



Lilies: A Guide to Choosing and Growing Lilies

By Michael Jefferson-Brown

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Lilies are among the most glamorous and exotic of plants, yet they are surprisingly easy to cultivate in a wide range of temperate climates -there is a lily perfect for almost every region in North America! The lily's increasing popularity as both a cut flower and a garden subject is well deserved, and this handsome volume combines the flower's unrivaled visual allure with a wealth of practical information on growing and gardening with these romantic garden favorites. The book is organized into three main sections. The introduction examines the history of lilies and explores their versatility in the garden. The second section, "Choosing Lilies," is a photographic portrait gallery of over 100 different lilies, capturing their essential beauty and showcasing the vast range of flower forms and colors. The third section, "Growing Lilies," contains a wealth of practical information on planting, nurturing, and propagating lilies with clear, step-by-step photographs.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

In this introduction to the history and culture of lilies, Jefferson-Brown, a British breeder and grower, and Howland, former chair of the Royal Horticultural Society Lily Group, describe both the various lily species and the best currently available hybrids and detail how to grow and propagate them. There are suggestions for including lilies in a mixed border, planting in containers, and even growing varieties in rock gardens. Instructions for producing new hybrids round off the work. Written for gardeners at all levels of expertise, this volume contains more detail than Jefferson-Brown's earlier work, *Lilies* (Trafalgar Square, 1989), or Richard Bird's *Lilies* (Chartwell, 1991). A good purchase if neither of these two works is owned. ?Molly Newling, Piscataway P.L., N.J.

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From [Booklist](#)

In the whole lily spectrum, there is something for everyone, from easy-to-grow, long-lived garden plants to the more difficult and rare species. The authors first explain the plant's ecology and life cycle and then give advice on planting and grouping for effect. There's information on cultivation and propagation, along with techniques for breeding. But the bulk of the book is a list of species and hybrid species; each listing gives detailed data on the plant's foliage, flowers, flowering times, size, and soil requirements. There are 70 color photographs and 40 black-and-white line drawings in this comprehensive guide to the genus *Lilium*. *George Cohen*

Review

Michael Jefferson-Brown has been a lily lover all his life - growing and breeding them for over fifty years. Keen to spread this love further, he offers an informative reference to this beautiful genus, stunningly illustrated with the photographs of Andrew Lawson. Dating back to earliest times, the lily has been revered for its beauty and, in some cases, its medicinal qualities, for centuries and with the advent of the Golden Age of plant hunting in the 1800s, the range and diversity of the genus exploded on a ready and willing market of gardeners. From the exotic Asiatics to the stunning Orientals, the dainty Martagons and the towering Trumpets, their beauty and scent are redolent of English country gardens through the aeons of time. Pink to white, yellow to orange and all shades in-between, spotted, striped or pure there is a shade for every situation and taste. Easy to grow and easy to propagate, they have readily adapted to life in containers extending their range of uses to present-day trends. Clearly written, engagingly informative and with his ardour for these bulbous gems shining through, Michael Jefferson-Brown gives every gardener - beginner or more experienced alike - an excellent grounding in the cultivation of this beautiful family. - Lucy Watson

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