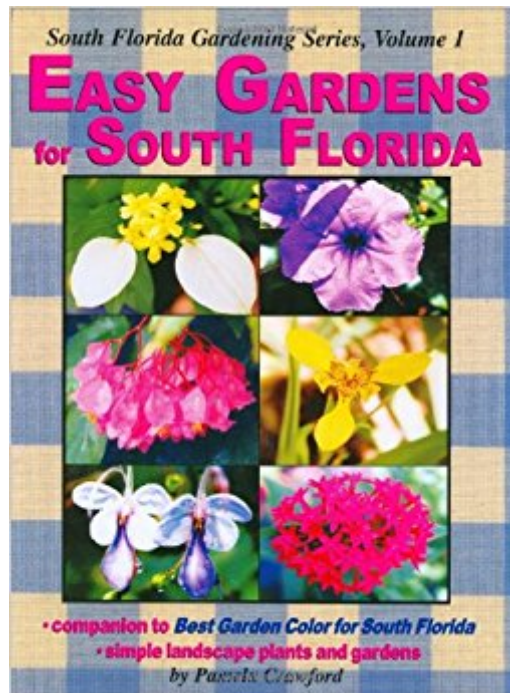




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Easy Gardens For South Florida (South Florida Gardening)



Synopsis

A comprehensive garden guide for south Florida, this book features detailed information on 100 easy plants and 65 easy gardens. The focus is on beautiful plant material and gardens that require little water and simple care. Perennials that provide constant color are also featured. Garden design chapters cover small gardens, shade gardens, sun gardens, and garden style. With 371 great color photos, the book is designed to simplify and beautify south Florida gardens.

Book Information

Series: South Florida Gardening (Book 1)

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Customer Reviews

When I moved to Florida, I had a hard time finding plants that did really well in my garden. I also had difficulty finding information about how to care for my plants. After becoming a landscape designer, I began testing plants to see which ones were the easiest for south Florida and how to care for them. This book is the result of those trials. It is my hope that gardeners benefit from the information, and avoid killing as many plants as I did! Gardens can be both beautiful and easy in south Florida.

Pamela Crawford has a BA from Vanderbilt University and a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture from Florida International University. She has designed over 1500 gardens for residences, businesses, and country clubs. She has also tested over 2500 plants in the last 10 years, identifying the easiest and most attractive ones for the south Florida landscape. An avid environmentalist, Ms. Crawford's mission has been to find plants that increase the beauty of gardens while benefiting the natural environment.

I'm an avid gardener and recently moved from Pennsylvania to Florida. There is a wealth of tropical and sub-tropical plants, shrubs, vines, not to mention all the different palms down here. It's back to "gardening 101" for me, having to learn all about these plants I'm unfamiliar with. What grows in shade, what grows in sun, how big does it get, when does it bloom, etc. this book explains it all. With full color photos, detail info, planting tips, and even plant companions. There are sections on shade gardens, sun gardens, different looks and styles, and an easy to use index in the back for reference. It's too bad this book is out of print; I'd love to see an updated printing, as there are many new plants introduced every year. This book is great for both the beginner and us snowbirds!

I've owned one copy of this book for years, and find it the best reference guide for south Florida there is. I recently bought another copy for a gift for a "northern-born" friend, who like me is still learning about gardening in south Florida. Since the book is out of print, the only copies are used, but this one obviously was used carefully. Couldn't be more pleased,

This book has lovely photos of the plants, usually with the companion plantings that the author recommends, and care instructions for everyone. I don't have room to plant most of what she recommends, but for the ones that I did buy, her recommendations are good. There is one exception, though. Ms Crawford recommends *Clerodendrum Thomsoniae*, the bleeding heart vine. While beautiful, it is far more aggressive than she believes. It tore down three trellises because of its weight. It puts on weight quickly. The worst part of it is that it is nearly impossible to kill. I tore out one planting three years ago and thought that I'd removed all of the roots. Every week I find new sprouts popping up seemingly from nowhere. Like the bouganvilla, if you like this plant, give one to your neighbor.

This book has great organization. It introduces easy to grow plants, then gives complementary plants for effects, then reorganizes them at least once more into sun garden, semi-sun garden, shade garden. It gave me a whole new recognition of other people's yards when I go on my neighborhood walks. I have been able to really hone in on each of my planting sites and the actual look that I want to achieve. It is the perfect way to introduce yourself to South Florida Yards and and what you want your unique yard to look like.

I know this book well. I have bought it 3 times....one was given to a daughter-in-law; another loaned

to a neighbor who evidently loved it as much as I do; and my recent delivery of my favorite book (in new condition). Thank you for always finding the obscure things I want.

My husband got this book for me when he saw all the positive reviews. I was initially reluctant because I thought it was going to be just silly and repetitive. I was WRONG. This book is never on the shelf, but always on my desk. Ms. Crawford does an excellent job of organizing the material, and particularly excels in giving you the information you need for each particular plant (light, shade, water, companions, etc.). She has tested each and every plant in the book, and therefore her comments are insightful. I particularly like the thumbnail section for types of gardens (bright, medium, shade and variations thereof). My only criticism would be that she can be repetitive in her plant selections (lots of recommendations for ruellia katie and golden shrimp plant). However, I can't think of a better "plain-english" guide to gardening in this difficult climate.

I've checked this book from the library so many times that I decided to get one of my own. It has so much interesting information and ideas!

I am an avid gardener here in South Florida and also worked for a local nursery. I ordered the book mainly for reference and to share with friends BUT as it turned out I did not know much at all. This book is a must have if you are buying or updating a Florida home. The landscape ideas are so professional and it is all explained in very simple terms along with before and after pictures. You can do it yourself now and have so much fun.....if you are looking for a simple but complete transformation in your living area - this is the book for you. Fantastic !

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