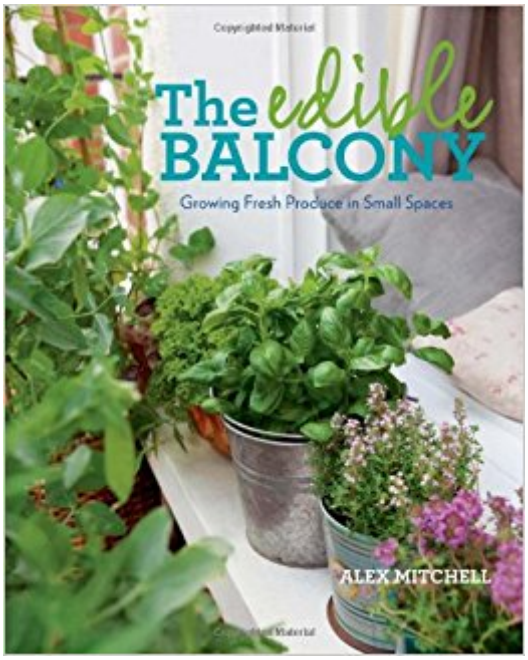
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The Edible Balcony: Growing Fresh Produce In Small Spaces



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Synopsis

You don’t need a sprawling backyard or spacious raised beds to grow delicious fruits, vegetables, and herbs of your own. In The Edible Balcony, longtime urban gardener Alex Mitchell shows how to transform whatever space you have, from a balcony or rooftop to a fire escape or window box, into a profusion of fresh, seasonal produce.While raising your own produce is eco-friendly in itself, you’ll learn how to plant, grow, and water as sustainably as possible to ensure your edible Eden remains green and productive all year long. Plus, with a collection of innovative, step-by-step projects for designing colorful pots and plant supports with recycled containers and other household paraphernalia, you’ll double your eco-friendliness, avoid hours of shopping, and be able to infuse your space with your own personal flair and style. Who knew saving time, money, and the environment could be so much fun?A collection of practical advice, fabulous container projects, and stunning examples of how gardeners around the world are successfully transforming urban spaces into abundant fruit and vegetable plots, The Edible Balcony is your guide to creating attractive, responsible, and thoroughly rewarding small space gardensÃ¢â ¬â ¢and perhaps never having to settle for grocery store produce again.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages
Publisher: Rodale Books (February 14, 2012)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1609614100
ISBN-13: 978-1609614102
Product Dimensions: 8 x 18.3 x 9 inches
Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 42 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #119,983 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 inÃ Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Urban #34 inÃ Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Container Gardening

Customer Reviews

Alex Mitchell is a writer and gardener who has grown her own fruits, vegetables, and herbs for ten years. She is a former gardening columnist for the Sunday Telegraph and the author of The Girl’s Guide to Growing Your Own, a book for women with busy lives who want to have fun growing produce no matter how small their space. She lives in London.

I loveÃ Â The Edible Balcony: Growing Fresh Produce in Small Spaces. I do not know how they got so much information and so many beautiful photographs packed into this one single awesome reference. Everything but the kitchen sink is covered:Why should I grow food on my balcony?Planning your piece of the edible skyDesign BasicsPot ChoiceBest crops for grow bags, window box, hanging baskets, city farming, a windy balcony, raised beds, scarce water supply, shade, fruit tree orchard, heat, exotic, forest roof garden, and futuristic balconyEasiest cropsCrops that give alot backPotting Mix and plant foodHow to Make it personalBee-keepingHow to make your crops work hard so you don’t have toHighly sustainable - worm farming, storing rainwater,Vertical farmingHydroponicsPests & diseasesRecommended suppliersThere are projects:Peas and sweet peas in a wicker basketBeets in a bread boxColorful zucchini in a top drawerUtilizing a hat rack as a trellisColander of tomatoes and nasturtiumsUtilizing reclaimed shoe hanger over over-door organizerUtilizing balcony railings as trellisHow to make your own simple self-watering container for freeUsing recycled bottles as hanging plantersUsing recycled bike tires as a planterMake a scarlet runner bean tunnelInspirational gardens and ideas are covered. There are beautiful photographs on just about every page. Maybe it is a little short on the harvesting end; this book is more about the creative inspiration stage and optimizing your space to your personal taste. While I don’t recall the author, Alex Mitchell, mentioning the kitchen sink she did mention reclaiming a bathtub as a planter.The Edible Balcony: Growing Fresh Produce in Small SpacesÃ Â has quickly become one of my favorite gardening coffee table books.

Wow! What a great book. It’s the first color-photo book I’ve read on my Kindle Fire and the pictures are fabulous! The content is wonderful, too! I just moved to a condo with a balcony from a farmhouse where I intensively gardened 1/3 of an acre. I was curious to know if I could grow a few "edibles" on my balcony. I can! And, I’m going, too! With this book as a guide I’m going to have a thriving, beautiful "urban" garden. This book tells exactly how to do the many projects it features that will help small-space gardeners maximize their harvests. It also has a chapter on growing lovely to-look-at edible flowers. This book is filled with visual inspiration, instructions, materials, and how-to’s! It also covers a fire-escape garden and rooftop gardens, more.I’ve uploaded some photos of my balcony last summer before I read this book. It was very pretty and great to enjoy and I grew a rhubarb, some culinary herbs, and some flowers. This year, inspired by this book I’m going to grow more AND because this book had a list of shade-loving herbs and veggies, I’m going to turn my second-floor front porch - same style as my balcony - into a secondary sitting area and grow some

stuff on this north-facing porch, too. I'm also going to add a bistro set and a couple chairs (not enough room on my balcony for those, too) on the porch so I can enjoy summer mornings sipping a cappuccino while watching my plants thrive! I am so inspired by this book! I thought when I left my farmhouse I wouldn't be able to grow much, but I can grow quite a bit and still have a beautiful, enjoyable space. This book shows how to combine beauty and ascetics. It also covers "vertical" growing, so necessary and useful for restricted-space growing. I recommend this book to beginners and pros, alike!

This book is full of delightful pictures of near perfect planters and balconies, but there is little usable information for someone serious about setting up a balcony/deck garden area.

Not quiet enough details give for completely novice gardeners. I really wanted more of a 1,2,3 A,B,C book. This is more suited to those that have a little bit of experience or a little bit more help.

I thought this book would give more ideas for how to plant items together. It is well illustrated and a "pretty" book, but not very informative.

A pretty book with little helpful information. It did have some unique ideas, such as bee-keeping on a Parisian balcony. Most ideas were unoriginal, unless one has never read a book on gardening, before. Would not have bought it if I had seen it in person, first.

It includes what to plant, what containers, how-to and everything you need to plant on your balcony. I'm a novice and I'm having a lot of fun with it. So glad I got it. I'm already starting to see lettuce, garlic, onions, strawberries, peas, parsley, tomatoes and sunflowers and zinnias popping up on my little balcony in northern Ohio! Surprisingly, some are in pots and some in plastic bags!Must have. Great purchase.

This is a Great book..particularly if you have no yard or have chosen to downsize and miss gardening but not mowing!The sections run from Make it Personal to Edible Forest Roof Garden, to Create a Salad Cascade, to City's Farmers Balcony and tons between with loads of projects that are clever and creative. This is a book that will get you onto a city roof with dirt and plants where you grow lovely pesticide free GMO free produce! LOVE IT, this is worth every penny!

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