covers every possible situation and condition any gardener of perennials in any climate might encounter. The information is all here in well-organized and easily accessible chapters, enlivened by Hodgson's breezy style. He discusses the usual soil, space and light requirements and offers suggestions for selecting perennials while also alerting readers to elements of color, texture and form. The book is divided into chapters devoted to perennials that are ever-blooming; spring, summer or fall blooming; no-care or low-care; drought-tolerant or water-loving; shade loving; those with fabulous foliage or that make a dramatic impact. (This latter includes ornamental grasses, which are beginning to achieve landscaping star status.) There is even a chapter covering perennials that attract birds and butterflies. Each chapter devotes an entire page to the personality of a specific perennial, along with an invaluable "good neighbor" section detailing appropriate companion plants. The random inclusion of "Fun Facts" (scabiosa, for instance, is reputed to cure scabies) adds a bit of whimsy, and an

appendix of USDA climate and heat zones, botanical name derivatives and sources for quality perennials complete this quality book. (Feb.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Canadian garden writer and lecturer Hodgson is true to his book's title, covering quite a lot of ground in a straightforward, no-nonsense manner. Preliminary chapters cover the basics such as getting started, creating a design, and keeping plants healthy. The highlight, however, is the 14 chapters that profile perennials that can be used in unique situations (e.g., dry, wet, sunny, shade, easy-care). Each plant profile includes a photograph, a sidebar listing plant characteristics, and informative paragraphs detailing good companion plants, problems and solutions, and the top performers and recommended varieties for each plant. Other "extras" include a beautiful section of seven garden designs, a glossary of the meanings of botanical names, plant sources, and the American Horticultural Society Heat Zone Map. This hefty book delivers in each aspect and should be a welcome addition to all gardening collections. A Phillip Oliver, Univ. of North Alabama Lib., Florence Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is one of the best books on perennials that I have! It starts out with getting started. Then how to pick the perfect perennials. When you are shopping for perennials to learn how to pick healthy plants. One thing to be careful of is to look at the tag on the perennial you are interested in. Some places will sell perennials from a zone that you are not in. I am in zone 5 and have picked a plant that belongs in zone 6. The plant will not last. Then designing your garden. Do this on graph paper first. Then when you have the plants to set them in place until you like the layout. Keeping your plants alive is an excellent part of this book!! Then you have each perennials shown and described. This helps you to make decisions on what goes together in a planting group. Make sure if you are planting in full sun not to pick a plant that needs full shade or the other way around. Happy gardening with Perennials for Every Purpose!!!!

This book is very helpful for the novice gardener. I borrowed it from a friend and liked it so much that I bought my own. It explains everything: what grows best in your zone, what type of soil each plant likes, how to prune, how to separate bulbs, what plants can be planted together, etc. I highly recommend this book.

I have been gardening for over twenty years. I live in zone seven. I have found Larry Hodgson's book extremely helpful and his advice right on target. He provides plant identification (photos and

written), the plant's best and worst growing conditions, and companions for each plant. He takes the guess work out of perennial gardening allowing the gardener great success. helped me find the book at a great price.

What ever you need to know about perennials, this book probably has it. Wonderful color photos, clear and concise information, how they grow, when, where, with what other plants, color, time of year, problems and solutions, common and scientific names -- this book has it all. Best of all is Part 2, Choosing the Best Perennials. What ever condition you have, this book will tell you what to grow there. A 'must have' for anyone serious about perennial gardening.

Great book, a lot of photos

This was a gift for a friend. I chose a vendor in the same city as my friend. It was shipped immediately and she received it the next day. She loves the book.

Wanted this book as a reference as many of our garden guild members have it. Was pleased to get it at a very reasonable price and in such good condition. It came well packaged and timely. Thanks for great service. Miriam B

For anyone living in the Northern part of the US or Canada, this book is a must. I especially appreciated the honest if opiniated descriptions of the strengths and weaknesses of each plants. Care and propagation is also sensibly put forth, all the emphasis given to the concerns of the gardeners in zone 5, 4 and even 3.

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