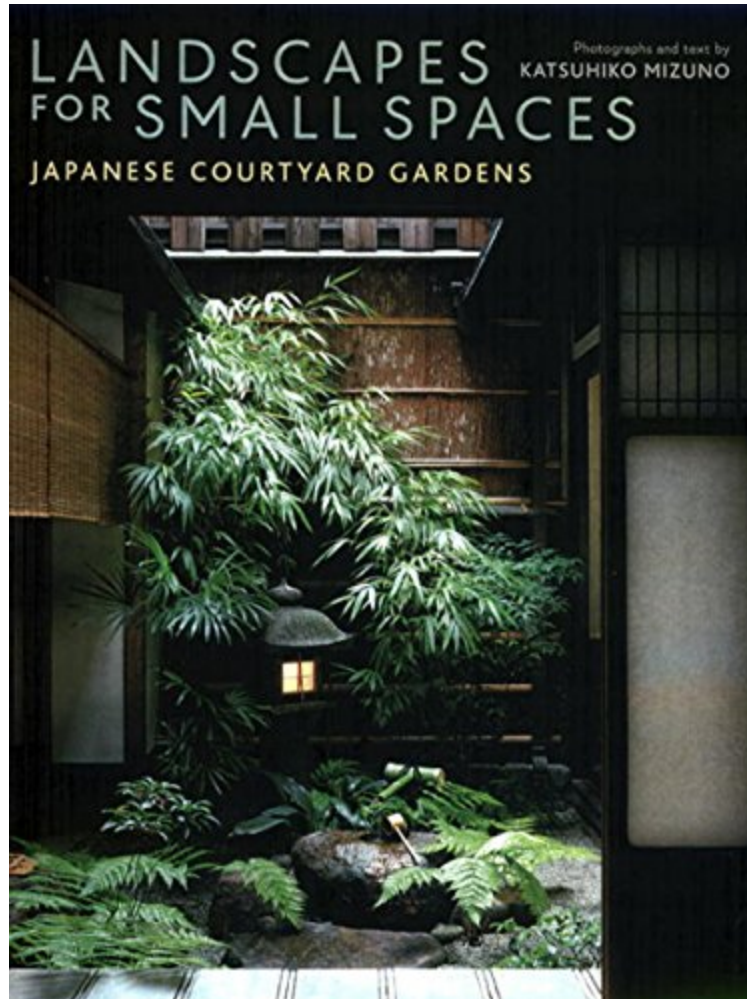


Landscapes for Small Spaces: Japanese Courtyard Gardens

Katsuhiko Mizuno

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Katsuhiko Mizuno : Landscapes for Small Spaces: Japanese Courtyard Gardens before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Landscapes for Small Spaces: Japanese Courtyard Gardens:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Luke ArmstrongWorks Great!6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A good garden design bookBy Anne DwyerThis is a very helpful book when considering the elements of small spaces. It provides a leaping off point for one's own ideas. The photos are beautiful. The idea that any little space can enhance one's life is inspiring.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Kindle CustomerThis has lovely photos of many wonderful small Japanese gardens. While it is light on text -though the section on traditional house design is useful for understanding residential courtyard gardens- the core element is the photos. It gives an excellent view of just how beautiful truly tiny gardens can be, and was one of a bare handful of

books which inspired our own small garden in a side yard. It also has a section on temple/monastery gardens, which while somewhat less useful for my purposes, is nonetheless beautiful, and adds context for the residential gardens. Another book to consider is 'The Modern Japanese Garden' by Michael Freeman. Garden design is a living tradition in Japan, and again, seeing the current evolution is useful for understanding their gardening concepts. I recommend both very highly for anyone interested in small garden design. One can take concepts from these books and, rather than simply mimic Japanese gardens, adapt the ideas to one's own needs and locale.

Enjoy it for its sheer beauty or use it for inspiration while creating your own small landscape garden. Japanese gardening is the art of arranging plants, rocks, lanterns, and basins in an open or, as here, an enclosed space. According to the aesthetic principles long prevailing in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, even two rocks arranged in a tiny, enclosed space can be considered a garden. This type of garden is called a tsuboniwa, and Kyoto has long been considered its birthplace and home. So it is not surprising that photographer Katsuhiko Mizuno, wishing to capture the best of such small gardens, should turn to Kyoto and its palaces, temples, shrines, and town houses. The highlight of the book is the 100 photographs of these tsuboniwa—snow overlying sand patterns; coloring maple leaves; flowering cherry trees; lanterns, basins, fences; gardens featuring wisteria, azalea, hydrangea, Indian lilac, camellia, and daphne. Each photo is accompanied by an insightful caption pointing out the outstanding characteristics of the garden in question. An appendix gives Mizuno's instructions for creating a tsuboniwa, based on his personal experience. His account of the underlying concepts, design, choice of plants, and practical procedures will prove a invaluable reference for all garden creators, from amateur to professional.

...a collection of beautifully framed and thoughtful shots that capture all aspects of tsuboniwa. -- The Daily Yomiuri Packed with shots of great views and materials, like bamboo, ferns, pebbles and all sorts of plants. -- Home Beautiful Photographs of a master-designer's timeless work that are well worth studying. -- Age This is the garden as art, and simply looking at these gardens is a calming experience. -- Bloomsbury About the Author KATSUHIKO MIZUNO, born in Kyoto in 1941, graduated from Doshisha University and the Tokyo College of Photography. His camera has been focused on 1,200-year-old Kyoto since 1969, including its scenery, gardens, and architecture. In 2000 he renovated a Kyoto townhouse said to date from the latter half of the Edo period (1603-1867), converting it into a museum housing his photographic works. He is a member of the Japan Professional Photographers Society and the Japan Society for Arts and History of Photography. Of his many published books in Japanese and English, this is number 101.