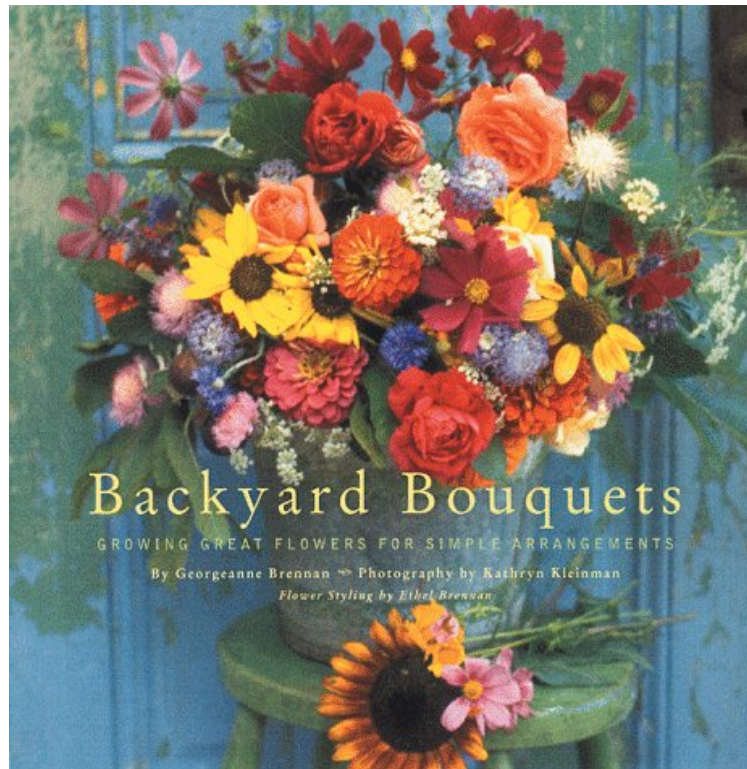


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Backyard Bouquets: Growing Great Flowers for Simple Arrangements

Ethel Brennan, Georgeanne Brennan
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Ethel Brennan, Georgeanne Brennan : Backyard Bouquets: Growing Great Flowers for Simple Arrangements before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Backyard Bouquets: Growing Great Flowers for Simple Arrangements:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Plain Plain Plain Except for the CoverBy Bill NoonThe cover bouquet is the only thing worthy and inspiring out of all the arrangements. Most are plain with only one or two different kinds of plants in them. And even the few that has more variety still looks ordinary and not that pretty. Sigh, at least the cover is really good to look at.21 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Pretty book for coffee table gardenersBy blies@nmff.nwu.eduThis is a very nice book with lots of beautifully styled photographs of common flowers in folksy arrangements. Lovely as a source of inspiration for what to grow next. The text covers about 20 perennial, annual and bulb flowers and their varieties with the chapters grouped by the flower shape. The orientation here is on the "Bouquet" part of the title rather than the "Backyard" part. Pretty minimalist gardening techniques. Here's a sample on how to grow bulbs: "Plant them touching each other, water them and wait for the green shoots to show." If you see what I mean.The book is beautifully bound in the new soft cover style with attached dust jacket. The photographs are clear and display well on the non-reflective paper. The type face is small and difficult to read with only a single column on each wide page.Buy the book for inspiration but you'll be relying on something else for how

to plant and grow.

Acclaimed garden writer Georgeanne Brennan makes growing flowers for intimate bouquets a simple pleasure everyone can enjoy. Illustrated with photographs by Kathryn Kleinman and filled with inspiring ideas from floral stylist Ethel Brennan, *Backyard Bouquets* is both a how-to gardening book and a guide to the rewarding art of flower arrangement. From disk- and dome-shaped blossoms to wildflowers to "stately stems" and "artful forms," Georgeanne Brennan explains the role each kind of flower plays in a bouquet, then gives step-by-step directions for growing each type in its many variations. The idea is to cultivate a selection of hearty, fast-growing flowers, fillers, and vines -- in a variety of complementary shapes, colors, and sizes -- so there's always something fresh and pretty on hand, all through the year. Sunflowers, cosmos, lupines, nasturtiums, irises, sweetpeas, daffodils, and tulips are just the beginning. Uncomplicated and spontaneous, this book gives gardeners the tools they need to brighten any room in the house with wonderful flowers.

A lot of flower arranging books are intimidating: the pictures are beautiful and the instructions may even be good, but if you don't have a Limoges vase and an armful of perfect rosebuds, you'll never be able to achieve similar results. *Backyard Bouquets* is a book for people who have, or want, gloriously messy real-life gardens full of inexpensive annuals and (whisper) even a few pretty weeds, and who put their flowers in anything that won't leak. It's a beautiful and friendly book, with good planting, watering, and cutting directions. While only the color principles of flower arranging are addressed in the text, the many bouquets pictured are uniformly gorgeous in texture and proportion, whether they're placed in old jelly glasses, coffee cans, or the occasional ceramic ginger jar--textbook examples of what you imagine while you're putting the seeds in the ground. --Barrie Trinkle s From: California Garden Canadian House Home Cutting flowers from one's own garden is a major reward for gardeners and this book describes exactly which plants, usually annuals, suit this purpose. Beginning with general planting and gardening information, it proceeds to an organization of blossoms by shapes and sizes useful for effective flower designs. Thus the first section on Discs and Domes includes everything needed to be known about sunflowers, sinias, cosmos, coreopsis, and scabiosas. Airy fillers include Queen Anne's lace, bachelor buttons, nigella, and Cleome. Handsome color photos of the flowers, on their own and in beautiful arrangements, could be enough to inspire anyone to dedicate all possible space in the garden to this purpose. Emphasizing that cutting flowers thrive easily in containers or window boxes, the author devotes much space to the value of interesting containers, both for growing and arranging flowers. Brennan, a food and garden writer, and former co-owner of a seed company, shares her knowledge in this ABC of gardening (plants range from Alba poppies to zinnias), giving advice on planting (seeds, seedlings or bulbs), growing, harvesting, and assembling flowers in artful arrangements. With lots of beautiful pictures for the non-gardener to enjoy, and facts enough to satisfy the greenest thumb, this book deserves a place indoors. Many people love a cheery floral arrangement but never have enough flowers on hand. *Backyard Bouquets*, by Georgeanne Brennan, suggests ways to have something lovely growing all year. The softcover volume from Chronicle Books explains how to start and maintain a cutting garden of fast-growing flowers. There are even suggestions for winter arrangements. [A] beautifully photographed book....The Gazette About the Author Ethel Brennan is a freelance writer based in San Francisco. With Georgeanne Brennan, she co-authored *Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Citrus*, both from Chronicle Books. Georgeanne Brennan is a James Beard Award-winning author of numerous cooking and garden books. She lives in Northern California and France. Kathryn Kleinman is an award-winning photographer. She lives and works in Northern California.