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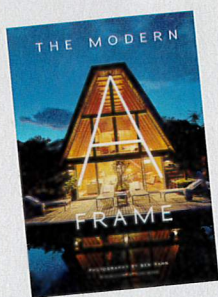
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CABIN FEVER RETURNS



When architecture and interiors photographer Ben Rahn traveled the country capturing 17 distinctive residences for *The Modern A-Frame* (Gibbs Smith, 2018; \$30), one thing quickly became apparent. “Nobody boring lives in an A-frame,” he says. “They all have interesting stories, and they’re all doing interesting things.” Whether it’s a luxe lodge in Beverly Hills built from a Sears kit in 1963 or a more unusual adaptation that floats off a dock in Seattle, many of the houses he profiles in this selfie-ready volume are rooted in nostalgia. “What I came to realize is that owners had some sort of childhood connection to A-frames,” Rahn says, be it a cherished vacation rental or a home they watched their father build by hand. “In some cases, they hadn’t even realized it.” —C. L.



ADVENTURE GOALS

BOOT STOMPING

Don’t have five months—or the cardio regimen—to hike 2,650 miles? Here’s a book that tells you how to tackle the epic Pacific Crest Trail, which turns 50 this year, in two- to nine-day doses. In *Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail: Northern California* (Mountaineers Books, 2018; \$25), author and photographer Philip Kramer uses his 2013 start-to-finish PCT trip to focus on backpacking the celebrated route, covering the 740-mile Northern California section from Tuolumne Meadows to Donomore Pass. The final in a series of four titles encompassing the entire trail, the book details particulars such as top campsites, water sources, noteworthy side trips, road access, permits, gear, and views—with 150 full-color photographs you’ll wish were poster-size. For daily inspiration (and motivation) follow @hiketheapc on Instagram. —Jess Chamberlain

NORTHWEST

Your CHECKLIST



PLANT

Set out seedlings of broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, chives, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, onions, parsley, spinach, and Swiss chard. Also plant seed potatoes and rhubarb. Sow arugula, beets, carrots, cilantro, peas, and radishes.

Bring out angel's trumpet, dahlias, fuchsias, and pelargoniums that overwintered indoors. Plant dahlia tubers right away. Repot others, keep them in a bright, protected place, and plant out after frost danger has passed.

Bedding plants make maximum impact when they're massed. Cool-season classics include calendula, English daisy, Iceland poppy, pansy, snapdragon, stock, and sweet alyssum.

Repair lawns by roughing up bare spots with a rake, overseeding, covering with a quarter inch of planting mix, and keeping it all watered well.

Check nurseries for favorite perennials such as basket-of-gold, bleeding heart, columbine, Corsican hellebore, evergreen candytuft, forget-me-not, primrose, rockcress, sweet woodruff, and wallflower. Plant immediately and water deeply.

Plant permanent landscape favorites, including cherries, crabapples, dogwoods, lilacs, rhododendrons, and roses. Among climbers, check out

fiveleaf akebia, clematis, climbing hydrangea, honeysuckle, passion vine, and wisteria.



MAINTAIN

Raspberries spread by runners, often far from mother plants. If they've spread to unwanted areas, dig them out, including the underground runners that produced them.

Mow lawns often enough that you never have to cut more than a third of the blade at once. That may be once every four days during peak growth.

In mild-summer climates, mulch beds with black plastic to help warm the soil. Next month, cut holes in the plastic and plant directly into them.



READ

To make your garden as beautiful and eco-friendly as possible, pick up *The Northwest Garden Manifesto*, by John Albers (Skipstone, 2018; \$24.95). Featuring the photography of David Perry, the book draws from Albers' experience creating thriving Northwest gardens.



"Find your favorite nook in the garden and make it your own."

MIKE IRVINE,
SENIOR GARDEN EDITOR



IDEA WE LOVE

All-season path

The weather has a way of doing its own thing—much to the chagrin of forecasters and gardeners everywhere. The best any mere mortal can do is anticipate the seasons and be at the ready for the occasional freak storm. With that in mind, Seattle-based landscape designer Scot Eckley (scoteckley.com) reduced the size of this existing lawn and laid down a wide border of crushed stone so that after a rainy night, people can wander through without tromping over wet grass. Bonus: The rocks' light color brightens up the garden, especially when days are overcast. Come winter, Eckley replaces the furniture with three terracotta pots planted with boxwood spheres. "They become a real simple, elegant focal point," says Eckley, creating a space that's practical and inviting throughout the year. ▲



Learn what to plant when with our year-round checklists: sunset.com/checklists.