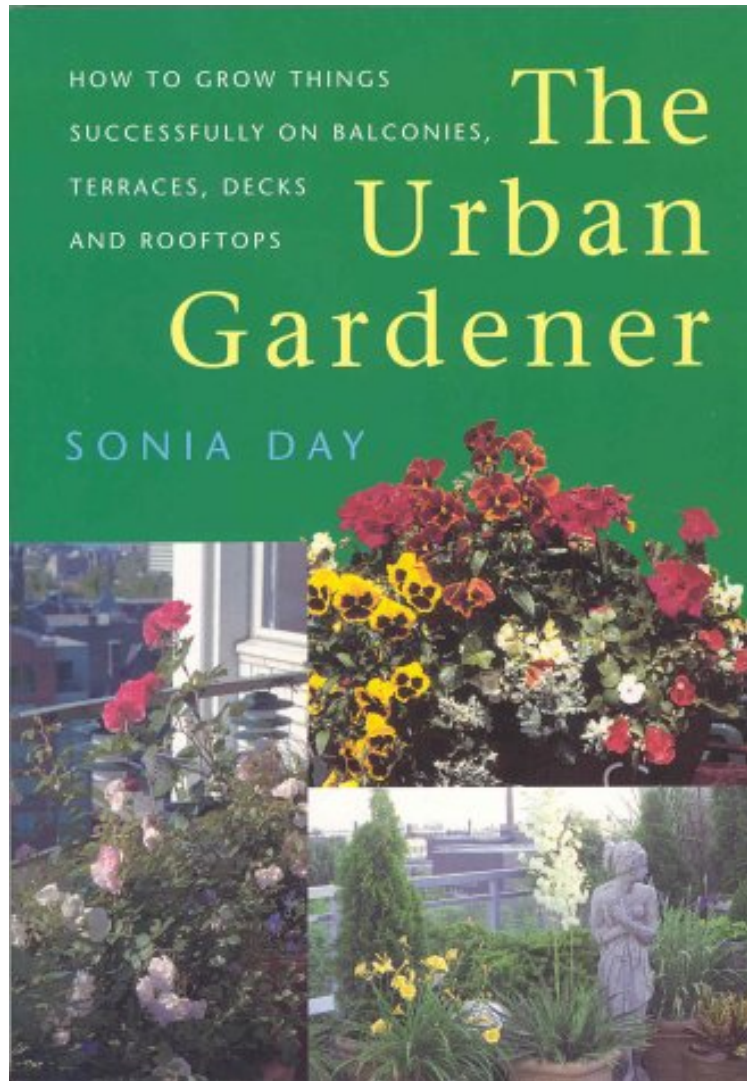


# The Urban Gardener: How to Grow Things Successfully on Balconies, Terraces, Decks

Sonia Day

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**Sonia Day : The Urban Gardener: How to Grow Things Successfully on Balconies, Terraces, Decks** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Urban Gardener: How to Grow Things Successfully on Balconies, Terraces, Decks:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Garden Ideas for a Variety of NeedsBy margaret peterssonThis book has tips for gardens for people who have abandoned the idea of a garden for lack of room. There are ideas for vertical gardens going up an outside wall, a one container garden, and interestingly, garden ideas for the blind, wheel chair

bound and developmentally disabled. Tips include which plants not to buy because they drop a lot of blossoms and create a mess. I haven't tried anything yet but the projects seem doable, not intimidating. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Well focused and practical  
By Valerie Fletcher Adolph  
The sub-title clearly explains the focus of this book. The writer, a Master Gardener and well-known Canadian garden writer, takes a very practical and down-to-earth (sorry about the pun) approach to the topic. This is a book written for the gardener who has to tote all her growing mix up either stairs or an elevator. The writer assumes that the reader might not know very much about gardening or might not know the best ways to adapt large-garden gardening to a very tiny and possibly wind-swept area. She does not waste words on anything that doesn't have practical application to growing plants on a balcony, rooftop or deck. There are lots of "do's and don'ts" lists that pack a lot of useful information into a very small space. This includes do's and don'ts for watering balcony plants and this is followed by ideas for ways to cut down on watering. If you've ever had to tote pails of water from the kitchen, through the dining room and living room to get to the balcony you'll appreciate these. The strength of this book is that it addresses just about every question that a balcony gardener might think to ask; it is truly comprehensive in its approach. The writing is clear and concise and there are lots of little "hot tip" side bars contributed by experienced balcony gardeners. It even has suggestions for challenges such as damp courtyards, rooftops exposed to sun and wind and balconies so truly tiny that they look like concrete bunkers. Gardeners with these problems need flowers and foliage more than anyone, and this is one of very few books to offer useful suggestions for them.

Sonia Day is the recipient of Landscape Ontario's Gardening Communicator of the Year Award (2003) and her book *Tulips* won a Garden Globe Award of Achievement for writing (2003), from the Garden Writers Association of America. *Growing plants on balconies and rooftops, terraces, decks and patios* has become the hottest gardening trend as cities across North America experience tremendous growth in the building of condos and other small living spaces. Aimed squarely at this gardening crowd, *The Urban Gardener* is packed with incredible detail: dos and don'ts, tips on what plants and tools are best, potting instructions, hints that will save you money and tips from real small space gardeners. Every unique aspect of urban gardening is addressed. You'll learn: - how to get started when the soil for your garden has to be hauled up in elevators - what will work on cold, windy balconies, damp courtyards, backsides of townhouses - where to buy plants when you don't have a car - how to create a quick and colourful instant garden - mixing in herbs and vegetables - growing up vines that climb - how to help your oasis survive when winter comes. If you long to create your own natural sanctuary amidst urban smog and concrete, *The Urban Gardener* is the book you need to guide you on your way. (March 2003)

About the Author  
SONIA DAY is the author of *The Plant Doctor*, *The Urban Gardener Indoors* and *The Complete Urban Gardener*. Having moved from the city, she lives in Bellwood, Ontario.