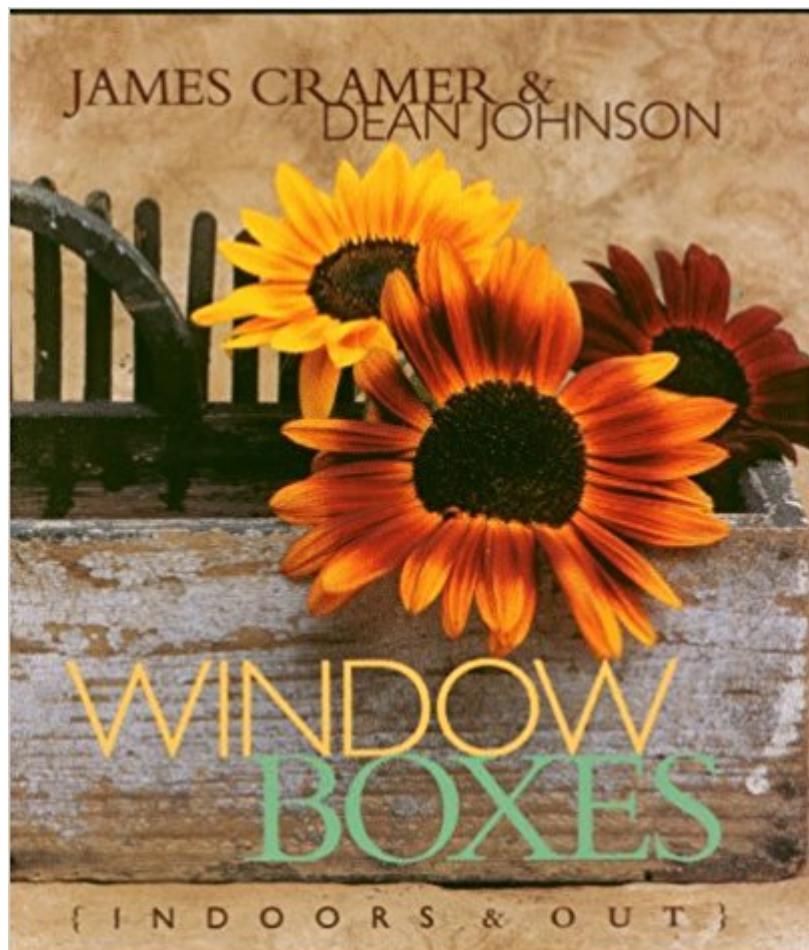


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# Window Boxes: Indoors & Out



## Synopsis

When design magazines want new and fresh ideas, they turn to James Cramer and Dean Johnson. In *Window Boxes, Indoors & Out* these two gardeners, designers, artists, and stylists bring a wealth of talent and the freshest eye to the close-up pleasures of window boxes. The book spans a year of invention and innovation at Seven Gates Farm, the authors' nineteenth-century homestead and studio. The results are inspired ideas, hard-working advice, and more than 150 dazzling photographs of these delightful still lifes. Given four seasons in which to flourish, this once spring/summer-only pleasure goes well beyond traditional garden planters and herb baskets. Found objects are given new life as containers for these beautiful tableaux, and everything from wreaths and swags to simple rustic groupings becomes an indoor design element for every room. A full source guide for locating containers, plants, and flowers rounds out this exceptional volume.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Window boxes no longer must be the sister of the white picket fence. Calling such diverse receptacles as pumpkins, gourds, hats, a broken earthen pot, and even eggshells to service, authors James Cramer and Dean Johnson, in *Window Boxes: Indoors and Out*, redefine the concept of windowbox, and generate a lot of beautiful ideas in the process. Window boxes can serve many purposes, from homes for a kitchen herb garden to grand, overspilling fountains of trailing plants and flowers. And when there's a paucity of garden real estate, lack of time to tend a full-size garden plot, or an off-season hankering to simply grow something, window boxes provide creative outlets and solutions. Watching a forced amaryllis gracefully bloom in an antique planter in

January or starting seedlings in a copper box inside a sunny window in early spring can quell the gardening jones of many a hibernating green thumb and help get a jump on the growing season. Along with ideas for window-box plantings for every season and many holidays, from May Day boxes popping with pansies and lilies to Christmas boxes fragrant with tiny pine trees and demure snowdrops, Cramer and Johnson also detail how to make and decorate many boxes (although beginners may need more detailed instructions than the brief ones given here), including a copper box, a Victorian box, a terrarium box, harvest boxes, and many more. With this helpful, evocatively photographed handbook and an open mind, creating window boxes will become part of the gardener's and the interior designer's repertoire all year round. --Stefanie Durbin

Dean Johnson is internationally recognized for his art and garden designs. His work has been featured in lifestyle and gardening magazines, books, and newspapers, and his home and gardens in Maryland have been seen on network and cable television. He is a co-author of *Seasons at Seven Gates Farm*. James Cramer is internationally recognized for his art and garden designs. His work has been featured in lifestyle and gardening magazines, books, and newspapers, and his home and gardens in Maryland have been seen on network and cable television. He is a co-author of *Seasons at Seven Gates Farm*.

I ordered four books about window boxes and this one was my favorite. It's full of beautiful pictures and reads like a story. I got lots of ideas from this book and passed it along to a friend who enjoys container gardening too and she loves it.

Beautiful, creative, one of the very best!!

Nothing new - as if a collection of granted beautifully photographed boxes of flowering green that remind you of the many we see in garden magazines. As a nudge to come up with a new idea for decorating the house with plants it could inspire some creative thought but as a guide to copy ideas and if you have been a gardener there is not much new here.

Did not read gift, i was told a very good book with lots of helpful ideas. Also many great pics.

The book is somewhat dated. Still, there are some good ideas, and ideas for different seasons, which is a nice addition.

A note about my video review:1. I decided to do a video review so that I could give others a glimpse inside the book. One of the things I hate about ordering books online, is not being able to flip through them. I hope this review helps!2. I love the creativity in this book.3. My one negative is on page 26. I love the potting table with greenhouse top and wish Dean (Author) would have included instruction on how to build this. I LOVE IT!!Enjoy-

I own a number of books on container gardening, and this has become one of my favorites. This book gives container planting ideas for each of the four seasons. The pictures are coffee-table-quality, but what I really like about this book is that it gives clear instructions for the planting and care of container gardens, making it a great book for beginners. More experienced gardeners will also find some inspirational ideas. There are clever ideas for using containers, as well as instructions for building some of your own. The plant combinations are not only beautiful, but are well within reach of easily putting together, unlike other books that show over-the-top arrangements. It also gives some soil recipes as well as a recipe for making gardener's tea. Drawing from a number of years of experience, this book is a great guide to the world of container gardening. The authors have a number of other good books out, though sadly, Dean Johnson has since passed on.

I received this as a gift and plan to give it to friends. Not only are the writers, clear and concise, but the photographers captured the essence and beauty of every arrangement. Each window box was a delight and no season was forgotten. This is truly a favored coffee table book. book.

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