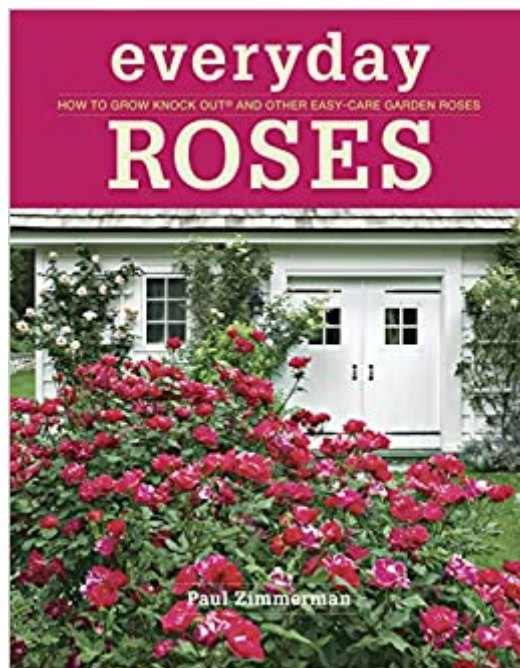




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Everyday Roses: How To Grow Knock Out® And Other Easy-Care Garden Roses



Synopsis

'This book proves that growing roses is for EVERYONE!'- Pat Shanley, Vice President/President Elect American Rose Society 'Finally a rose book that has joy, pleasure, and gardening wisdom at its core.'- Steve Hutton, President/CEO Star Roses and Plants/Conard-Pyle 'Anyone who reads this book and follows Paul's philosophy cannot help but have a garden of healthy roses.'- Peter Beales, Author and rose expert 'In his new book, Everyday Roses, Paul proves that ANYONE can indeed grow beautiful roses without an arsenal of chemicals. His practical approach is perfect for beginners and can be eye-opening for the seasoned gardener looking for a better way.'- SouthernLiving.com Yes, you really can grow healthy, beautiful roses! If you love roses, but think they're too hard to grow, check out Everyday Roses - your trusty guide to growing Knock Out and other easy-care garden roses. Here you'll find clear, accessible information for successfully growing beautiful roses in a wide range of colors. There's no book on roses like this one. Everyday Roses is designed specifically for weekend gardeners and homeowners who love roses but don't have the time or inclination to deal with the care and prevention measures high-maintenance roses require. This handy reference shows how you can enjoy the best of both worlds: gorgeous, healthy, long-flowering roses with a minimum of fuss. Simple, sensible advice from a rose expert. Author and rosarian Paul Zimmerman shows how garden roses can play an important part in any landscape design. He introduces gardeners to lots of easy-to-grow varieties that can be used effectively as flowering shrubs, groundcover, or climbing vines. Out with the old, in with the new! With Everyday Roses, all the old ideas about roses no longer apply. Instead of complicated, time-consuming maintenance programs, here you'll find simple easy-to-follow advice on planting and care. And, of course, starting out with no-fuss varieties like the Knock Out is the key to success!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Paul Zimmerman has worked in landscaping and roses for more than twenty years. He is the coordinator of the Biltmore Rose Trials, a Certified Consulting Rosarian at the American Rose Society, and is a consultant for many private and public gardens. He conducts rose lectures and rose-growing workshops nationwide and overseas, and is the U.S. licensing agent for several foreign rose breeders. Zimmerman lives in Campobello, SC.

In the Manichean world of dedicated rosarians, on one side you have those who believe that they are servants to the rose and dedicated to ensuring that it is shown in its most nearly perfect stage of existence; on the other, you have those who consider the rose to be a useful adjunct in the garden so long as it does not require a great deal of fuss and fidget on the part of the gardener. In that great division, Paul Zimmerman clearly opts for the latter position and humorously and definitively sets about the demolition through skepticism of the other side. The sections on pruning and pesticides alone would set a traditional exhibitor's molars at def con 5 teeth grind, resulting in calcium dust. Zimmerman discards the older notions about at an angle above the bud line, searching for a five-leaflet set, and never even mentions the concept of disbudding. The reason that he does so is because none of these activities contributes to prolific bloom; the Leninist notion of 'fewer (blooms) but better' gets short shrift in a volume dedicated to garden roses as opposed to 'divas' with high maintenance and fussy requirements. This approach is also indicated in the Chapter on 'Suggested Roses' which focuses on the high disease resistance and cluster blooms to be found in the 'Knock Out' series of Conard-Pyle, or the Drift series from Meilland, the East Elegance roses of Bailey and the Oso Easy and Oso Happy series of roses from Spring Meadow Nursery. In fact, the only picture of a Hybrid Tea rose that I can recall is one of 'Memorial Day,' hardly in the tradition of award winning Hybrid Teas at rose shows. The emphasis here is on methods of gardening with roses so as to minimize any necessity for preventative spraying for fungicides or pests. The cure for most pests is to let the balance of nature restore itself through NOT spraying so as to give the beneficial insects and predators a chance to work for you rather than become collateral damage from ameliorative petrochemical applications. For fungicides the approach is to use sulfur and horticultural oil in quick applications so as to kill spores on foliage or those that might overwinter. The other main mechanism is to enrich the soil so as to enable the plant to use its own defenses in combatting

disease. Thus there is a strong emphasis on mulches, compost, and soil enrichment through mycorrhizal fungi. But the underlying thesis is that people want roses that bloom in their gardens, enhance their gardening objectives or conceits, and take no more effort than any other flowering shrub. This means changing the conception of what constitutes a rose and is fundamental to the understanding of the recommendations of the book. Exhibitors concentrate on the flower to the exclusion of considerations of plant growth habit, or even rosebush beauty; garden roses, in contrast, tend to be compact, bushy, floriferous and can be planted in close proximity to one another because a little torn foliage is a minor consideration compared to the mass effect of bloom or the desire for complementary color designs. bloom or the desire for complementary color designs. Beginning gardeners will carry this book with them to any number of places including nurseries, rose society meetings, and pruning demonstrations and demand to know why advice contrary to these Zimmerman observations is being offered. The answers had better be pretty good, because in addition to linking purposes and activities with great lucidity, Zimmerman is pretty good with zingers. "The best tool to use when faced with a disease-prone rose is a shovel." (Page 74). "If you only want disease-proof roses, then I suggest plastic ones!" (Page 75) The author also makes some observations that long time rosarians know at some level of cognition, but rarely articulate: * That plants seem to drop their susceptibility to some diseases as they mature, much like school children acquire immunity to childhood diseases over time. * That no one would dose themselves with antibiotics in order to prevent a cold or viral infection over the course of a year and that same prudence should apply to preventive chemicals. * That in order to attract beneficial insects, birds, bats, and lizards, the monoculture of roses must give way to plants that suit the needs of these fauna rather than just roses. * That dipping your pruners into a diluted bleach solution between cuts makes about as much sense as dipping your spoon into hot water between bites of cereal. The rose world, like much of modern life, is undergoing the 'creative destruction' associated with the disruption of previous habits and patterns of behavior in favor of newer ones capable of greater response from the potential audience of rose growers. Certainly if the rose future belongs to garden roses more suitable to the restricted space and disposable time available to the modern citizen, this book is the harbinger of the brave new world upon us. It will spark a resonance beyond measure for those alienated from local rose societies which tend to be oriented toward another vision of the rose world. This book does not just challenge traditional assumptions about rose care. It obliterates them. However, there should be one cautionary note: although it would seem that the care programs advocated by the book--'living soil,' mulches, compost, and the like--involve less of a time commitment, I am somewhat dubious about this claim. But, of course, your mileage may vary. In any

case, buy the book. It will assault everything you think you know about rose care.

The world of roses lost one of its greats with the death of Peter Beales in January. A few excerpts to Peter's magnificent Foreward to Paul Zimmerman's "Everyday Roses" sum up this book better than I ever could:"...I now ask him questions and have learned to respect his answers as being accurate, straightforward and to the point. It is these three features that best sum up Paul's work in this book. This said, there is a danger that such adjectives could imply a dull, dry read; far from it. For Paul has the ability to bring even the dulllest of items to life." "Another word that springs to mind from reading this book is enthusiasm, for it is impossible to read more than two or three pages without realizing that it is written by a man in love with his subject and who wishes to impart that love to his readers. Refreshing is another word that amply describes Paul's approach to his subject. It's refreshing because he challenges lots of the old, established methods of growing roses, not to mention that he possesses a readiness to express firmly held opinions about types and cultivars, which will make some of the "old school" rose growers raise their eyebrows! I didn't raise mine, as without exception I agree wholeheartedly with everything he has written." "And, in conclusion, I believe that anyone who reads this book and follows Paul's philosophy cannot help but have a garden of healthy roses and furthermore, by so doing will get tremendous pleasure from the experience." The rest of the Foreward by Peter Beales, as well as Paul's entire book, is a must read for all from the general gardener and novice rose grower to the experienced rosarian. Congratulations, Paul, on hitting a home run on your first book about roses. It will definitely not be your last!

I probably have read ten books about roses. Everyday Roses is by far the best. The author takes the position that the typical gardener finds rose growing too difficult. He then goes on to identify those easy-care roses which can be the stars of your landscape and provides simple instructions for their care. The format of the book makes it easy to use. Highlighted Tips and Myths provide quick reference points. The pictures are spectacular. I highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to grow roses with less time, expense, chemicals and disappointment.

VERY practical book. Had 175+ roses and loved them but sooo time consuming every spring. Decided to sell and downsize. Found a new home and this book at the same time. Now I'm getting new roses, but choosing disease resistant, continual blooming and easy care roses. Putting more importance on building the soil, the placement of roses, closeness to the water sources. All in all Paul suggest practical ways to keep roses which I love without working me to death. LOVE THIS

BOOK!

I am a failed rose grower, retired to New Mexico, trying to grow climbers this year and thrilled to have this book for all the reasons reviewers have pointed out. But I have to say that as a former librarian and a long time admirer of the Taunton Press, I flinch as I see the evidence of "product placement." How sad that this wonderful publisher, and author, have needed to give such brand name recognition to Knock Out.

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