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Phil Schmidt

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Phil Schmidt : Black Decker The Complete Guide to Garden Walls Fences: Improve Backyard Environments - Enhance Privacy Enjoyment -Define Space Borders (Black Decker Complete Guide) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black Decker The Complete Guide to Garden Walls Fences: Improve Backyard Environments -Enhance Privacy Enjoyment -Define Space Borders (Black Decker Complete Guide):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Helped me build a chainlink fenceBy T. MORROWI built a little galvanized steel chainlink fence to enclose my small backyard using this book. I could've used a bit more detail on

certain steps, like installing tension wire or attaching the stretched fence fabric to the tension bands (both required a little more muscle power than I thought they would), but, overall, this book got the job done. I built the exact size chainlink fence specified in the book (48" high with 2 3/8" diameter terminal posts and 1 5/8" line posts) and hand-dug the post holes. I also installed a drive gate and a walk gate. Measuring the gate posts exactly to fit the gates were the biggest challenge, since you are also simultaneously plumbing the posts. The tip to use a 2x4 spacer was crucial. I saved over a thousand dollars doing this project myself and have next to zero experience, as a brand new homeowner. Next project: pouring footers for a short garden wall, also using this book! Highly recommended.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A useful reference

By Steven Boone

The overview ideas expressed inside are useful. After looking through the pages and reading a bit, I would rate this book at four stars. It is a great overview with nice photos, however if your looking for details or engineering type guidelines for your project you'll need additional resources. If you have a backyard project and you're not sure where to start, this book can give you some great ideas and instructions.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Saved me quite a bit of money...

By Alan B. Scholli

I was given the task of building a small 20x15 ft area for a backyard garden. I went from never building a fence before to planning, purchasing material and erecting a nice little garden (chain link) fence in less that one week after reading this book. Though I did not read many of the other chapters on walls etc, the book is clear and concise and saved me quite a bit of money by DIY.

Whether it is for aesthetics, security, or simple privacy, no project is more important to a landscape than its vertical boundary structures—the fences, walls, screens, and retaining wall terraces. This book includes classic favorites, like picket fences and panel fences, but also includes interesting regional variations, like Virginia split rail fences and dry-fit stone garden walls. Also included here are the latest materials, such as new variations on PVC vinyl and polymer-coated, wrought-iron look-alikes. And special attention is given to decorative boundary walls for patios—the latest trend in today's cutting-edge landscape architecture. Add in major hardscape retaining wall terraces, and even an invisible electronic dog-fence project, and you have the most complete and modern book on fences and garden walls available.

About the Author

Philip Schmidt (Golden, CO) is an avid environmentalist and a home improvement expert who has written many successful DIY books, including *Build Your Kids a Treehouse*, *The Complete Guide to Patios*, and *The Complete Guide to Contemporary Sheds*. He lives in Golden, CO