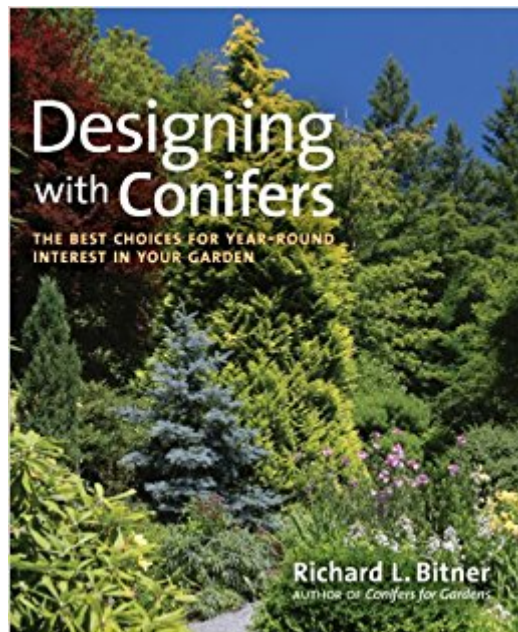




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Designing With Conifers: The Best Choices For Year-Round Interest In Your Garden



Synopsis

With blue, green, and gold foliage and shapes ranging from spiky to weeping, conifers have the potential to be garden design stars. But they are commonly misused in gardens and landscapes, leading to looming spruces squashed against a house or rows of kettledrum-shaped yews along a sidewalk. When used correctly and creatively, conifers can be star players in creating beautiful, long-lasting plant combinations or serene backyard havens. *Designing with Conifers* shows readers exactly how to choose the best conifers for specific needs. Chapters cover shape, color, and conifers for specific sites and conditions, including front gardens, hedges and screens, topiary, dwarf conifers, shade gardens, Asian-style gardens, bonsai, and miniature railroad gardens. Also includes useful appendices that list of conifers for various problems and conditions, like conifers for areas plagued by deer and the best conifers for Christmas trees and Southern gardens. Each section is enlivened with gorgeous color photographs. Whatever landscape situation or challenge a gardener designer faces, *Designing with Conifers* shows how to make the best choice from this beautiful, useful, and versatile group of plants.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Richard L. Bitner wants designers to be creative with their use of conifers, and this guide is intended to help achieve that by describing species in terms of shapes and colors, to give landscape architects a better chance to envision a plant as part of a larger plan.” —*Landscape Architecture* “Offers a great deal of practical

information for creating harmonious landscapes that employ conifers to their best effect. • American Gardener • “Abundantly illustrated.” • Reference and Research Book News • “The book features a host of dreamy, conifer-heavy gardens.” • Fine Gardening • “An idea book for using conifers in garden design. . . . [that] will inspire professional designers as well as armchair gardeners. Recommended.” • Choice • “Organized in a practical, gardener-friendly format.” • Conifers Quarterly

Dr. Richard L. Bitner is a retired anesthesiologist and writer of “Gardening Journey” in Lancaster Magazine. He studied horticulture at Longwood Gardens and now teaches a course on conifers at the arboretum school of the Barnes Foundation. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society’s Gold Medal Plant Award Committee. Learn more at conifersforgardens.com.

Great book if you are landscaping an estate, ranch, or mansion. The trees depicted in the photographs are of extraordinary proportions belonging on properties with large acreage. Parks, hotels, colleges, or professional complexes even. Very disappointing that no mention is given to the entire realm of dwarf species. Anything say under 40 feet tall or wide.

GREAT book!! Richard Bitner does a great job with all his books on this subject. Easy to read and photos are GREAT. Excellent points made for his choices of one conifer over another. I could not imagine going forward with a conifer designed garden without first reading this book! A must for any avid gardener (seriously) wanting to add year round greenery without the common mistakes often made by planting the wrong species, shape, too close or even the "wrong" color. A must. Great for those who don't garden per say but enjoy the beauty of a garden with great "bones". This is a fantastic reference book for those who are just installing conifers into the garden after the fact as well.

Great book with good ideas.

Excellent book! Lots of photos with the name of the conifer mentioned. Elsewhere on the same page is a short comment about it along with the mature size. Very, VERY helpful. I have zero regrets in my purchase.

Nice book for mid-west gardeners. Very informative with many varieties discussed.

A wonderful book, filled with beautiful photographs and great information. I have been gardening for many years and wish to add some miniature conifers to my garden. I feel this book will be helpful with information so I can make informed decisions on my conifer choices.

A very valuable resource that we are using for the design of our conifer and shrub garden.

Our son and family are working hard to get their home and property landscaped and he was very interested in this book. He has read it and started planting trees!! It was very helpful.

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