

# *Dance in the Garden*



I LOVE COLOR IN THE GARDEN. THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN BINGE WATCHING THE DANCE OF COLORS THROUGH THE SEASONS. IN MY GARDEN, PURPLE ALLIUMS TWO-STEPPED WITH YELLOW IRISES IN LATE SPRING, FOLLOWED BY THE TANGO OF DEEP PURPLE BAPTISIA AND HOT PINK PEONIES. FOR THE SUMMER, WE ARE SETTLING INTO A LONG SLOW DANCE OF APRICOT ROSES AND DEEP RED SMOKE BUSH. CHOOSING COLORS FOR YOUR GARDEN MAY SEEM DAUNTING, BUT I URGE YOU TO TRUST YOUR INTUITION AND HAVE FUN! IN ADDITION, I OFFER SEVERAL SUGGESTIONS FOR HOW TO TURN YOUR GARDEN INTO A VIBRANT OASIS: FIRST, PICK A FAVORITE COLOR. APPROXIMATELY ONE HALF TO TWO THIRDS OF YOUR FLOWERS SHOULD BE THIS COLOR.



Complimentary Colors



Analogous Colors

SECOND, PICK OTHER COLORS TO ENHANCE YOUR MAIN COLOR. THERE ARE TWO COMMON APPROACHES TO CHOOSING THE “OTHER COLOR” TO YOUR MAIN COLOR. CHOOSING COMPLIMENTARY COLORS -- THOSE FOUND ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE COLOR WHEEL -- WILL CREATE A COLORFUL, CASUAL LOOK IN YOUR GARDEN. BY CONTRAST, USING ANALOGOUS COLORS, OR THOSE FOUND ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE COLOR WHEEL, WILL YIELD A BOLD SWATH OF COLOR IN YOUR BED.



Fall complimentary colors: Coleus "Religious Radish"  
with Euphorbia "Little Shorty "



Summer analogous colors:  
All lovely annuals



Smoke Bush and Apricot  
Ground Cover Roses

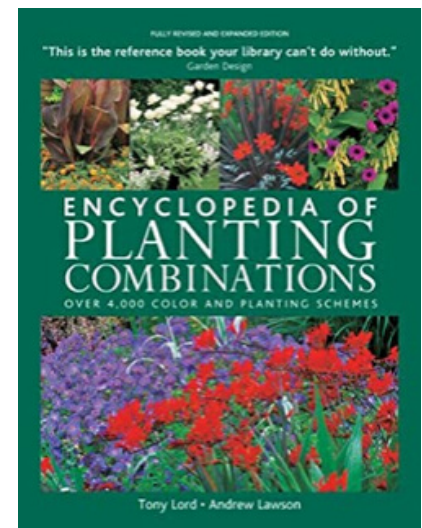
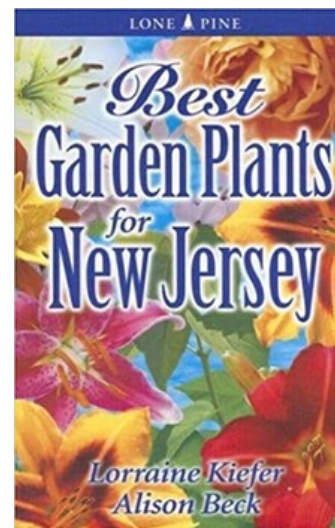
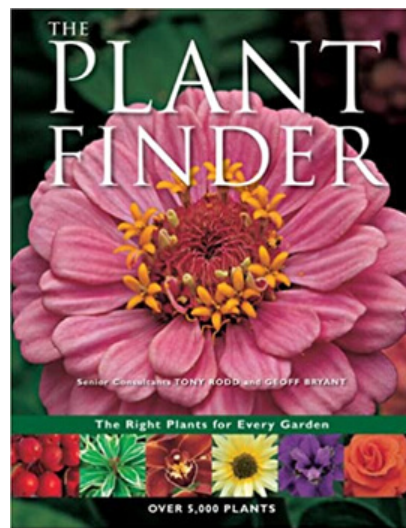
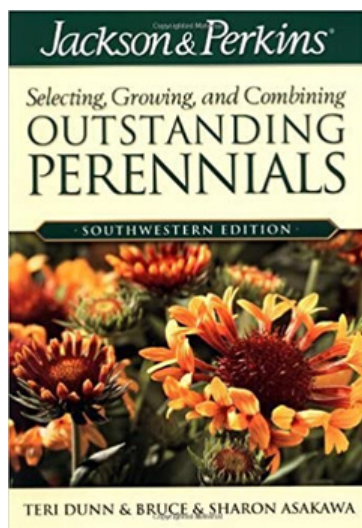


Orange Echinacea  
and Pink Yarrow



Purple Baptisia,  
Pink Peony





These and other gardening books are available at the Glen Ridge Library

FINALLY, IN ORDER TO CHOREOGRAPH THE DANCE OF COLOR IN YOUR GARDEN, CONSIDER THE SEASONALITY OF THE FLOWERS YOU SELECT. THERE ARE MANY GREAT RESOURCES TO GUIDE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHEN FLOWERS BLOOM, SOME THAT YOU CAN FIND AT THE LIBRARY! THE LIBRARY HAS A GREAT COLLECTION OF GARDENING BOOKS, AND THOSE COVERING PERENNIAL PLANTS ARE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL. IN ADDITION, WEBSITES LIKE BLUESTONEPERENNIALS.COM HAVE SEARCH ENGINES THAT ORGANIZE PLANTS BY COLOR, BLOOM TIME, AND ZONE. ARMED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT GLEN RIDGE IS IN ZONE 7, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CALCULATE WHEN YOUR FAVORITE FLOWERS BLOOM! AND FOR A SOCIALLY DISTANT, OUTDOOR DESTINATION, VISIT YOUR LOCAL NURSERY AT EACH SEASON TO SEE WHAT IS IN BLOOM. THEN SIT BACK, AND ENJOY THE DANCE.



Selfie at Versailles

Kelley Forsyth has worked as a garden designer and garden coach for many years. Her design build company Kelley Garden Design has constructed decks, patios, front stoops, pools, Jacuzzis, outdoor kitchens, and outdoor television rooms, among other projects. Our goal is simply to entice people to spend more time outside. Please feel free to contact me at [kelleygardendesign@gmail.com](mailto:kelleygardendesign@gmail.com).