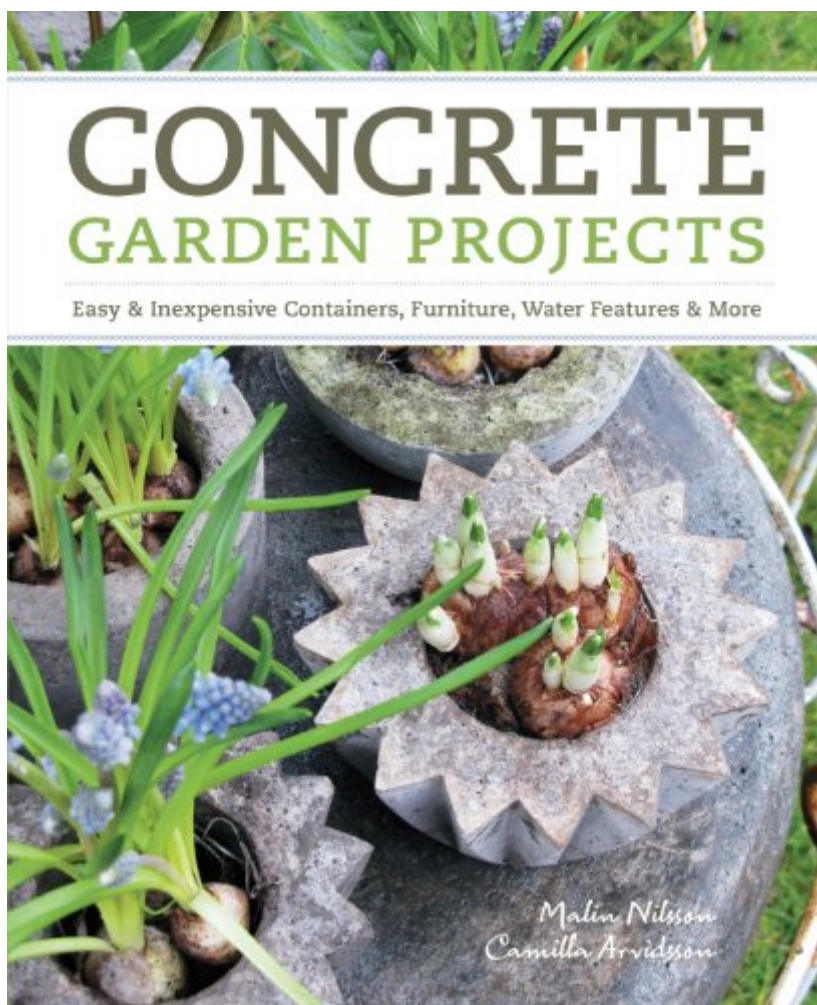


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# Concrete Garden Projects: Easy & Inexpensive Containers, Furniture, Water Features & More



## Synopsis

For gardeners and backyard do-it-yourselfers, concrete is a revelation. It's durable, weatherproof, impossible to steal, and it provides much-needed insulation for outdoor plants. Concrete weathers beautifully, softening around the edges, developing moss, and becoming more picturesque with age. Concrete Garden Projects takes advantage of concrete's numerous assets, showcasing an inspiring array of creative options. The step-by-step instructions for dozens of easy, do-it-yourself décor ideas include containers of all shapes and sizes, elegant benches and stools, miniature ponds and birdbaths, stepping stones, a barbecue, and a fire pit. The authors use a variety of molds easily found or made, household items like bowls and baking pans, and simple wooden frames and boxes. At pennies per pound, and so simple to use "just mix with water and pour" concrete is the key to hand-crafted backyard décor.

## Book Information

File Size: 4838 KB

Print Length: 133 pages

Publisher: Timber Press (November 4, 2011)

Publication Date: February 2, 2012

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0061S3XCW

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #351,655 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #9 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Horticulture > Garden Furnishings #16 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > How-to & Home Improvements > Masonry #44 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Pottery & Ceramics

## Customer Reviews

I've found many ways to convert found objects into plant containers (flour sifters, wine boxes, portable BBQs...), but I don't think I've ever tried making my own container "from scratch." That is,

until I read *Concrete Garden Projects*. Though the book isn't limited to containers, authors Malin and Camilla also have ideas for making your own built in BBQ tables, potting tables, water fountains, and more. The majority of the book is filled with "inspiration," lots of different ideas to get your creative juices flowing. The authors introduce the concrete object, give you a brief overview of how to make it, tips for customizing it, and ideas on how the piece will weather outdoors. Each idea is accompanied by at least one large, beautiful photo. Many of the author's ideas have several photos or a two-page spread. They also share different techniques for adding texture, color, or embedding little treasures in your concrete creations. The last quarter of the book shows you how to work with concrete to make the ideas in the first part of the book. The "how to" section has lots of step-by-step photos to help you understand how to complete each project. I am definitely going to make the shoe scraper door mat. I've long needed something near the door from my balcony into the condo, but I could never find something the right size. Now I can make one that is to my own specifications. Of course, I also plan on making several of the different pot ideas, as well as some stepping stones for my work garden. It's hard to keep the list of projects I want to try from the book realistic (unless I want to dedicate every weekend of 2012 to concrete casting-which is sounding better and better). I really like several of the bird bath ideas and the modernist bench.

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