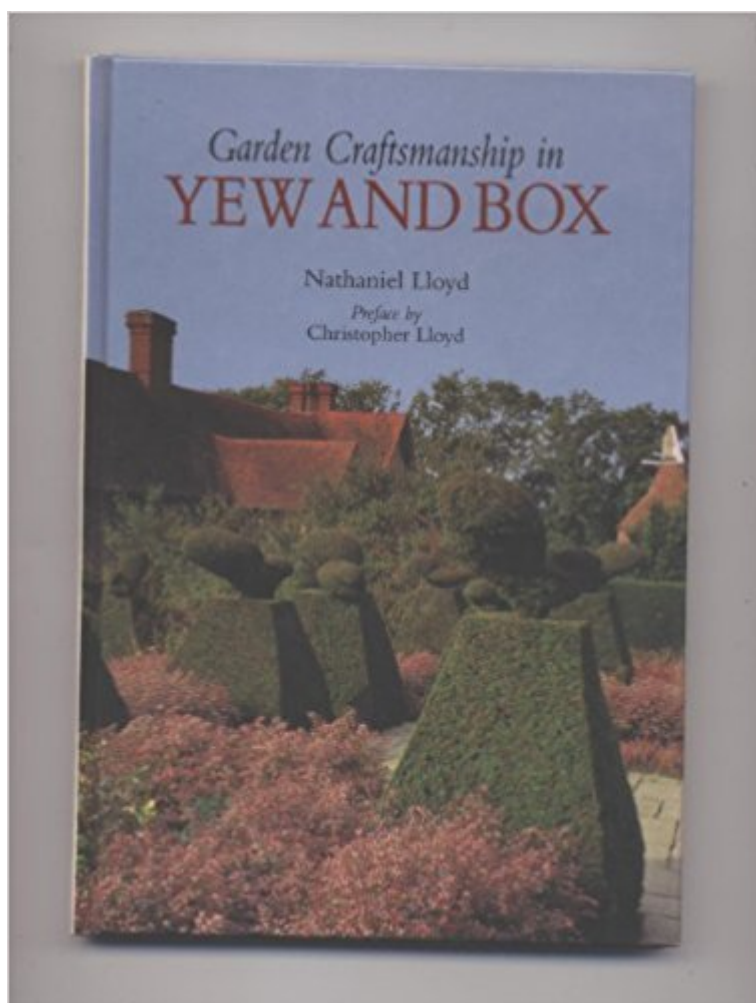


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Garden Craftsmanship In Yew And Box



Synopsis

The planting and cultivation of yew and box has long been an important element in garden design. This popular reprint of Nathaniel Lloyd's classic work now benefits from the addition of some 48 colour plates and a stimulating introduction by the author's son Christopher. The first half of the book contains the text in which the author explains in plain, straightforward language precisely how to go about establishing a formal garden in yew or box. Brimming with common sense, advice and invaluable tips, it is a delight to read. Unlike so many other books on garden topics, the author does not merely explain what to do and then abandon the reader to get on with it. Here he goes on to explain, or discuss, in a continuous way, what progress he has made in his own gardening efforts over a period of years and what results we should reasonably expect from our own endeavours. The second half of this very practical book is devoted entirely to the author's own superb black and white photographs which provide pictorial examples and evidence of just what can be achieved. Now enhanced with additional colour plates, this book will prove invaluable to anyone contemplating formal garden design but will also attract the reader with only a casual or occasional interest in the subject.

Book Information

Hardcover: 103 pages

Publisher: Antique Collectors Club Ltd (October 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 187067314X

ISBN-13: 978-1870673143

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,325,441 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Topiary](#) #106 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > English Gardens](#) #471 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Trees](#)

Customer Reviews

Of this book William Robinson (author of *The Wild Garden* and *The English Flower Garden* (1883)) wrote "It is the poorest book that so far has disgraced the garden." While I have the greatest respect for Robinson, and am often appalled by sheared work, I must disagree. Yes, topiary and otherwise

sheared yew and box are grossly overseen, and often in inappropriate settings, such as the ubiquitous biscuit-bushes in front of so many otherwise barren. But still it has its proper place. As does this book, for historians and theorists of the garden, as well as those looking to add such formal elements to their lands. Note that this is not an ideal first book to purchase on this topic; there are more modern, easier, well-illustrated books to help one with the design and mechanics of adding sheared and other formal elements, such as "Creating Formal Gardens," by Roy Strong. The author's grandson, Christopher Lloyd, who also wrote the preface to this edition, and continued to garden and shear yew on his inherited estate until his death in 2007, is one of the greatest garden theorists and writers ever.

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