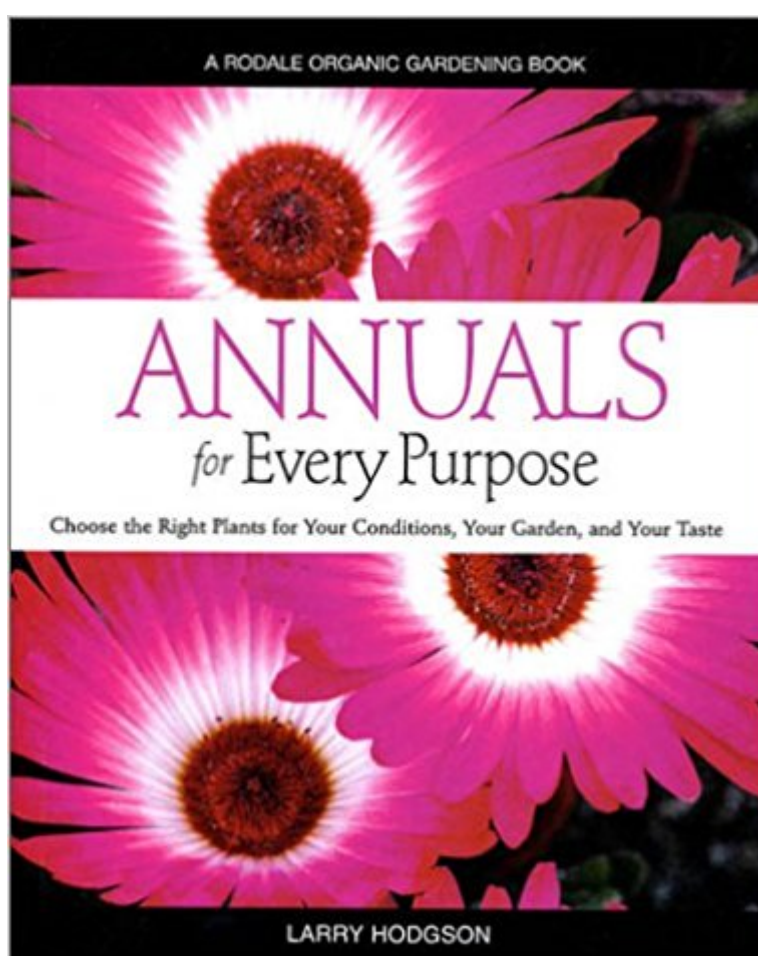


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# Annuals For Every Purpose: Choose The Right Plants For Your Conditions, Your Garden, And Your Taste (A Rodale Organic Gardening Book)



## Synopsis

Annuals are very much back in style after the decades-long perennial revolution. You see annuals in every garden, with the old-fashioned flowers still among the most popular. With new varieties being launched every year and older ones (many dating back more than four or five years) disappearing just as quickly, gardeners need help sorting them out. Author Larry Hodgson tells you what to look for among the numerous new introductions: greater adaptability to growing conditions, longer period of bloom, improved insect and disease resistance, and more--everything, in fact, that you need to know to make growing annuals both simple and fun. You'll discover: How to cut back tired annuals, like sweet alyssum, to get them to rebloom even more intensely than before. How to save money by taking cuttings of so-called "designer" annuals, using one plant to create many. All about overwintering numerous "annuals" that are really tropical perennials. Which cool-loving annuals you can sow in the fall so they can sprout when the conditions are perfect the following spring. Simple tricks that make designing with annuals a snap. And much, much more! You'll find annual gardening has never been easier--or more exciting--than when you have *Annuals for Every Purpose* as a handy reference.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

From choosing seeds to grooming and fertilizing, veteran gardening writer Hodgson (*Perennials for Every Purpose*) guides readers through the making of an annual garden. He explains what to look

for at the nursery, how to design with annuals and how to keep plants blooming all summer long. True to its title, the book includes encyclopedic listings of annuals suited to every imaginable whim, whether gardeners want their flowers to bloom in the shade, attract birds and butterflies, hang in baskets or make pleasing dried arrangements. Hodgson's entries include growing tips for each plant, potential problems and quirks, and suggestions for "good neighbors" to plant beside it.

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"There are three things that I feel should go into any book about gardening. The first is, Will it help the gardener in the garden? The second is, Will the readers, be they professional or amateur, understand what is written? The third is, Will there be new and old territory covered in the book? Larry's book covers all three and then some!"--Bob Tanem, host of the San Francisco Bay Area's #1 radio garden show, "Bob Tanem in the Garden," on KSFO"Colorful and down-to-earth, this wonderful book tells you everything you need to know about growing annuals in your garden. And there's an abundance of great hints about using these wonderful plants in your landscape."--Ed Hume, host of the television show "Gardening in America""In the rush to embrace perennials, many of us seem to have forgotten the simple pleasure of planting a seed and watching it grow. Larry Hodgson hasn't forgotten, and this book provides all the whys and how-to's you'll need. Whether you want vases full of flowers all summer or rich color after the burst of June perennials, annuals fill many needs and niches in every garden. This excellent reference will reintroduce you to the wonderful plants you thought you could find only in six-packs at the garden center. Beginners will find it invaluable, and those of us who've grown annuals all along will find many helpful tips and ideas."--Renée Beaulieu, Internet editor, White Flower Farm and Shepherd's Garden Seeds

I bought this book used from one of the Marketplace sellers, after getting it from the library and liking it so much. I have used it so many times that the middle pages have started to come apart. I also give it as a gift to friends/family who want ideas for their gardens. I am a Master Gardener and people are always asking for plant advice. I would rather give them this book to refer to than offer a little information now that they're likely to forget later. When I give it as a gift, I mark my recommendations for their yard with Post-It flags and maybe add a comment on the selected page using another Post-It. Larry Hodgson's writing style is informal and friendly and the selections are grouped by common characteristics or conditions that they grow best in (i.e., cool-season plants, plants for dry shade, vines, etc.) Each page has the important bullet points along the left side (like light requirements, hardiness zones, propagation considerations, etc.) and the rest of the page has

descriptions of the plant's pros and cons, along with recommended cultivars. Each plant selection has a good photo and each section of the book has a page or two at the end with some other recommended annuals with similar attributes, each with a photo and a short summary of the plant's characteristics. I think this book is a good reference for inexperienced and experienced gardeners alike. There is a companion book on perennials by the same author that is just as good.

Very good resource for beginner and experienced gardener.

Great book with lots of Information.

The most useful book in my gardening library so far.

Awesome book

Hard to judge seeds that have not germinated yet much less flowered. ask in 3 months about germination 2 to 3 years for bloom!

Just Great! Very informative!

Received this book in a very timely manner and I am enjoying it very much! It has a lot of good information in it.

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