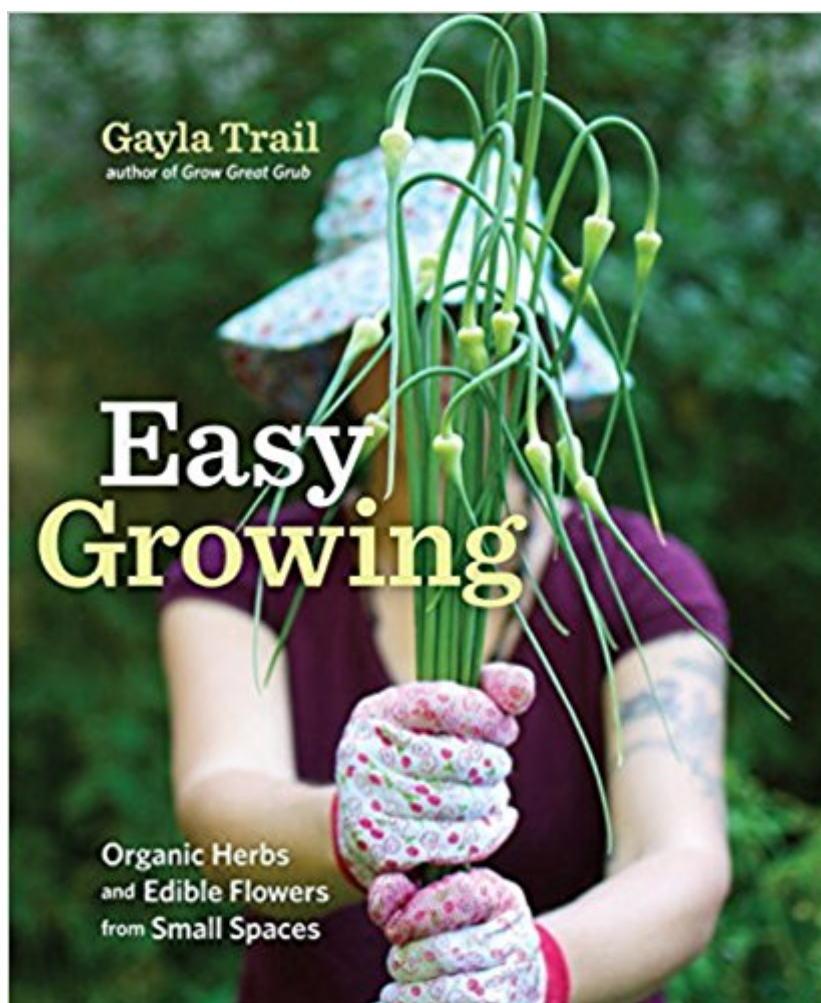




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Easy Growing: Organic Herbs And Edible Flowers From Small Spaces



Synopsis

Growing a handful of herbs and edible flowers adds sparkle to dozens of meals year-round.

Fortunately for us, these plants are not fussy. They're simple to grow and will fit into any space you can provide, including a crack in a broken patio stone, the step next to your front door, or a windowsill. In *Easy Growing*, Gayla Trail—author of *Grow Great Grub* and creator of the top online gardening community, *YouGrowGirl.com*—shares the tips, ideas, and know-how you need to raise delicious organic edibles wherever you can squeeze in a planter. Herbs give big rewards with a small amount of work—even the most inexperienced, space-strapped gardener will have success. This handbook includes: Guidance on choosing the right plants, designing dazzling in-ground gardens and striking edible containers, and growing herbs indoors year-round. Insights and outs of growing fifty different plants and hundreds of varieties, from warm and aromatic Mojito mint to peppery nasturtium flowers, from fruity lemon verbena to exotic cinnamon basil, and more. Handy tricks for winterizing plants and extending the outdoor growing period. Simple recipes for cooking with and preserving your harvest: Herb-Encrusted Goat Cheese; Homegrown Bloody Mary Mix; Lavender Shortbread; Orange, Rosemary, and Honey Ice Cream. Upcycling projects based on reusable materials. Perfect for novice gardeners and longtime enthusiasts looking for inspiration, *Easy Growing* is a fun, power-packed resource for creating a delicious herb garden anywhere.

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Customer Reviews

Featured Recipe: Chive Blossom Vinegar Chive blossoms are a short-term crop that come and go in the spring before you can bat an eyelash. Capturing their mild chive flavor in a good-quality vinegar is the perfect way to enjoy them well past their season. Makes 1 cup 1 cup chive blossoms 1 cup white wine or white Vinegar Harvest the chive blossoms in the spring just after they open. To prepare the chive blossoms, snip off the stems and gently jostle them in a bowl of cool water to remove all dirt and debris. Pile the wet blossoms into the center of a clean, dry kitchen towel, pull up all of the corners to create a sack, and shake vigorously until the blossoms are dry. Stuff a clean pint-sized Mason jar with the clean blossoms. In a small saucepan, gently warm the vinegar over medium-low heat. Do not bring to a boil. Pour the vinegar over the blossoms, making sure to submerge them completely. Once the liquid has cooled, cover the jar with a lid made of nonreactive material such as glass. Alternatively, protect a metal canning lid by first placing a square of waxed paper between the jar and the lid. Store in a cool, dark cupboard for a week or two and strain into a second, clean or sterilized jar when the vinegar suits your taste buds. Variations Frankly, all herbal vinegars are delicious--experiment with several edible flowers, leaves, and seeds and keep a medley of flavors on hand.

"Easy Growing: Organic Herbs and Edible Flowers for Small Spaces is a scrumptious book. Blogger Gayla Trail, author of You Grow Girl and Grow Great Grub, knows what to share and how to show it so that anyone— from beginners to experienced gardeners— will want to dig right in."- BookPage

I love Gayla Trail and was first introduced to her by her other book Grow Great Grub, which I absolutely love and use all the time. Granted her book Easy Growing: Organic Herbs and Edible Flowers from Small Spaces is a book with more specific information on growing it still doesn't top Grow Great Grub. I find that there are more useful information in Grow Great Grub. When I can't find the information I want in Easy Growing I turn to Grow Great Grub or I tend to use both books to get the most info on a certain plant, this tells me that Easy Growing doesn't have ALL the info on edible herbs and flowers. Never the less, it is a great book and if you're ONLY concerned with edible herbs and flowers then I would suggest foregoing Grow Great Grub and purchase Easy Growing instead.

I wasn't familiar with this author's books before acquiring this one, but I now think she is an excellent writer--enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and full of interesting ideas about growing herbs and edible flowers in any space. Gayla Trail has ample experience growing plants in tiny spaces, and she often gives advice that makes readers want to try, even if they haven't done much gardening before. There's a lot of detail here too for the more experienced gardener, and even some projects that children would enjoy, such as growing lemon grass from a grocery-store starter, or growing ginger from an organic bulb. I love the recipes in this book, which are really imaginative too. One of the suggestions is making Bloody Mary mix from late-season tomatoes. I never thought of that! This book would make an outstanding gift to anyone, whether they garden or not. It's inspiring for all levels and would appeal in particular to readers under 30, because the author has a youthful style and appeal herself. That's not to say it won't appeal to older readers--it certainly does--but gardening books with a youthful spin are hard to find when you're looking for a gift. For even more detail and for expert advice on herbs and edible flowers, check out Lois Hole's "Herbs and Edible Flowers" too. It's also a great book.

This is one of the best basic gardening books I've read. I'm a gardner and I understand all the basics but I love everything this book had to offer. It definitely has a place on my bookshelf!

I had been wanting to start growing herbs for such a long time, and finally decided to jump in. Bought this book and I'm so glad I did, because it really took me through starting an apartment herb garden step by step! Gayla is super knowledgeable and this book has a wide variety of options. It's great for beginners as well as experts!

This was a very nice addition to my collection. Gayla writes in a way that everyone can understand, and the pictures are beautiful. I am a seasoned (not expert) gardener and this is a good book to refer back to when I'm working with my herbs and companion planting.

At first I thought I wouldn't want a whole book on just herbs... However after reading this book I realized how many different varieties of each herb there are, not to mention all the edible flowers I never knew about. Gayla is one inspirational writer I can't wait to fill my garden with beautiful herbs and try out all her recipes! I would recommend this book and her others to anyone who is interested in gardening. They are the greatest.

I chose this rating because the book is specific enough to individual herbs and plants to be useful for looking up an individual plant. I liked the detailed descriptions of procedures and the photographs. I especially liked the recipe suggestions. I would recommend this book to anyone interested in learning how to grow and use herbs. I think this book is targeted at the beginning gardener rather than at the experts.

I bought this one and 2 other books by the same author. I am so happy I did. Great ideas. I am probably driving my husband crazy with all the new things I am trying to grow. The information given is easily readable and quick to find/reference for later use.

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