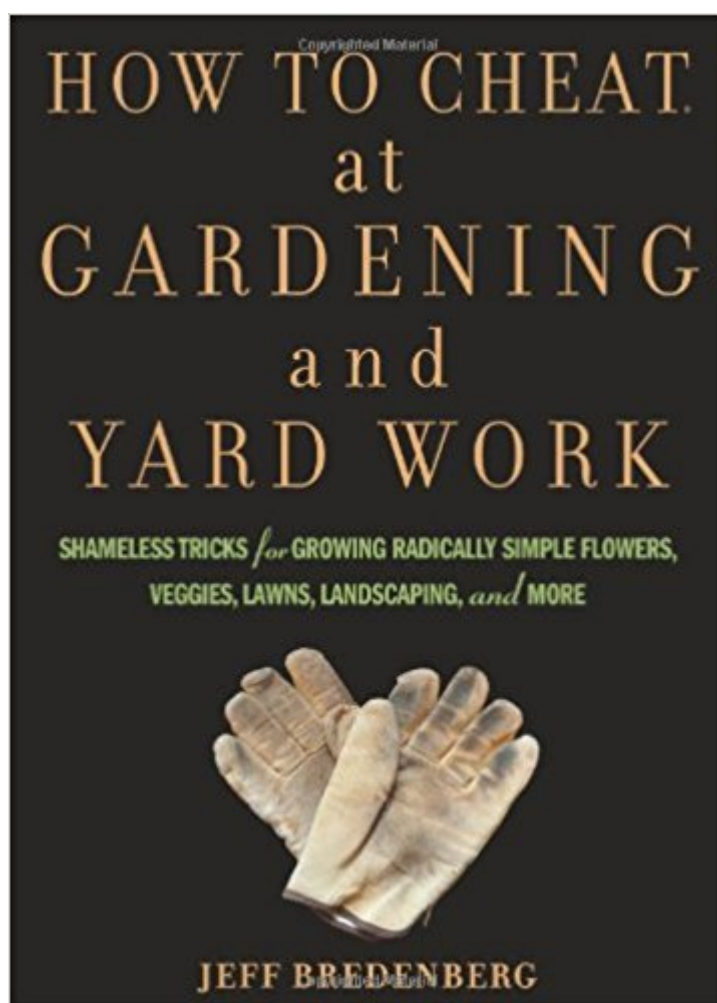


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# How To Cheat At Gardening And Yard Work: Shameless Tricks For Growing Radically Simple Flowers, Veggies, Lawns, Landscaping, And More



## Synopsis

Do you love the look of a stunning flowerbed or a nice expanse of lawn bordered by attractive shrubs, but don't have time to spend the whole weekend in your backyard? It's time to cheat— in a smart way. In *How to Cheat at Gardening and Yard Work* by Jeff Bredenberg, you'll find hundreds of work-reducing, time-saving, cost-cutting gardening tips that will reward you with the best-looking yard and garden you've ever had with less work than ever before. Cheating on garden and yard tasks is part attitude adjustment, part shortcuts, and part simplicity— with a healthy dose of making clever choices. You'll discover effective and efficient methods to complete just about every garden project, chore, cleanup, or predicament you'll face. Set aside the things you've done for years and discover: -How the right tool can save you time— and save your back -That doing less for your lawn actually means better results -Why planting a diversion crop cuts down on your pest-patrol efforts That groundcovers and foliage plants are no-hassle solutions for weedy flowerbeds

## Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Rodale Books (April 14, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1594869596

ISBN-13: 978-1594869594

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 24.5 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,170,586 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Lawns](#) #565 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Outdoor & Recreational Areas](#) #845 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Reference](#)

## Customer Reviews

Jeff Bredenberg has authored, coauthored, and edited more than 20 titles, and he frequently shares his how-to tips in TV and radio appearances and newspaper and magazine articles. He's written three other books in the *How to Cheat* series and empowers homeowners to get things done faster, better, and cheaper.

Lots of helps, pictures, examples. Good reference.

Lots I didn't know. .my sister had recommended this to me. Not your usual information, lots of tools and tricks new to me

If you are thinking this book will give you valuable tips on how to save time and effort in lawncare, think again. This book is mostly devoted to gardening, and typical yardwork is only briefly covered. And when yardwork is covered, there are no "cheating" tips to help you save time or effort. To the contrary, this book makes suggestions that involve time-consuming, labor-intensive pampering of the yard! The book suggests you mow ever 3-5 days in the summer and only cut 1/3 or less of the grass blade off. How is that saving time?

I purchased this book for my Dad who is a recreational gardener and he loves it. He read through most of it within a week. He thinks it is a terrific book.

This would be a great book for anyone just starting out gardening, or anyone who gardens, but doesn't have a lot of time for reading gardening books. It contains lots of lists or "cheat sheets" that include suggestions for crop rotations, spacing for common vegetables, when to start seeds, low maintenance plants, good companion vegetables/bad combination vegetables, plants to attract beneficial insects, and invasive plants. The book does not go into a lot of detail such as why certain plants are better planted together. Other topics covered include soil (also, an interesting cheat sheet on what the weeds that grow in your soil tell you about it), keeping weeds at bay, mulching, fertilizing, plant selection, watering, recommended veggie varieties, landscape design, raised beds, container gardening, composting, mowing, planting, and tools. While the book does not go into the detail other books do (there are whole books devoted to these topics), it contains a great deal of useful information.

I bought this book on the premise of learning "tricks" and "shortcuts" to use in my vegetable garden. If there were any, I didn't see them. This is just another gardening book. If you want easy tips, or tricks, buy one of Jerry Bakers books, because you're not going to get anything new here. Also, which is why I gave this 2 stars, is on the subject of Companion Planting. Page 126, titles under Good Companions in the vegetable Garden, it tells you tomatoes and carrots are great companions. THEN, on the VERY next page, under the heading "Bad Company" on page 129, it tells you to keep

carrots and tomatoes AWAY from one another, as they aren't good for each other. HUH???

Someone needs to get their homework straight. If I can't trust that information, what else can't I trust that's written in this book?

As a beginning gardener, I found this book has some nuggets of useful information and common sense techniques. It is one of the better gardening books I've flipped through. Having done some prior research, there was a fair amount of info that I had already come across, but with all of the gardening specific books that's bound to happen.

Wonderful for inspiring an unsure gardener in ways to take on the wide world of gardens. So sorry he has passed on... delightful and easy to read and understand. If you think you have a brown thumb, start here.

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