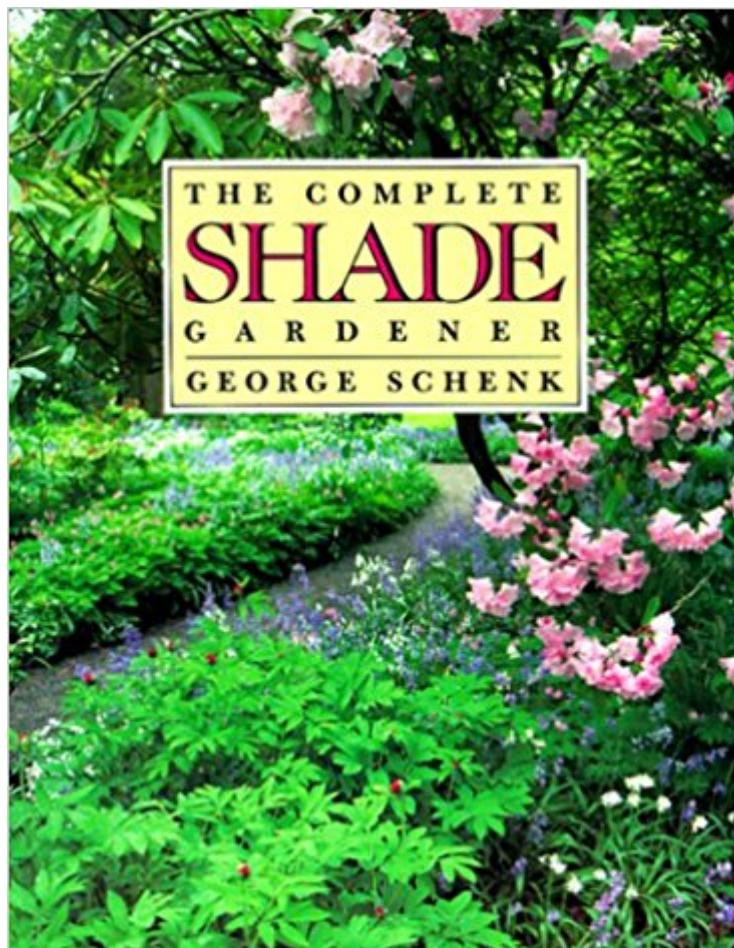


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# The Complete Shade Gardener



## **Synopsis**

Selected as one of the "great gardening books" of the century, George Schenk's book is simply the best on this popular gardening subject.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 311 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

Long considered required reading for shade gardeners, this classic reference has been recognized by the American Horticulture Society as one of the '75 Great American Garden Books.' American Gardener 20020731 The author's down-to-earth approach is not only highly credible, but also very entertaining. -- Marge Howard-Jones California Garden 20020924 Has a huge amount of information well written by someone with obvious hands-on experience. Compass 20021115 Schenk writes as though he is talking to you, and encourages you to use the necessary sequence of steps for success. -- Marty Figley Michigan Observer and Eccentric 20021031 Having grown several thousand plants in his New Zealand and North American gardens, the author's down-to-earth approach is not only highly credible, but also very entertaining. -- Marge Howard-Jones California Garden 20021022 The bilssful charm and grace of easeful green shade is echoed in the casual, lighthearted humour of the author's approach. -- Helen Chesnut Victoria Times Colonist 20021212 This classic reference book for shade gardens is very comprehensive. -- Bobbie Schwartz Buckeye 20020127 A treasure. Perennials 20030225 This book is a practical guide to planting a shade garden, but goes beyond that to help the gardener make the results aesthetically pleasing. -- Barbara Joe Hoshizaki Los Angeles International Fern Society Journal 20030218 An exceptional, well-written and organized guide to shade gardening for atmosphere, beauty, and personal satisfaction... An excellent gardening resource and a welcome, practical,

highly recommended addition to personal and professional gardening reference collections. Library Bookwatch 20030422 A wonderfully written encyclopedia of shade plants. -- George Graine Virginia Master Gardeners Association Report 20030630 I wish that I had had (this book) to advise me forty years ago when we bought our property ... (Schenk's) plant lists are valuable for gardeners everywhere--even in the desert. -- John R. Dunmire Pacific Horticulture 20031106 This well-done book is written with knowledge and understanding. It is the best shade gardening book I've ever read. -- Natalie Walsh Schenectady Daily Gazette 20031009 This is the classic reference for shade gardening. Alberta Gardener 20041116 My first introduction to gardening for interest other than flowers. I'll always remember his comment about arranging a garden as though it were a party with plants and to make it look like all the plants are having fun. -- Victoria Shallow Spring Affair News 20050322 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

First published by Houghton Mifflin, this classic and indispensable reference for shade gardening is now back in print. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is the bible of shade gardening. (I bought a paper-back version in 1985 ...., and have used ever since.) A big Walnut Tree shades my back yard and I alternately curse and bless it. I want a cool patio on a hot summer afternoon, but the Walnut tree makes gardening a challenge. Using Schenk's book, I have learned how to grow pleasing and pretty plants in the dry shade under it. Probably the best part of Schenk's book is his discussion of trees and shrubs. Many gardeners, even experienced ones, pay the least amount of attention to the trees affecting the ground they are trying to cultivate. Trees do matter. Some trees create more problems than others. Most of us discover too late that Maple trees are not the gardeners' best friend. (Those cute little maple trees from the Japanese hybridists are a possible exception.) Mr. Schenk shares many good thoughts on making a beautiful, not just passable garden under your shade tree(s).

I first read this book about 15 years ago, and I mean that I read it cover to cover, rather than just using it to look things up in the way that I have used other gardening books. Schenk is an excellent writer and dishes the dirt on plants and gardening in general, including just how much maintenance a "low-maintenance" lawn-alternative ground cover will require. All this is good, but the reason this has remained my favorite garden book ever, one I return to when I have a question or want some inspiration, and re-read with pleasure every few years, is the sense of humor Schenk conveys along with his devotion to gardens and gardening--although we've never met, I feel he's a close friend.

Since this book was written in 1984, I've found most of Schnek's methods out of date and ecologically unsound. Using weed killer to remove sections of grass? Soil 6 inches deep over old soil without tilling? Absolutely not. Removing a plant from its natural habitat to grow in one's garden? No.

Very detailed information but not enough pictures (especially colored ones) that might be beneficial to the beginning shade gardener. Good reference book for someone very knowlegable (I am) but nothing to make the book "interesting" to read. Just a plain old library reference book!

Sister is avid gardener, loves these books, gets a lot of new info, excellent source of information. Easy to usr well written great photos.,

I have never seen a manual written with such wit and an engaging sense of narrative. The author also takes many detours into unexpected but useful and entertaining peripheral topics such as a recipe for garden escargot in the chapter dealing with garden pests. This book communicates a sense of deep fascination for the garden and will enrich your experience cultivating your own shady spot at home.

Wife loves it thank you.ÃfÃ  Å,Ã  ËœÃ  ¬

If you are looking for a practical gardening reference, perhaps with some plans or even color photos, then this is not the book for you. If you're looking for rambling, outdated prose and the occasional grainy black and white photo, this is the perfect choice.

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