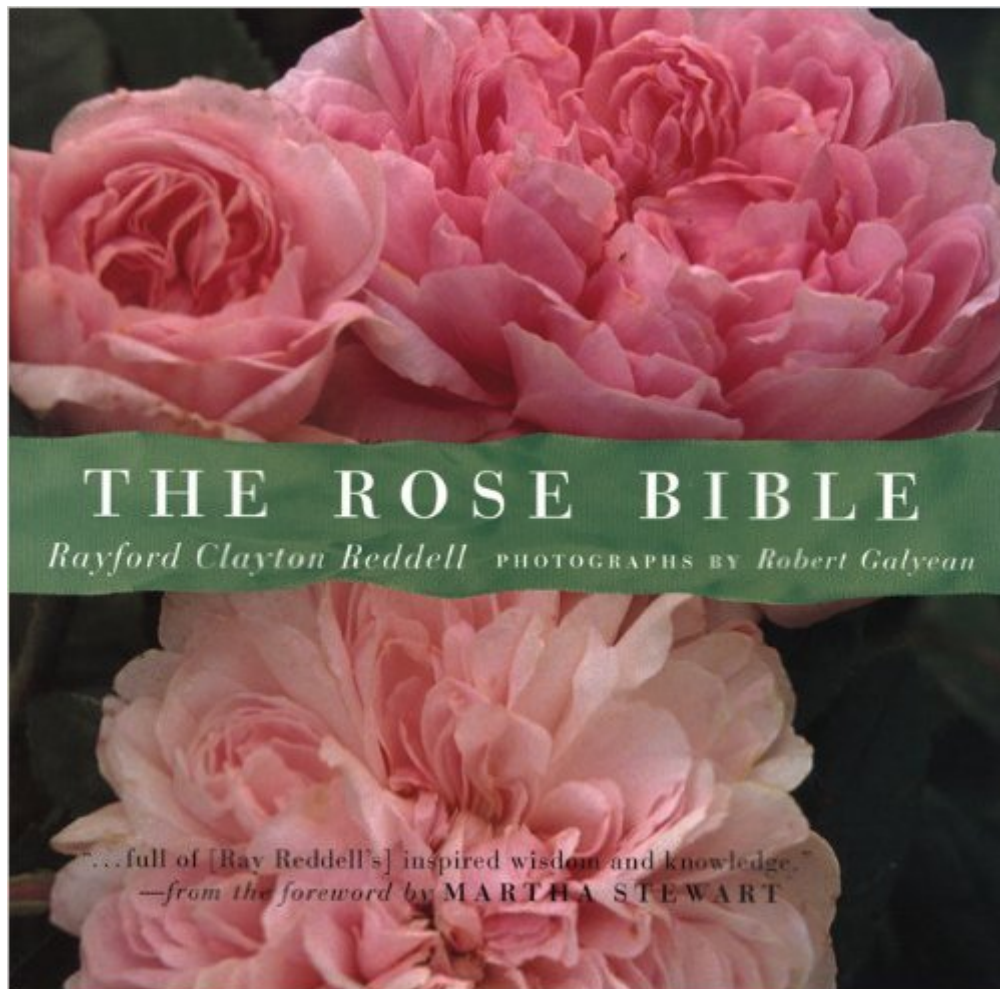


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# The Rose Bible



## Synopsis

In paperback for the first time, this gorgeous and affordable edition of The Rose Bible (out of print in hardcover, 0-517-58821-8) is a must-have for every rose grower, novice or expert. This beloved classic by America's leading rosarian reveals everything a gardener needs to know about this most treasured of garden plants. Ray Reddell has distilled his vast knowledge of the eternally popular rose into one copiously illustrated, indispensable reference, offering expert advice on everything from planting and pruning to training and grafting roses. Encompassing antique and modern roses, original species and recent hybrids, bushes and shrubs, ramblers and climbers, this is the definitive volume on growing splendid roses.

## Book Information

Paperback: 252 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; 1st edition (August 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0811821595

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.7 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,345,838 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers > Roses](#) #93534 in [Books > Teens](#)

## Customer Reviews

This was my first rose related book and it was absolutely magnificent. An all-over great experience. To me it seems mostly useful only if you are in the Pacific Northwestern area or a place where the climate is similar to Reddell's (N. California). If you're looking for a book that covers that area, you can't get any better than this. The book was fat with knowledge and had tons of gorgeous pictures which are always a plus. He catalogues his favorite 50 roses with a page each to their honor. Most priceless was his refreshing honesty with his opinions of roses. He wasn't afraid to show favorites or non-favorites and came right out and said what his experiences were with actually growing in this climate. I absolutely recommend this book to any new beginner in the Pacific Northwest, it covers all the bases.

Martha Stewart says it's full of inspired wisdom and knowledge- I wonder if she read it! The pictures

are good- but much of the information is found in many other rose books I have in my library. I could part with this book and never miss it- but then again I have a good size collection of Gardening and Landscape books. I suspect that the average person who loves roses would truly enjoy this, especially if it was the first rose book in the collection. Some of the photographs would make great study photos for an art teacher to use to help her students study the structure of these flowers for drawing and painting. Many different types of roses are covered, but only limited information on each is given. This book forms an overview of roses- with beautiful color photographs.

"The Rose Bible" is the best and most helpful book on roses I've ever browsed or read. The pictures are magnificent, the language is informative, honest, and humorous, and the history of roses is explained very well. There is a slight bias towards cutting as opposed to garden roses in the top fifty list, but the contents and organization are nearly flawless. No potpourri tips here! If you want to know where roses came from, what is available now (with strong and weak points for each), how to buy, feed, prune, protect roses, and if you don't mind drooling over hundreds of rose pictures in the most undignified fashion, this is the book you want.

It would take volumes to cover the multitudes of roses that are out there, but, with a name like "The Rose Bible" I expected more than this book delivered. It's not a bad book, it just doesn't live up to its name. The roses listed are common, the type you can find information on anywhere. ( Try: [...]) There is nothing new in this book. If you're new to roses The Rose Bible will open your eyes to a whole new world that exists beyond the Hybrid Tea rose and it gives very good information about selecting, growing and pruning roses. As an experienced rosarian whose looking for more in depth or obscure rose information, The Rose Bible doesn't have it.

I am an avid gardner and appreciate a book that tantalizes me with new ideas for my garden. Although I already have some 18 roses in my garden, this book has inspired me to create even more space for more roses, and collect some amazing bourbons and antiques that are out there. I originally purchased this book to research new climbers, and found that and more! The photos are captivating, and the author provides a great history on the various species. In addition, I feel like the author does an outstanding job of explaining the positives and negatives of roses he highlights. I have reread the chapter on "Fifty Immortal Roses" numerous times, and can't seem to put this book down. I can't wait to start digging in the dirt. Very inspirational!

Make no bones about it, this book is about roses the author enjoys. This is not a bad thing. He gives you a good concise history on roses, introducing you to the various types of roses grown through time. He gives great advise on planting, pruning and maintenance over the year. Then there are the pictures- lots of them, and beautifully photographed. Yes there is a whole chapter on his favorite roses (many of them tried and true) but hundreds more are referred to with photos and text. This is an enjoyable book, fun to flip through, but still has the information a beginner needs to know when choosing roses.

This book was published in 1998. My mother gave it to me in 2001 when I first started growing roses in the Philadelphia suburbs. While I have no experience with antique roses, I have over the years grown climbers, standards, and tree roses. This book taught me everything I needed to know so efficiently and thoroughly that I have only had great success and, in over 10 years, have never needed another book. The author covers everything from soup to nuts or should I say from planting to maintaining. His advise takes into account where you may live. I used his advise for bare root planting, for how to help new plants through their first year, for differences in pruning different roses and in different seasons, and for surviving winter and diseases/pests. His strongest advise is on how to feed and nourish them. It truly earns the name bible except for the fact that the author acknowledges that there are many debates among rosarians about this and that. But you know what? It's all good. As long as you are within the parameters of various debates, your roses don't really care what side you may choose and you won't go wrong with any of the advise in this book. You would think this book would be a great tome but at just under 300 pages and just over 250 pages, it isn't that big or heavy. That's because the book is so well organized and concise in its presentation. If you already know it all, as some previous reviewers, than this may not be the book for you. But if you want to learn how to grow roses, or learn of their history, or learn about a specific kind of rose, or want to stretch to learn how to grow different roses, or compare what you have been doing with a master rosarian, than you cannot go wrong with the purchase of this book.

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