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.
I really bought this book to learn how to put up chain link fencing. If that is your purpose, don't buy it. It is a primer on basic fencing with essentially an introduction to what is available and some basic planning and fencing techniques. But almost nothing on the details of planning and erecting a standard chain link fence.

I own several Black and Decker guides since I remodeled my entire home. There are some nice step by step procedures in this book and it makes the projects seem very easy. I got some good ideas and actually changed my planned design based on some of the photos they used. I wish they addressed how to tie in a block patio into the wall. Other than that the guide has no faults by me. The kindle version views well and makes for fast reading. There are chapters on various materials used for wall design, as well as functionality of the wall. Therefore, there might be some useless chapters in here if you have a specific goal in mind.

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.

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.

This is a nice book. It is easy to follow, with plenty of step-by-step photos and information. If you're a
beginner or a pro this book will certainly help you with many projects.

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