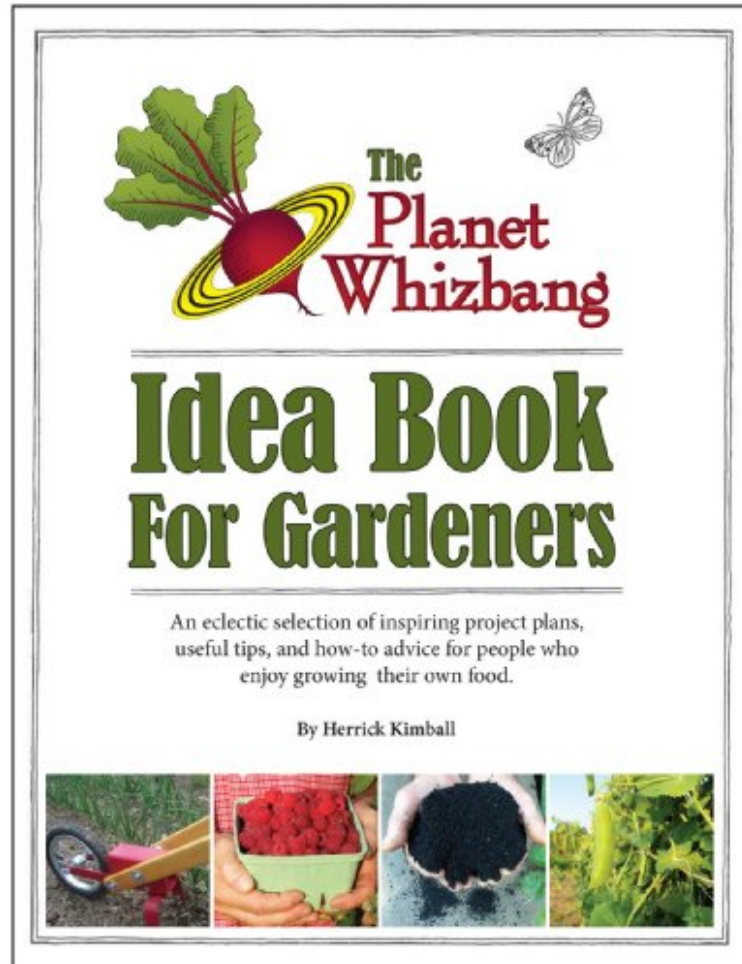


The Planet Whizbang Idea Book For Gardeners

Herrick Kimball

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Herrick Kimball : The Planet Whizbang Idea Book For Gardeners before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Planet Whizbang Idea Book For Gardeners:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic! A great and affordable book to have on-handBy Frito Piel first came across Herrick Kimball on his Youtube videos and thought, "Man, this guy knows what he's doing." I ordered this book the next day. I have read a lot of gardening books, and this one tops them all. It's great because:--- While he does devote chapters to carrots, tomatoes, strawberries, and a few others, Mr. Kimball doesn't go into a lot of details about individual plants as much as he gives you ideas on how to set up your garden and explains WHY and HOW things work so that you can logically make adjustments / substitutions based on what you have available. I realized that I have not been setting up my trellises the best way I could and plan on fixing that next year!---He is all about finding things you already have and reusing them, like forks for cultivators, tires for tiny gardens, y-shaped twigs for stakes, etc. I got so many ideas from this book. Also, there are no photographs, but line drawings instead, which are actually MUCH easier to read and interpret, and usually quite entertaining.---He includes a lot of excerpts

from old almanacs from the 1800's which are full of valuable information.---He covers everything from soil amendments to composting to restoring old garden tools to making your own solar pyramids.... each with its own chapter so it's easy to navigate.I am so glad I have my own copy of this book! It is full of information, but is never overwhelming; I read it cover to cover in a weekend. It will be used for years to come! A big thank you from deep East Texas, Mr. Kimball!17 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Garden smarter and more independentlyBy TexasgirlThis is probably one of the best gardening books I have come across. Very well written and illustrated with lots of wonderful ideas that anyone can implement simply and cheaply. I recommend it highly. The following from the table of contents seem particularly commendable:How to Make a Whizbang T-Post Trellis Span (make your own grape trellis easily)How to String-Trellis Tomatos (no more tomato cages, yeah!!)Bush-Planting Raspberries (so simple --love it. Check out noursefarms.com for many great raspberry varieties)Homemade Seed EnvelopesA Primer on Gardening in TiresHow to Steam-Fryalize CmpostAn Introduction to Soil RemineralizationAn Introduction to Brix and Brix TestingUpdated Review:I have recently set up two grape vine trellises and two vegetable trellises. These are attractive and function quite well. In the process, here are some things I learned: The 10' EMT pole really is ten feet long and can be hard to transport in a car. My local Home Depot, Plumbing Section was able to cut the pipe for me (you specify how much; price was around \$1.50) For the grape trellises, I had two feet cut off and was able to transport the 8' poles pretty easily in my Honda CRV hatchback (pole ran the length of the car but I had no passengers -- I transported only one pole at a time). For the vegetable trellis, I had the 10' pole cut in half (two 5' poles) and was able to transport both in the car in one trip. I had to search a few Home Depots before finding the 7' metal stakes (check online) but was worth the look. All of the ones I found were quite dented so when staking in the ground, I checked placement with a leveling aid to minimize the sway. The use of a metal pounder (as opposed to a staking bar) is very helpful when pounding in the 7' stakes. (Kencove.com offers a steel post pounder for sale). In terms of attaching the EMT pole to the metal stakes, I found that the pole fit much more snugly with the so called "grape trellis connector" than the "Y" connectors (The designation "grape connector " is a bit of a misnomer because there is nothing inherent about that connector that requires it to be used for a grape trellis -- could be used on vegetable trellises too). The #9 gauge wire specified for the grape trellises is very heavy and doesn't pull taunt. In Home Depot, Hardware aisle, I found a 1/16" vinyl coated wire rope on a roll (galvanized finish, load limit 96 lbs) to work much better. I planted one grapevine per trellis (right smack in the middle) and attached the vines to the wires using a soft velcro plant tape. I found that 4 wires on a grapevine trellis spaced about 12" apart to work well (run wires through holes of metal stakes and secure to sides using pulleys)Check out Trellis Netting by Red Earth Naturals for use with vegetable trellises -- sold on and elsewhere7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. This is a fun book for gardeners at all levelsBy Joseph Weill enjoy this book because it is not only chock full of interesting ideas and projects but it is also a view into gardening past with the Almanac entries. I love these little peeks into the past. I won't use a majority of the devices and a lot of the material is hard to get in California... like used tires. but being a 60 ish guy I love the idea of the shoulder yoke for carrying haevy materials.It doesn't make a good coffee table book but it is a wonderful little bathroom book with it's short chapters and Almanac excerpts. Thanks Herrick!

Good Ideas Make Great GardenersHerrick Kimball, inventor of the world-famous Whizbang chicken plucker, Whizbang cider press, Whizbang garden cart and Whizbang wheel hoe has packed the pages of this book with a diverse selection of whizbang ideas for people who enjoy growing their own food.Many of the ideas are uniquely his own. Some ideas come from other imaginative gardeners. And scattered throughout are numerous idea-excerpts gleaned from the author's collection of 19th century almanacs and farm journals.Among other things, you'll learn the following:How to make and use Whizbang solar pyramid clochesHow to make Whizbang T-post trellis spans.How to make Whizbang T-post hops poles.How to Make a Whizbang wood-and-wire garden tote."How to Grow Strawberries of the Largest Finest Quality" (from E.P. Roe, the acclaimed 19th-century berry-man).How to make a Planet Whizbang wheel hoe (with an oscillating stirrup blade).How to harvest, grind use wood-stove biochar.How to grow "hugelberries."How to "steam-fryalize" compost (with a milk-can rocket stove).How to make a Whizbang T-post grape trellis.How to make forever plant tags.How to make a Whizbang shoulder yoke.How to make Steve Lonsky's amazing siphon-tube rain barrels.How to make Mark-Albert-style caterpillar cloches.And much, much more!After you're done reading this book, you'll be a smarter gardener, a more clever gardener, and a Whizbang-inspired gardener.

About the AuthorHerrick Kimball lives in the Finger Lakes region of New York State. He has been an avid gardener for nearly forty years. He owns and operates Planet Whizbang, a homestead-based mail order company that provides down-to-earth books, tools and inspiration to people who want to live a more self-reliant lifestyle.