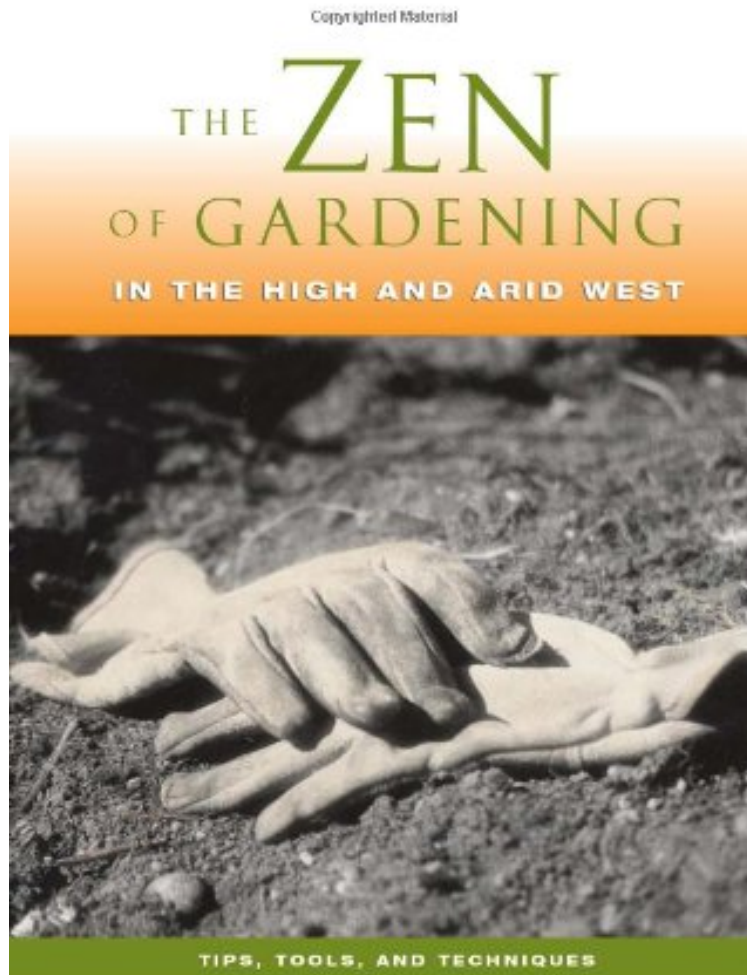


# Zen of Gardening in the High Arid West: Tips, Tools, and Techniques

David Wann

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**David Wann : Zen of Gardening in the High Arid West: Tips, Tools, and Techniques** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Zen of Gardening in the High Arid West: Tips, Tools, and Techniques:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Entirely disappointingBy EnvironmeddlerIf you are looking for a

how-to book as the title implies: "Tips, Tools, and Techniques" keep looking. Yes, there are some tangible facts included in this book, but it's mostly comprised of gardening philosophy and boring rambling passages from the author in his attempts at being witty. The book to me was more about gardening culture, and gardening in the high and arid west? oh really? The author fails to even attain a realistic nuts and bolts overview of how to work a proper garden in his home town of Golden, Colorado, let alone the high-desert west. So if you want to read semi-amusing gardening anecdotes, buy this book... if you want to learn actual gardening techniques, I suggest "Mini Farming" by Brett L. Markham, and many other true gardening books of that nature. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Hardly a masterpiece...By mokshasha This book - with its overly ambitious (and presumptuous) title, is clearly a valiant effort to compile what has obviously been an long and extensive journey by Mr. Wann. Although I certainly do not begrudge him his clear sincerity and knowledge, I found the book badly organized with poorly delineated chapters and information that was hard to assimilate even though I have been extensively researching and experimenting growing in the high desert for the past few years. Perhaps the most irritating aspect of the book for me was the writers trite, predictable, and oft-embarrassing attempts at homey humor and cutesy turns of a phrase. This book has a very high cringe-factor unless you are a lover of Reader's Digest tongue-in-cheek humor or "Chicken Soup for the whatever" sort of writing. There is valuable information - but frankly, not worth wading through (cringing through) the innumerable regressions to quaint stories about growing up and yet another "aw heck" exultation every few lines. Elliot Coleman's books are immensely more readable, and intelligently presented and one can, with a bit of good sense and internet research, easily augment his information for one's own locality and particular climate. The basics of organic gardening are pretty universal once you "grok" them--Incidentally - "Zen: A Buddhist doctrine that enlightenment can be attained through direct intuitive insight" Well, to each their own I guess... 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Perfect! By Pen Name Great book. Fast shipping.

Drawing from his own considerable gardening experience and expertise, as well as leaning on the wisdom of the people he calls "The Zen Masters of the Western Garden," David Wann gathers a mix of stories, how-to advice, and simple, doable projects that are ideal for gardeners in the high and arid landscapes of the West. This covers topics such as strategic gardening (how to coax fruits and vegetables from a sun-parched garden), pest-proof planting, choosing the right varieties of edibles for the region, how to become a seed-starting maniac, a Farmer's Almanac approach to gardening (plant peas when the first cottonwood leaves appear!), as well as profiles of colorful local gardens and gardeners.

"I bought your book, raced home, and read a bunch before falling asleep around 11:30, and then couldn't wait to read some more this morning. I'll tell all my garden loving friends about your book and encourage them to buy it." From the Publisher From the best-selling co-author of *Affluenza* comes a wealth of knowledge on how to grow everything from peanuts to poppies in the high and arid West. About the Author David Wann is a master gardener and holds a Master's degree in environmental science. He is the author of *Deep Design* and a co-author of the acclaimed *Affluenza*. He has written for *Colorado Country Life* magazine as well as several newspapers. He lives in a co-housing community in Golden, Colorado, where he continues to help establish a community garden and orchard.