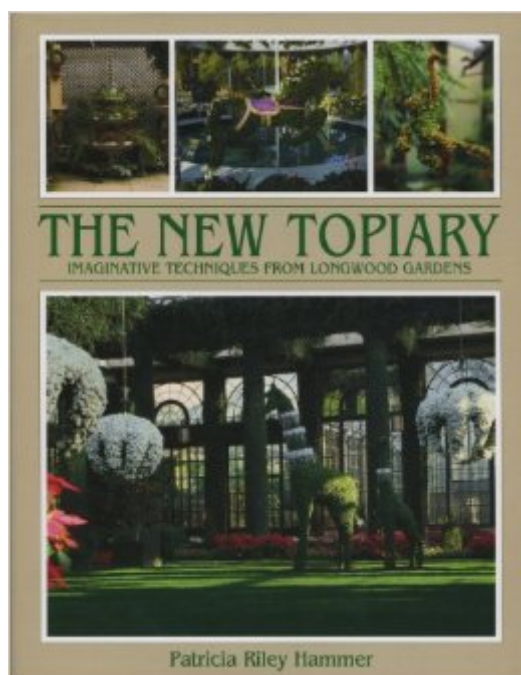


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New Topiary: Imaginative Techniques From Longwood



Synopsis

It is essential for anyone interested in the shaping of plants for inside and outside decoration. This book will be valued by professional and amateur gardeners for adding that extra bit of theatre which has now become such an important part in our extended inside/outside living. For the first time closely guarded secrets are revealed about the growing stages and maintenance of Longwood's exotic displays, from tiny animals to astonishing creations in chrysanthemums and even self-watering life-size elephants. It will amaze traditional topiary enthusiasts by showing them how classical, formal shapes can be achieved quickly and tastefully. It is a mine of information and inspiration. Years of practical development and research have gone into this book which is a refreshing new look at plant decoration. The snags, pitfalls and the disappointments are eliminated by the confident, step-by-step instructions and ideas of an expert who is the foremost authority in this colourful modern approach to excitin

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Customer Reviews

This book is the best topiary book I have seen. It details Pennsylvania's Longwood Gardens and gives all the trade secrets to their wonderful yearly displays. The book is lavishly illustrated with color photographs, and detailed black and white sketches. This is truly topiary at its greatest. Included are the yearly carousels (lions, horses and ostriches), a brontosaurus, a dragon, a giant Japanese pagoda, elephants, swans, roosters, and the Wizzard of Oz, to name only a few. Topiary balls, topiary bells, topiary baskets - all here in every imaginable form! Pruned or Free-Form Topiaries, Wire framed, stuffed - all here! Some of the stuffed topiaries are huge, and this book doesn't skimp

on the details on how to create such large moveable topiaries. The detailed directions in this book are amazing. I want so much to tell you the details and all the great hints - but then you wouldn't buy the book! (and I truly believe this should be in every topiary collection!) There are standards (the ones that look like lollipop plants) for fuchias, coleus, chrysanthemum, poinsetta, and ivy, hydrangea. The book includes everything - weather, grafting, and some great shortcuts. There is a section on pests, moss topiary, columns, woven topiaries, grass sculpture, watering systems, indoor vs outdoor topiary, how to select frames, how to make them (even the spot welding for 14-gauge wire on the big ones!) There is a wonderful plant section that details growth rates, growth habits, compatibility, flowering habit and timing and leaf shape for both ivies and plants (sorry but I didn't feel like counting how many) And oh, I forgot the frog! This is just an inspiring book. There is no better word! The examples are among the finest I have seen.

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