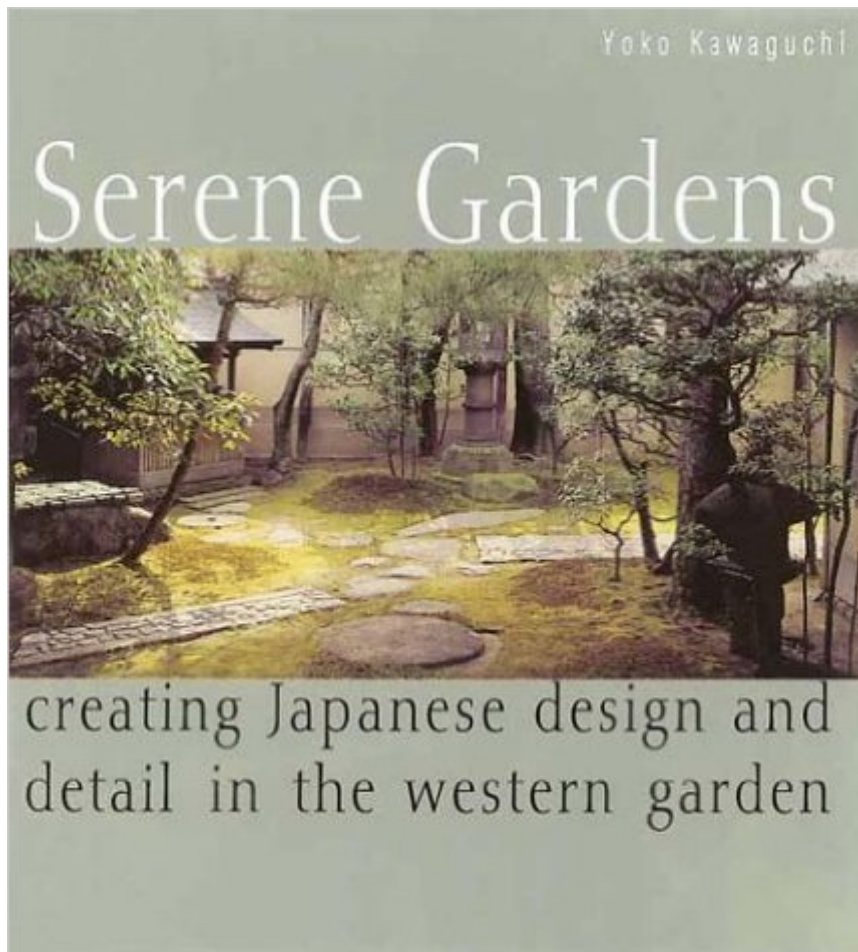


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# Serene Gardens: Creating Japanese Design And Detail In The Western Garden



## Synopsis

As a reformatted edition, this beautifully illustrated book provides an inspirational and practical introduction to the traditions of Japanese Zen gardens, using natural materials such as wood, bamboo, rocks and pebbles. Emphasizing the value of shape in trees and shrubs with the subtlety of colour through the varied greens of foliage and moss, *Serene Gardens* is the only book that explains how western plants and materials can be used to achieve the natural, minimalist look so beloved by Japanese garden designers. There are instructions and tips for selecting plants and materials which are readily available, as well as plant lists and climate zone maps to aid western gardeners. As the wealth of stunning colour photographs from around the world demonstrates, Japanese garden design is concerned with a reverence for nature and the overall effect is of tranquillity. *Serene Gardens* will help people to create much-needed --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 143 pages

Publisher: Trafalgar Square Publishing (2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570761647

ISBN-13: 978-1570761645

Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 9.3 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,427,290 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #216 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Japanese Gardens](#) #1337 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Garden Design](#)

## Customer Reviews

. There basically seems to be two types of Japanese-gardening books that are commonly available to English-speaking folks. The first type is your typical coffee-table book, usually large in size with many nice full-color photographs and not a lot of text. Whatever text is included is usually breezy and not intended to be any deep discussion of principles or techniques. The main purpose of these types of books is clearly enjoyment; everyone fascinated with Japanese gardens always enjoys wading through a large picture-book of (famous) Japanese gardens...their tranquility and appeal comes across especially well in a large-size photo format. The famous gardens in Japan are truly

visually staggering, and a wide-angle large pic from a professional Japanese photographer does more justice to the entire scope of a setting than a mere quarter-page photo, of course. However, regardless of size, most Western books on Japanese gardens, unwittingly or not, tend to fall into this category of being little more than "picture books"...the actual amount of detailed "how-to" material is very small, or worse, actually misleading. While these (English-language) picture books are enjoyable to peruse, they are of limited help to the gardener who wants more detailed "how-to" material. The second type of English-language Japanese garden book attempts to present more of the history, culture, philosophies, and perhaps even techniques of Japanese gardening. While nice pictures are also usually common in this format, the emphasis is perhaps more on instruction and practical tips.

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