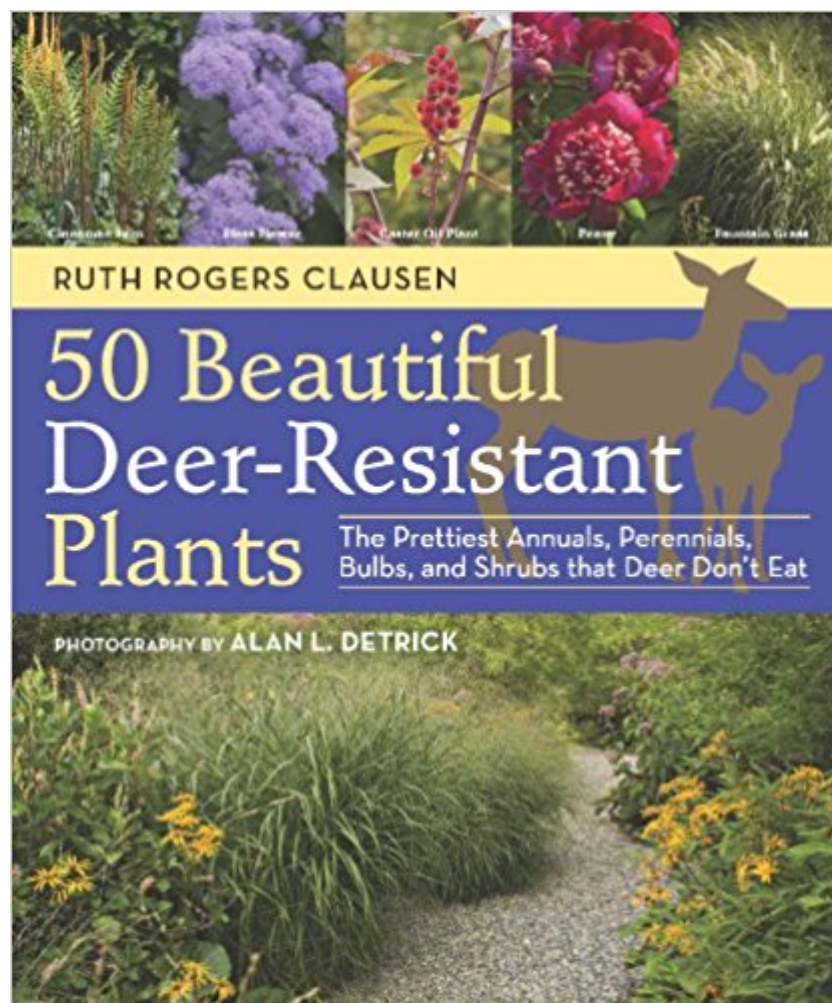




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50 Beautiful Deer-Resistant Plants: The Prettiest Annuals, Perennials, Bulbs, And Shrubs That Deer Don't Eat



Synopsis

Keeping your beautiful garden safe from deer is as simple as choosing the right plants. In *50 Beautiful Deer-Resistant Plants*, gardening expert Ruth Rogers Clausen introduces the most versatile and drool-worthy options: white snowdrops that bloom in the spring; shade-loving, electric gold hakone grass; long-blooming Texas sage in vibrant reds, peaches, and pinks; and the feathery foliage of Arkansas blue stars that glows golden in the autumn. Illustrated throughout with full-color photographs of every plant, this inspiring guide offers everything a plant-lover with a deer problem needs to know. In addition to the 50 best annuals, perennials, bulbs, ferns, grasses, and shrubs—plus advice on how to grow them—Clausen includes dozens of deer-resistant companions and smart design tips for pulling it all together. And here's the best part: your gorgeous garden will be irresistible to everyone but those pesky deer.

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Customer Reviews

This book is a one-stop, simple resource for east coast homeowners who need hardy, easy-to-grow, deer-resistant plants that won't let them down. I love that the author has selected a wide variety of plants which all go together fairly well. It would be very hard to screw up a design scheme using the plants in this book. Most have a cottage garden appearance, with lots of flowers and color, but of course style is largely in the layout and design, so you could create a variety of differently-styled gardens using only the plants she suggests. I love that for each plant, she gives a detailed set of companion plants that flower harmoniously or have great foliage contrast. This makes it easy for

more experienced gardeners to use a wider palette of plants, since for each plant, she gives around 10 suggestions for other plants to use alongside it. This means that the book features many more than 50 plants. I'm a professional landscaper in the coastal Pacific Northwest, and the author is an east coast gardener, so a few of the plant suggestions did miss the mark for my climate. Some don't grow well with the rain, fog, or lack of frost on the coast (peony, basil, lily of the valley), and others become thuggish in my generally hospitable climate (ostrich fern, bigroot geranium). That said, no gardening book will have plants to suit every microclimate, even those that are specifically for your state or region. I'm a big proponent of using books like this as a starting point for getting ideas, then going to your local nursery, talking with friends or your local garden club, or having a consultation with a landscape designer/ garden coach to weed out any plants likely to be underwhelming or problematic in your climate.

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Gardeners who live in deer country have a serious layer of complexity to work through when planning their landscapes: - Hungry deer will ultimately eat much of what they plant. Some are prepared to invest in fences that protect their plants from becoming Bambi brunch, while many prefer not to spend funds on such structures, or to invest in the necessary time to install them. As well, applying environmentally friendly products with deer-detering odors can be both costly and labor-intensive because rain will wash away such products thus requiring repeated applications. From time to time, many garden writers will publish articles about plants that deer avoid, however that information is usually insufficient. Knowing what deer will or will not eat, might ensure that a garden will not become a cafeteria, but that knowledge is incomplete when it does not address beauty and the elements of garden design. It's no secret that planning a beautiful deer-resistant garden is tedious work. Every time we select a plant or include our favorite perennial, we are obliged first to do research to determine if it is deer-candy. How exciting that now we have a list of beautiful, deer-resistant plants, conveniently tucked into a sumptuously illustrated handbook, [Mr. Detrick's photographs are awesome]. As the subtitle suggests, this publication is about the prettiest annuals, perennials, bulbs, and shrubs. That list also includes herbs, ferns, and ornamental grasses.

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