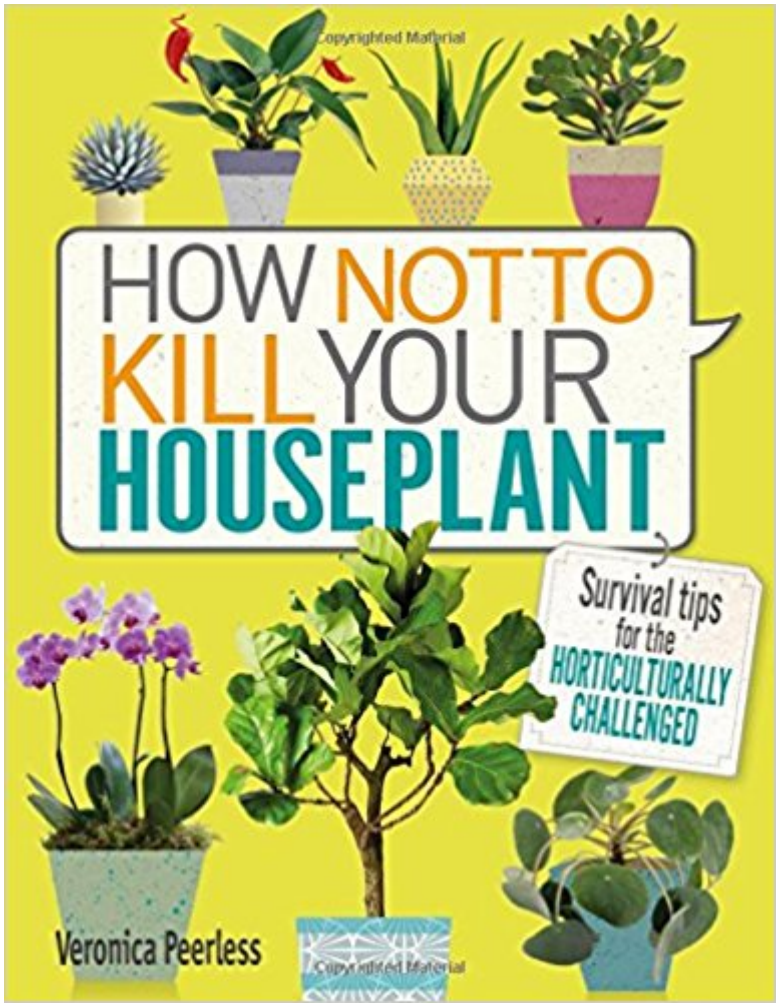
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How Not To Kill Your Houseplant: Survival Tips For The Horticulturally Challenged



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Synopsis

Can’t keep a houseplant alive, no matter how hard you try and how good your intentions are? This is the book for you. You need this book. Give plants a chance.Help your plant live with survival tips and learn the simple ways not to kill your plants.With over 50 different types of popular houseplants, How Not to Kill Your Houseplant summarizes what type of care your plants do (or don’t) need. Be on the lookout for warning signs of a sick plant, from brown spots to crispy leaves, and make sure you take the proper action to rescue your plant.Learn the basics of horticulture, from watering your plant to what kind of soil it should be placed in to how much light it needs every day to if a certain type of plant will thrive in your living space. Find out how to keep a cactus alive, where to hang air plants, and how to repot succulents.Full of helpful tips, pictures, and informational panels, How Not to Kill Your Houseplant will turn your home into a beautiful greenhouse of healthy, happy plants.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"..[A]ims squarely at people who’ve had no luck with greenery in the pastÃ¢â ¬â •the horticulturally challenged,’ in the words of the subtitleÃ¢â ¬â •but who are eager to try again." Ã¢â ¬â • Publishers Weekly"This easy to use guide tells you how to care for most plants we can find in stores or nurseries that are meant to be indoors, as well as what to do if things go wrong." Ã¢â ¬â • Budget Earth.com

HOW NOT TO KILL YOUR HOUSEPLANT: SURVIVAL TIPS FOR THE HORTICULTURALLY

CHALLENGED is one of the best plant care books that I've come across. All of the instructions are extremely concise--exactly what busy people need. The basic selection, potting, and watering instructions are truly excellent.Better yet, the book has two-page spreads devoted to specific plants (e.g., begonia, Boston fern, moth orchid, etc.) that describe general care needs (location, light, watering and feeding, care); and sick plant symptoms (e.g., wilting leaves, brown tips on leaves, yellowing leaves, dropping leaves, shriveled leaves, leggy plant) with specific instructions on what to do about the symptoms. There are specific care instructions for 119 different plants (covering nearly every plant sold in supermarkets, hardware stores, and big box stores).There are also short sections on the commonest indoor plant diseases and pests. The Table of Contents has drawings of the covered plants, and there is a terrific index. This is the only indoor plant care reference that you should ever need.

This is a great beginner guide to houseplants, full of pictures and easy-to-find information. Since other reviewers have detailed the contents, I'll just summarize the pros and cons that I found:Pros:1. Easy to find your plant(s). The photo index at the front of this guide makes it much easier to find your plants than the usual words-only approach. If you don't know that your plant is called, say, Gloxinia, it's immeasurably helpful to see a picture of it with the relevant page number listed.2. Succinct info. Location/watering/sun requirements are easy to scan, along with common problems and their solutions.3. Wide range of plants. Almost any plant you'll find at the garden centers is probably covered here, plus a few that are a little harder to find.4. Good general info up front. It's really helpful to have potting suggestions, buying tips, and other general tips grouped in the first section.Cons:1. Too basic in many ways. While the general info and visual layout are great, the trade-off is that the information is incredibly limited. For example, many of the plants list "biological controls" or "insecticide" as fixes for pests, but nowhere is there explanation of what those are, pros and cons of those approaches, or even when and how to use them. The same issue comes up with diseases, with the brief mention of fungicides. Ditto potting soils, fertilizers, etc. Which potting mix should you use for which plant? What fertilizer? How often? What does "weak fertilizer solution" mean? What kind of insecticide should you look for? When should it be applied? Etc., etc.2. Fair information. I found myself questioning some of the information, such as potting everything in plastic pots. Plastic pots are notorious for causing root rot, and some plants will fail every time in plastic - but it's not discussed, even on the individual plant pages. Similarly, some plants do best when pot-bound, but this also isn't mentioned. These are the kinds of details that are the most frustrating if you don't know them, since you'd be doing everything "right" based on this book's info.3. Doesn't

address different varieties. For example, Hoyas are an incredibly diverse group, but they're given the same two-page spread of peace lilies or asparagus ferns. Begonias are also all lumped together, although tuberous and hybrids are each given their own two sentences - but just two sentences. Far more useful would be a section on the more broad varieties, if only because they look so different you might not know what you have.So while this book is great in many ways, it's only a basic primer that will get you started. A more complete reference will be essential once you've identified your plant and gotten it home, especially if you encounter any problems.

This is a colorful, lively, fun and informative guide to the care of specific plants.The table of contents is actually illustrations of 119 plants. The list seemed fairly comprehensive -- I found all eight of the houseplants I have -- but were in no particular order. (The index at the back is helpful in that regard.)Early chapters advise the reader on how to buy a plant, potting (and repotting), choosing a location, watering, feeding, and pests and diseases.Then, two-page spreads are devoted to each plant, from maidenhair fern to indoor bonsai. In addition to specific information about lighting, watering, etc. the author also recommends other, similar, plants that require similar treatment. This is great for establishing plant groupings. There's also troubleshooting for each particular plant, so the information is quite valuable.There are many pleasant illustrations, of every plant discussed, so the book is quite attractive and fun to 'leaf through'.

This is the perfect reference book on how to keep your houseplants alive. It starts off with the basic like where to buy (nursery or garden center), how to pot it, water it and feed it. I had a green thumb in Indiana and California but am struggling in Texas so I really help. It could be due to plant pests or diseases that I wasn't used to. But this book covers them with great illustrations so I fell that I am ready to have houseplants again.After the first section, it has 119 pages for specific plants, there is an index in the back so they are easy to locate. Each plant description covers tips on how not to kill this plant, It tells you which bugs to watch for and what is going on by the color of the leaves. This book is so well organized. The illustrations are wonderful, they really made you want to try your hand.

The minute I flipped through this book, I knew I was looking through my favorite publisher of books, DK Penquin Random House. They just have their own special flair on each page's design.All the information is broken up into great little sections that keep the reader interested. Each step is clearly designated and details are easy to follow. We have purchased so many of these books for our kids

to learn about science. They always looked forward to reading these books and I was delighted to see a book just for me!All the house plants are listed in the table of contents by picture and name. Detailed instructions are given on plant care along with fantastic illustrations and photographs.Great book, let's just hope it helps me be a great gardener!

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