



DIY Hydroponic Gardens: How to Design and Build an Inexpensive System for Growing Plants in Water

Tyler Baras

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***DIY Hydroponic Gardens* takes the mystery out of growing in water.**

With practical information aimed at home DIYers, author Tyler Baras (Farmer Tyler to his fans) shows exactly how to build, plant, and maintain more than a dozen unique hydroponic systems, some of which cost just a few dollars to make. Growing produce without soil offers a unique opportunity to have a productive garden indoors or in areas where soil is not present.

An expert in hydroponics, Baras has developed many unique and easy-to-build systems for growing entirely in water. In *DIY Hydroponic Gardens*, he shows with step-by-step photos precisely how to create these systems and how to plant and maintain them. All the information you need to get started with your home hydroponic system is included, from recipes for nutrient solutions, to light and ventilation sources, to specific plant-by-plant details that explain how to grow the most popular vegetables in a self-contained, soilless system.

Even if you live in an area where water is scarce, a hydroponic system is the answer you've been looking for. Hydroponic systems are sealed and do not allow evaporation, making water loss virtually nonexistent.

DIY Hydroponic Gardens: How to Design and Build an Inexpensive System for Growing Plants in Water Details

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From Reader Review DIY Hydroponic Gardens: How to Design and Build an Inexpensive System for Growing Plants in Water for online ebook

Alexis says

An easy to follow guide to growing your own plants hydroponically. I would recommend that if you want to try a lot of the projects, you might need a large enough space indoors or outdoors to accommodate the size of the systems. Apartment dwellers seem to be out of luck based on the size of most projects unless you can build them elsewhere and bring them home. This goes into great detail about the specifications and needs plants grown in this way have, and I learned a great deal about how the hydroponics process works from this. This is an easy way to get started in this hobby if you need some help setting up without spending a lot of money.

Randal White says

I have had an interest in hydroponics for years. This book finally provides some answers for me. What hydroponics are, how they work, how to set up a system, and how to troubleshoot any problems that arise. I feel confident, with the guidance provided in this book, that I could attempt hydroponics on my own.

Lindoula says

Disclaimer: I received a free review copy via NetGalley.

Very thorough intro to hydroponic gardening. They start with the very basics for those, like me, who know nothing about hydroponics. There's a wealth of information on equipment options, different types of hydroponic setups and the pros and cons of each, how to get started with plants once your setup is ready, maintenance, and a really handy troubleshooting section. If you're not a beginner, I still think it would be a really handy reference because of the depth of coverage.

While reading the beginning, I kept thinking, "Too bad I don't have room for a system like that!" and then, SURPRISE! there's a section on an ideal setup for those without much room to spare. Nice! I still need to consider toddler-proof options, but if I can get that figured out, I'm going to give it a try.

Highly recommended!

Janet says

I received a DIGITAL Advance Reader Copy of this book from #NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

From the publisher-

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Katelyn Jenkins says

Crazy cool methods to creating hydroponic gardens in the comfort of practically anywhere you may be! From household items to industrial appliances, this book will lead you through the various methods, materials, and various vitamins and minerals behind the art of propagating healthy, happy plants and crops indoors. It is the book for botany enthusiasts and survivors! Go for it, this book is very fun :)

Evie Pey says

I had never heard of hydroponics before reading this book , whilst the book is well written and informative it is not something I am inspired to try.

The book made for interesting reading but the topic is a strange one. Great if your are about to undertake this sort of project.

ROBERT MIEGEL says

Excellent!

Tyler has created an excellent book for DIYers.

His chapters cover the whole area with good advice and clearly written instructions for projects.

If you want a broad overview this book is it!

It shows how to create virtually every type of hydroponic system and goes over advantages and drawbacks of each.

I am sure I will refer to it many times.

Annie says

Originally published on my blog: Nonstop Reader.

There has been a resurgence lately on more effective use of our gardening resources and much more emphasis on self reliance skills for 'regular' people who don't have a lot of land or the background (or desire) to be full time farmers. Hydroponics, though it's not a new idea, has really come into its own as a method for increasing productivity and there are a plethora of books from which to choose.

Tyler Baras has written a practical how-to book aimed at introducing several different kinds of hydroponic systems along with the pros and cons of each type of system. Most hydroponics books I've seen are impractical because they're either aimed at the professional grower with a lot of money for setup and equipment or they're entirely too simple and impractical because they don't give any real solid how-to or steps for actually getting from the *idea* of growing crops or flowers hydroponically to *doing* it.

DIY Hydroponic Gardens spans the middle ground in providing entirely realizable practical systems which have the potential to produce food without being huge, prohibitively expensive, or impractical.

The book is 192 pages, available in ebook and paperback formats and was published by Quarto - Cool Springs Press. It's laid out in a logical format, beginning with an introduction which includes concept definitions, advantages of hydroponic growing and a good overview of the parts of a successful working hydroponic system.

Chapter two covers specific equipment including hardware, substrates, lights, and more, along with some maintenance info and how to take care of problems (like pests) before they become debilitating.

There is a large chapter on specific system setups. Each of these includes a tutorial section which includes tools and supplies for the DIY setup. Each setup includes a recommended plant list and a realistic discussion of the limitations and potential drawbacks.

Propagation, nutrition, maintenance, and troubleshooting, all have chapters including a good (realistic!) photography section showing some of the less desirable outcomes. I really liked that the author showed some of the problems which occurred in his own systems. Most books only show strawberry and lettuce plants bursting with health growing vigorously and apparently trouble-free, so that when bugs or algae pop up, new gardeners feel discouraged and incompetent.

The book has a good glossary and appendix with crop selection charts, conversion tables, a short bibliography and a no-frills index.

All in all a very useful and practical book with usable plans utilizing easily sourced hardware.

Four stars

Disclosure: I received an ARC at no cost from the author/publisher for review purposes

Lili says

From Netgalley for review:

I am so bad at gardening, like laughably so, which is embarrassing since I come from a family of champion gardeners. Well, there was one type of gardening I was good at, keeping my aquarium plants alive, so I thought, maybe I should look into hydroponics so I can finally grow some of my own herbs and flowers. This is a great guide, letting the reader decide to go really hardcore with their garden or starting out small, I like that it gives variety for the style of garden. Starting with the basics (a bottle garden) and moving to more complex styles the book has something for everyone!

I for one cannot wait to give it a try and maybe keep some herbs alive for a while!

Mike Gunderloy says

I suspect I'm in the minority here: I read this one because I'm interested in growing houseplants, flowers, and vegetables hydroponically, rather than anything more dubious. But in any case, it's a great introduction, ranging from simple "grow a plant in a bottle" plans to elaborate systems made of pumps, rain gutters, and stone wool. I'll certainly be referring to this one as I continue greening my office.

Leyla Johnson says

This book does a very good job in explaining the processes and variations, as it does on how to build and care for your own system.

We have an aquaponic garden and was interested to get information on other systems.

This book is easy to understand, is well illustrated with photographs. I think anyone that has any interest in hydroponics of any type would do well to read this book to get a good understanding of the process, pitfalls, costs and benefits of running such a system

Jo says

#DiyHydroponicGardens #NetGalley #Sustainable #SOSEarth #Hydroponic #Garden #FutureGardens

This is complete and well explained reference book about the Hydroponic gardens. The book covers step by step projects to create hydroponic garden of different size depending on the needs. Also, the reader can have access to the charts about the PH, the harvesting time required and more technical information for a large selection of plants, flowers and legumes.

Samantha says

DIY Hydroponics Gardens is an interesting book full of projects to make your own hydroponic fruit and vegetable garden on a small or large scale. Think back to school and growing watercress on cotton wool in an egg shell or your kids coming home with a bean grown on a damp tissue - it's like that but on a much, much bigger and better scale, be it indoors or the greenhouse, all without soil.

There are 7 chapters in this book which include an Introduction, Equipment, Hydroponic Growing Systems, Starting Seeds & Cuttings, Plant Nutrition, System Maintenance and Common Problems & Troubleshooting plus a Glossary and handy Crop Selection Charts.

The Introduction and Equipment chapters explain what hydroponic gardening is and what equipment you will need to get going. The author then provides 9 projects to get you started from a simple bottle to a vertical garden. Each comes with a list of all the supplies needed along with the tools and colour photography of the steps taken to build the project along with the instructions.

There is information on how to start the seeds once you are ready or how to take a cutting and use that to grow onto a full plant. Plant nutrition is important, so the author provides details on how to substitute soils nutrients with fertilisers, how to maintain the correct balance and when and how to clean the reservoirs of water. There is also a whole chapter on troubleshooting, be it nutrient, pests or seeding problems.

Finally after the Glossary of terms there is an Appendix on all the different plants you could grow. It is provided in chart form and gives the best hydroponic systems that work for that plant, be it lettuce, spinach or herbs - its surprising how many vegetables, herbs or fruits you can grow this way.

Throughout the book there is full colour photography and fantastic instructions to follow. There are also tables for measurement and temperature conversions between metric and imperial.

I received this book from netgalley in return for a honest review.

Janet says

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