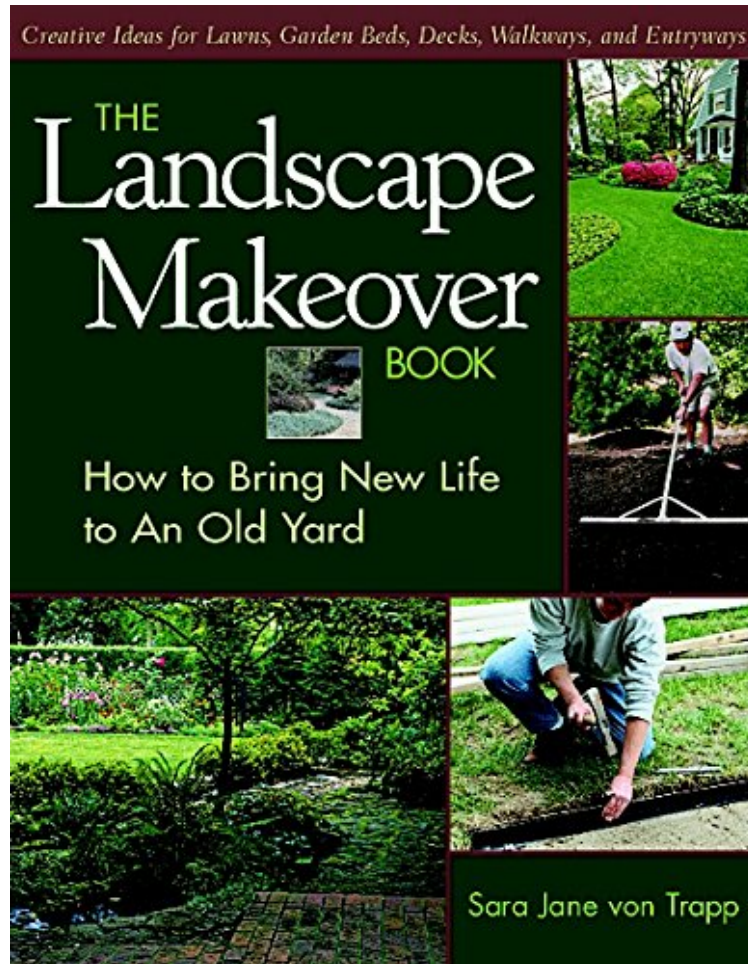


(Download) The Landscape Makeover Book: How to Bring New Life to An Old Yard

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Sara Jane Von Trapp

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Sara Jane Von Trapp : The Landscape Makeover Book: How to Bring New Life to An Old Yard before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Landscape Makeover Book: How to Bring New Life to An Old Yard:

40 of 42 people found the following review helpful. Sadly Disappointed By A Customer The book's write up sounds exactly what I was looking for, ideas on updating existing landscapes. Needless to say I was disappointed. There was nothing new that a gardener would not have already have read in Southern Living or Country Home Gardens magazines. Its fine for a glance at Barnes and Noble with a cup of coffee, but don't waste your money taking it home. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. D-I-Y For Outdoor Projects By J. A. Eastman This book is not so much about plants as it is a how to book of outdoor projects you can do in your yard. It even has instructions for pools and ponds. Plants did not get slighted, though. There are instructions here on planting and pruning trees and shrubs. There

are detailed instructions for building walkways and patios and decks. Summed up, a lot of this book is about curb appeal. If you want to improve your home's curb appeal, and you don't mind some hard work, this book could well inspire your plans and give you some good ideas. 14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Lots of Inspiration, But Not Much How-To Detail By Al the Pall would say this is a worthwhile book if you are looking for pictures of made-over yards and decks. There are very few "before" pictures and not a lot of detail on how to achieve the results. The process is explained, from planning on paper to renovating walks, concrete stoops, garden beds and plantings. Examples of various projects are shown in photographs and described in some detail. Pruning and moving shrubs and trees are shown. There is not a lot of specific information about plants. There is a very brief discussion of water features. This book is a good place to start the process, but unless you already have construction and horticultural skills, you will need additional information to actually complete a project.

The median age of the American home is 30 years. Consequently, many homeowners do not enjoy a perfect yard: the landscape may be overgrown or in need of a facelift. Professional landscaper Sara Jane von Trapp comes to the rescue with an illustrated guide to revamping an old yard without spending a fortune. She covers both overall design possibilities and areas of concern -- entries, walkways, decks, lighting, plantings, and lawns -- with specific instructions, and also helps readers determine when professional help is needed.

.com Is your garden reminiscent of a classic grande dame in need of some extra TLC? For the yard version of cosmetic surgery, turn to *The Landscape Makeover Book*, a helpful manual full of step-by-step photos, planning guides, and practical suggestions. Covering projects both big and small, this guide shows you how to add a pool or patio, prune generations-old shrubs for increased health and vigor, and top off that pesky tree that makes your gutters overflow every October. Have an unknown vine taking over the backyard? Useful charts will help you to identify those pesky plants and learn to use their low-maintenance talents to your advantage--or get rid of them entirely. Plenty of glossy photographs add a designer's touch to the down-and-dirty detail in these pages, but in general, those looking specifically for design inspiration will need to look elsewhere. There are only two types of classic garden design mentioned, Colonial and Victorian, but the authors do provide extensive help in priority setting and planning. While it may seem obvious to not reseed the lawn before adding a walkway, haven't we all found ourselves in similar situations with home-improvement projects? The section on reshaping beds is particularly useful, with plenty of attention given to individual plant rejuvenation and precise edge trimming. For those with an empty lot of dirt and grass, you'll need information other than what this book dishes out. But if you're facing an overgrown garden that looks like it really may have been a showstopper at one point, this is the guide that will help you in staging a glorious comeback. --Jill Lightner
From *Publishers Weekly* Advocating the sensible and imaginative use of existing landscape elements to "reshape the character" of the yard, gardener von Trapp assesses plants to determine which are "keepers," "movers" or "composters." Priority lists and leading questions help the reader to see his or her yard with a fresh perspective and move easily into the planning phase. Von Trapp then introduces the aerobic exercise--cleaning up a wildwood (cutting trees, removing stumps, dealing with invasive poison ivy), reshaping the land (swales for water drainage) or reshaping beds (widening and curving the foundation beds to accommodate layers of plantings)--necessary for the makeover. The book centers on pruning as the most basic renovation that can yield dramatic change, but there's plenty of specific counsel on "hardscape" treatments such as bleaching a moldy deck, renovating a thinning lawn, refacing a concrete stoop with bluestone, refashioning narrow walkways, adding a pool and finishing the new look with lighting. This inviting, comprehensive guide will embolden new owners of old homes. 185 color photos. (Mar.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.
From *Library Journal* Since the median age of the American home is 30 years, many home landscapes need updating. Von Trapp (*Landscaping from the Ground Up*), a professional landscape designer and horticulturist, was prompted by her experiences in revitalizing her own home's aging landscape to write a book guiding homeowners step by step through a landscape makeover. Helpful checklists are included for both the planning and execution phases. Beautiful color photos and black-and-white line drawings, along with clear directions for do-it-yourself projects, make this a practical guide for bringing new life to a past-mature yard. Buchanan, a botanist, horticulturist, author of more than 20 books, and contributor to *Country Living Gardener*, also uses her own home as a showcase for her work. Unlike von Trapp, who focuses on rejuvenating older landscapes and solving common home landscaping problems, Buchanan offers a comprehensive treatment of landscape design, emphasizing designing with plants and including extensive information about choosing and caring for plants, trees, shrubs, vines, and ground covers. Her book, a companion volume to Taylor's *Master Guide to Gardening* (Houghton, 1994), is a landmark work destined to become a classic. The text is authoritative, but both the language and the examples are down-to-earth. Color photographs, line drawings, plant lists for special purposes, and checklists for projects such as making and using compost enhance this title. Practical yet challenging, both titles will help homeowners to improve their outdoor living environment, add value to their homes, and increase their pleasure in their yards. Highly recommended for public and academic libraries. --Nancy Myers, Univ. of South Dakota Lib., Vermillion Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information,

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