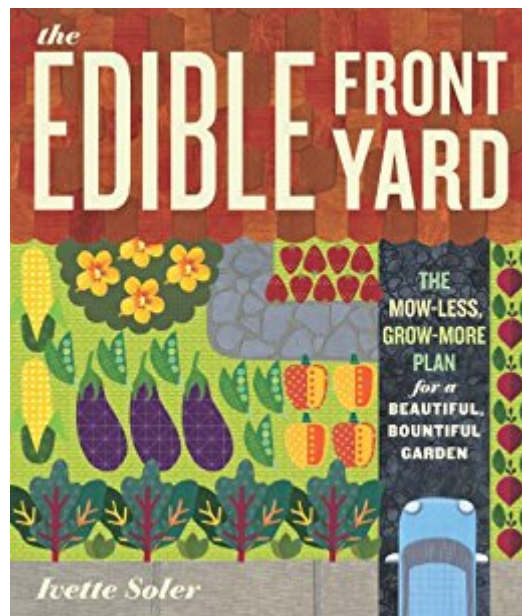




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# The Edible Front Yard: The Mow-Less, Grow-More Plan For A Beautiful, Bountiful Garden



## Synopsis

“Front lawns, beware: The Germinatrix has you in her crosshairs! Ivette Soler is a welcome voice urging us to mow less and grow some food—in her uniquely fun, infectious yet informative way. Garden Rant People everywhere are turning patches of soil into bountiful vegetable gardens, and each spring a new crop of beginners pick up trowels and plant seeds for the first time. They’re planting tomatoes in raised beds, runner beans in small plots, and strawberries in containers. But there is one place that has, until now, been woefully neglected—the front yard. And there’s good reason. The typical veggie garden, with its raised beds and plots, is not the most attractive type of garden, and favorite edible plants like tomatoes and cucumbers have a tendency to look a scraggily, even in their prime. But The Edible Front Yard isn’t about the typical veggie garden, and author Ivette Soler is passionate about putting edibles up front and creating edible gardens with curb appeal. Soler offers step-by-step instructions for converting all or part of a lawn into an edible paradise; specific guidelines for selecting and planting the most attractive edible plants; and design advice and plans for the best placement and for combining edibles with ornamentals in pleasing ways. Inspiring and accessible, The Edible Front Yard is a one-stop resource for a front-and-center edible garden that is both beautiful and bountiful year-round.

## Book Information

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Landscape

## Customer Reviews

I would love to see more complete, entire-yard layout of photographsÃfÂçÃ â Ã â besides that, it has great tips to design edible landscape and list of best suited plants, along with diagrams of the possible designs. It gives you plenty of information and ideas to start designing your own yardÃfÂçÃ â Ã â it's like a basic text book for edible landscaping which everybody should have one at their house.

Because the book's subtitle refers to a "Plan" for a garden, I expected something a wee bit more practical. But that's just me . . . I'm an engineer, not an artist. But what gardener wouldn't love to gaze at the gorgeous photographs in this book and imagine "what if"? I enjoyed using the book's photographs to dream about what my edible front yard might look like if I had buckets of money, plus more tillable land than my modest urban property provides. In my neighborhood, an edible front yard might consist of Swiss chard and an eggplant growing in place of the grass normally found in a 2-foot wide boulevard between the sidewalk and the street. The landscaping photos are beautiful, showing me what I could have if only I lived on a larger lot (suburbs, maybe?) and had the wealth to hire a landscape architect and a good contractor. But heck, there's no harm in dreaming, is there? This book makes the dreaming even more beautiful.

The edible front yard, is my fantasy. As a backyard vegetable gardener I've had to deal with a tall redwood fence, awkward pre-existing trees, and the inevitable shade they cause. But the idea of uprooting the plants in the front yard to plant an aesthetically appealing garden of herbs, vegetables and fruit trees to maximize the use of this sunny space? That would be amazing. This book tells you how to do it in an affordable and pleasing way. The book shows you how to plant plants that are both appealing, and edible. It talks about organic methods to keep your garden looking nice and pest free. There is discussion about how to plan and maximize even the most restrictive neighborhood to include a few harvestables. I particularly enjoyed the creative use of brick and the discussion of each plant and their distinct properties. Reading about this, made me wish to get started on my own front yard vegetable garden. Unfortunately for me, the slugs and snails would devour it alive and

what they didn't get, the gophers and moles would finish off. I have raised beds lined with sand paper on the outer rim to prevent the slugs in the backyard... But I'm not sure how well this would go over in the front. Without raised beds, a front yard veg garden would be impossibility. I like the idea of planting fruit trees in the front yard.

What you get:

- \* Instructions on how to build maintain and grow your own edible garden
- \* Detailed discussion of herbs and plants you can add to your edible garden
- \* Nice pictures of pre-existing gardens in a variety of locations and styles
- \* Chock full of helpful tips

Cons:

- \* May not be suitable for all climates
- \* Pest control methods a bit optimistic

Recommended.

5/5 stars

Yes - while visiting my son in Hawaii, his fiancÃ©e thought I would enjoy this book to read in my spare time - she was so right - I ordered my own copy and plan to accomplish my own edible front yard on my place in Mn. It is very informative, exactly what I needed- I am surrounded by pines/spruce trees -and I am into using the land productively and not just for show ! I love this book. I can hardly wait to see my place in the next few years - the idea to put my front yard in edible beds was just what I was looking for and didn't know - I was thinking of course In planting it in grass until I started reading this book - (I had built my home about four years ago, and am just now starting my landscaping). Thank you

Really disappointing. Most of the book contains cursory descriptions of a long list of plants, of the type that can be accessed easily (and for free) on websites like Dave's garden.

This is a good Introduction book for those who want to design their landscape using plants that are edible or have medicinal properties. The pictures are vivid and are excellent. Two things to note:

1. This books was written in Southern California which has a climate that allows for growing throughout the entire year, so be aware of the plants being offered. Some of them may not be suitable for colder climates.
2. My only negative about the book - Not every plant discussed in the book had a picture. For a book of this nature, all plants discussed should be illustrated.

Meh. Beautiful pictures though.

This book has been a favorite since I first began gardening several years ago. I was devastated when I thought I wouldn't be able to garden, until the idea of using my full-sun front yard dawned on me. This book was an inspirational gardening life-raft. I've bought it digitally and will eventually get

my own paper copy as well. Must have for the front yard gardener.

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