



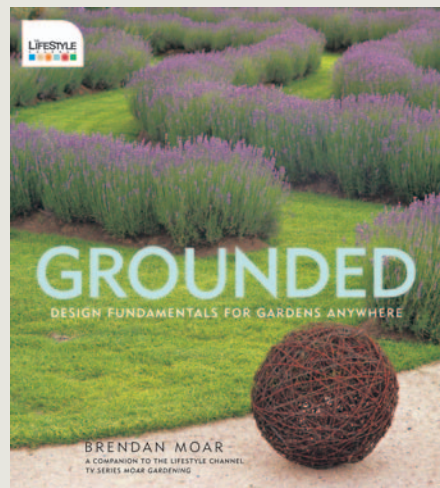
MURDOCH BOOKS

Grounded

Design Fundamentals for Gardens Anywhere

By Brendan Moar

Published September 2005 RRP \$45.00



So how do you create a garden perfectly suited to you?

'Though you may have seen a garden in a book or magazine that you think would be your dream garden, I would wager that the garden that truly is perfectly suited to you doesn't exist yet.' Brendan Moar

In *Grounded*, Brendan Moar offers new and original ways to create a garden that says something about who you are, where you are and how you want to live. This is garden design as a process of discovery, a chance to cast off gardening preconceptions and look anew at yourself and your environment.

Grounded opens with the basic principles of garden design that you will need to begin the process of analyzing, assessing, exploring and problem solving. It then shows how these principles are applied by looking at the evolution of Brendan Moar's own garden designs for a diverse range of owners and locations ranging from a tiny inner city yard to a large country property. Woven through the book are inspirational gardens created by Brendan's favourite designers and plantspeople.

Landscape architect Brendan Moar brings to gardening and garden design a uniquely varied background in photography and acting, in addition to his professional qualifications in landscape architecture. His talent for visual communication, his desire to entertain and his great love of the environment are all combined in his role as presenter of The LifeStyle Channel television series *Home* and his own series, *Moar Gardening*. Brendan is also gardening editor of *Inside Out* magazine.

Brendan's belief is that creating your own garden is your chance to enhance the simple pleasure of connecting with the outside. 'I personally love to do this by creating a space geared towards making the most of precious spare time, with beautiful spaces for friends and family to loll about in, drinking and eating, soothed by colour and calmed by plants.'

Grounded is a richly layered book filled with inspirational ideas and practical advice, plant lists, and hints and tips, and illustrated with garden plans, working sketches, mood boards and superb photography.

This book will stimulate you to think beyond the ordinary, as you create your garden and enhance the simple pleasure of connecting with your environment.



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Brendan Moar is a landscape architect but, as he says, 'I'm not a plant nerd!' What Brendan brings to gardening and design is a background in photography and landscape architecture. This diversity gives Brendan's work on The LifeStyle Channel's *Home* and *Moar Gardening* series an edge that is obvious in every episode.

Growing up in the regional New South Wales town of Armidale, Brendan moved to Sydney to pursue a career as a photographer. Somewhere along the way, his plans shifted and he made the move to the University of NSW to study landscape architecture.

Upon graduating he took up a position with the international design firm Hassell. After working for the firm for three years he found the desire to try his hand at performing too great and landed a role in the Disney musical, *Beauty and the Beast*. However, Brendan's acting career was just an aside to his true loves: gardening and design.

Juggling both careers for a time, an opportunity soon arose with The LifeStyle Channel who were looking for a landscape architect for a new series. Brendan's love of visual communication, the desire to entertain and his great love of the environment suddenly rolled into one job, or as Brendan says, 'It was like all the parts of me came together.'

Brendan has been with The LifeStyle Channel for over six years and in April 2004 he was voted Favourite Male Subscription Television Presenter at the ASTRA Awards. Brendan's work includes the series *By Design*; two specials, *Future Gardens* and *Future Homes*, over 50 episodes of *Home*, and two series of his own program, *Moar Gardening*.

'For me, the most humbling thing is that The LifeStyle Channel wanted a program on gardens that was born from my whole take on the subject. The team I work with have picked that up and run with it — brilliantly! I design the gardens we build, and along with other talented tradespeople, I build the gardens. The topics and how we approach them are generated by my approach and philosophy.'

Brendan has also written extensively for *Inside Out* magazine and is now their gardening editor. He is about to launch his first book, *Grounded*, the companion book to the *Moar Gardening* series.



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