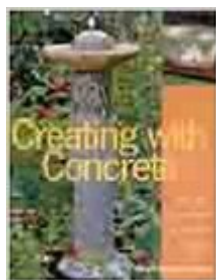


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# Creating With Concrete: Yard Art, Sculpture And Garden Projects



## Synopsis

Strong, versatile, and amazingly easy to work with, concrete is the ideal medium for outdoor art and long-lasting, practical projects for the garden. And, best of all, it doesn't cost a lot of money or require special equipment; everything you need is right at the local home improvement center, ready and waiting. A celebrated teacher has gathered the tried-and-true techniques used by sculptors and folk artists, and then tailored them perfectly for low-tech surroundings and personal expression. Work with molds; form over armatures; model or carve with concrete; take advantage of technical advances to develop lighter, stronger structures; and treat concrete surfaces with mosaics, embedded objects, incising, and coloring. For dazzling outdoor embellishment, craft Garden Critter Stepping Stones, a Trough Planter, Birdbath, Little Lady Fountain, and a jazzy border. Every one of the 25 projects will open up new creative horizons!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've purchased a lot of concrete books lately. The techie types especially, from ponderously named Institutes of Concrete Poobahs and Frou Frou Architecture publishers. THIS is the book that puts them all to shame. It isn't just for making artsy crafty things. If you want to pour a concrete sidewalk or make dog proof furniture or dress up the patio in a truly boring condo - buy this book and study it. Read it with an eye toward using it as a permanent reference work and lab manual as well as inspiration resource. (If you've gone to university lately, you'll know this is an amazingly low cost textbook - filled with color pictures, line drawings and detailed instructions that go way beyond even

the best lecture.) From forming and construction to finishing techniques, this book has everything needed to master concrete work in a residential setting. The raw material is dirt cheap. DIRT CHEAP. You can afford to give yourself an intensive course in concrete handling for less than \$\$\$, including the book itself and a bunch of projects. By the time you've made the acquaintance of just a few styles of Quikrete at Home Depot, you WILL be able to cast your own concrete countertops in the new house. No kidding.

Last year I made a birdbath, several troughs and some plaques with carved New Grange spirals on them with a hypertufa mixture I played around with. When I saw this book I took a chance and ordered it despite cringing at the Canadian currency exchange rate. I LOVE THIS BOOK!!! The instructions for the projects, the techniques and the huge array of special recipes for concrete mixes (depending on your project) are great. I am interested in making some small sculptures this year and I was amazed that you could create a mix that can be molded like plasticene. I can also hardly wait to try sandcasting another birdbath basin and imbedding some cut glass into it. If you love your garden and are at all creative (or even if you're not!) get this book and start to play. Have a concrete party! Garden sculpture you create with your own hands and then display (much to the awe of any visitors) is incredibly rewarding. Thank you Sherri for a wonderful addition to my library.

As the author of over a dozen crafts books I am often disappointed with how-to books that lack depth and breadth of ideas. Not this one! Not just a project book, the author provides lots of fodder for working out your own ideas. Many methods, mixes, and options for going about working with concrete are explained clearly. And the projects themselves range from beginner to much more advanced. I have worked with hypertufa and was looking for more inspiration and guidance in how I could take working with concrete further. This is it! This book will excite you and challenge you as much as you wish to be challenged. What amazing stuff one can do with concrete! I'm off to Home Depot.

Who knew concrete could be such fun? This beautifully illustrated book by well-known Tennessee sculptor Sherri Warner Hunter provides easy to follow step-by-step instructions for a variety of concrete sculpture projects. Projects range from the small-and-simple to large-and-sophisticated, but all are imaginative, colorful, and documented with precision. Clearly & logically organized, the book introduces the reader to basic concrete terms, materials & techniques. Projects are divided by skill level and each one includes an exhaustive list of materials, tools and related supplies needed,

and step-by-step instructions (which include clear photographs and diagrams for each step). Also included in the book are helpful lists of sources for materials, contact information for the artists whose works are included, and an index. Particularly noteworthy are the beautifully composed and presented color photographs of MS Hunter's marvelous sculptures, which clearly deserve a book of their own. A highly recommended purchase for public libraries of all sizes

was pleasantly surprised with how easy this book makes it look to work with concrete. I had only tackled making stepping stones before this book. Looking at the projects, when the book arrived, I felt out of my medium. But, the first two chapters make everything so clear. BUY THIS BOOK! There is something for all skill levels. I can't say this enough....BUY THIS BOOK!

First off I want to say, I absolutely LOVE LOVE LOVE this book. However, I also loved it when it was entitled, "MAKING CONCRETE GARDEN ORNAMENTS". I think Sherri Warner Hunter is an amazing artist and this book is absolutely fantastic. I'm only commenting because I am hoping this will help others by saving them the cost of a book they may already have on their shelf. If you currently own Sherri's book, "Making Concrete Garden Ornaments"...YOU WON'T NEED TO BUY THIS BOOK. Or vice versa...if you own this book, there is no need to buy the other. They are identically the same book, page for page. The only difference is the title and the cover photo, which gives the illusion that they are 2 totally different books. There were others that commented about this and unfortunately, I didn't notice them before buying. So I am sure I won't be the last person to do this. Instead, I wish somewhere above in the description it would have mentioned that fact because our comments will get buried under other new comments and I think people have a right to know, especially since we weren't able to "click to look inside" before purchasing. I can give this one away as a gift so it isn't a total loss, but still, I could have used that money towards another craft/garden book.

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