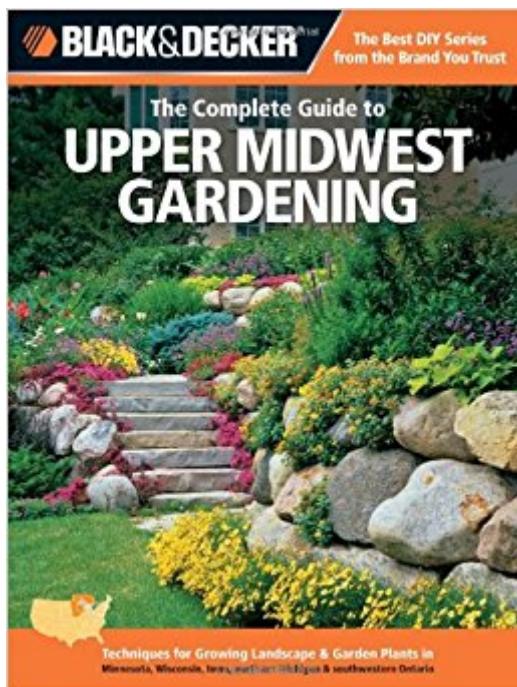


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# **Black & Decker The Complete Guide To Upper Midwest Gardening: Techniques For Growing Landscape & Garden Plants In Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Northern ... Ontario (Black & Decker Complete Guide)**



## Synopsis

This book offers a didactic, practical approach that allows novice to intermediate residential gardeners to experience success with their vegetable, fruit, and ornamental gardens. This is not an attempt at a comprehensive “Bible” of gardening information, but a complete but focused treatment of plant species and simple, time saving techniques that maximize the homeowners likelihood of succeeding with his or her garden. Contains regional information for the following states in USDA zones 2, 3 and 4: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Upper Michigan, and northern Lower Michigan.

## Book Information

Series: Black & Decker Complete Guide

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Cool Springs Press; First edition (January 1, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1589236475

ISBN-13: 978-1589236479

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.6 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #960,114 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > Canada #66 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Region > Midwest

## Customer Reviews

Adding to Black & Decker’s line of DIY books, The Complete Guide to Gardening is divided into seven region-specific volumes. All include the same instructions and general information, but Steiner (Rain Gardens; Prairie-Style Gardens) tailors the plant suggestions and climate data. Strengths include an excellent introduction on the importance of botanical names, soil type, and soil pH as well as definitions of key terms such as herbaceous and dioecious. Easy-to-follow instructions and copious color photographs cover the preparation, planting, care, and maintenance of various garden types; other topics include the basics of good design and propagating methods. Steiner does mention some of the benefits of using native plants, but it would have been helpful to highlight them so they could be recognized at a glance. She also mentions the importance of avoiding invasive plants; the information is not region-specific, but checking [invasiveplantatlas.org](http://invasiveplantatlas.org) is

suggested. A handy reference card listing websites of state extension offices and native plants is also included. VERDICT: Overall, these books provide a very good introduction to and broad overview of gardening with excellent step-by-step instructions. The handy index of plantsâ™ common names is also helpful for beginners. - Library Journal

Lynn Steiner is one of the Upper Midwest's best-known garden writers and a frequent speaker at gardening and environmental events. She is the author and photographer of several books that advocate for the effective use of native plants in the typical home landscape. *Landscaping with Native Plants of Minnesota*, the first book designed to identify Minnesota's native plants and plant communities and to demonstrate how to use them effectively in a typical home landscape, was a finalist in the 2006 Minnesota Book Awards in the Science and Nature category. Lynn is the author and photographer of several other books, including *Rain Gardens: Sustainable Landscaping for a Beautiful Yard and a Healthy World*, published in February 2012. Other titles include *Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin*, published spring 2007, and *Landscaping with Native Plants of Michigan*, published in 2006 and named a Michigan Notable Book for 2007. She also helped develop, wrote, and provided photographs for *The Complete Guide to Gardening* series, ten regional gardening books published in 2012 by Cool Springs Press. For fifteen years, Lynn was the editor of *Northern Gardener* magazine, the official publication of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Under her direction, *Northern Gardener* received several Overall Excellence awards from the Minnesota Magazine & Publication Association, and several individual contributors received Garden Writers Association Media awards. She now writes a column for the magazine titled "Northern Natives." Lynn lives with her husband and two cats on a 115-year-old farmstead in northern Washington County, Minnesota, where she enjoys tending her gardens and watching the progress of her restored prairie, savannah, and oak woodland.

Have been looking for advice in a concise manor and this was good. Well organized and laid out. lots of pictures garden plan ideas to help stir the creative thinking process, Great for your library.

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