

# Southern Living

NEW BOOK PREVIEW!  
RECIPES  
★ ★ FROM ★ ★  
COUNTRY'S  
TOP STARS

## WELCOME HOME

THE SOUTH'S  
PRETTIEST PORCHES  
BRIGHT GARDEN IDEAS  
INVITING  
TABLE SETTINGS

PLUS  
MAKE THE  
HOST A LO  
MONOGRA

# WHAT'S INSIDE

IDEAS & INSPIRATION FROM ACROSS THE SOUTH

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## SCREEN PLAY

The sittin's never been so good as on Southern porches like this one in Athens, Georgia.



98

## INSIDE THE BOX

Framed by elegant walls of boxwoods, an extraordinary garden in Orange, Virginia, is a work of art.

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## CHURCH MOTHERS

In honor of Mother's Day, we celebrate a group of women leaving a legacy of strength in the Mississippi Delta.

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## COUNTRY MUSIC'S GREATEST EATS

We bring you backstage and into the kitchen with some of Nashville's brightest stars.

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# THE SOUTHERN GARDENER'S ALMANAC

## FIND YOUR ZONE



- Upper South  
USDA ZONE 6
- Middle South  
USDA ZONE 7
- Lower South  
USDA ZONE 8
- Coastal South  
USDA ZONE 9
- Tropical South  
USDA ZONE 10

## CHECKLIST FOR MAY

### Choose Climbing Roses

Roses add elegance to any garden. Some of the best are repeat-blooming climbing types that can add color to an arbor, trellis, or fence. Try ones such as 'Iceberg, Cl.' (white); 'Cécile Brunner, Cl.' (light pink); 'Pinkie, Cl.' (pink); 'Cramoisi Supérieur' (red); and 'Zéphirine Drouhin' (hot pink). Shop your local nursery for a great selection of roses, or buy online from [antiqueroseemporium.com](http://antiqueroseemporium.com) or [petalsfromthepast.com](http://petalsfromthepast.com).

### Sow Sunflowers

Now that the soil has warmed, plant sunflower seeds. Their petals brighten any yard and attract butterflies and birds.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

## PURPLE CONEFLOWER (ECHINACEA PURPUREA)

This native wildflower can make any perennial border shine. Recent selections from the Big Sky series offer a range of new colors (red, yellow, and orange). Plant en masse for a long-lasting show. Coneflowers prefer a mostly sunny location in well-drained soil. To improve drainage, add organic matter such as soil conditioner (finely shredded pine bark), fine gravel, or mushroom compost. They are drought tolerant once established.

### TRY THESE COLORFUL CONEFLOWERS

1. 'Tomato Soup' 2. 'Now Cheesier' 3. 'Magnus' 4. 'Crazy Pink'

### Add Herbs

Continue to plant herbs. Most of them like full sun and excellent drainage. Plant them in raised beds or pots. Harvest regularly to encourage new growth. Add oregano, thyme, chives, sage, dill, rosemary, lemon grass, and basil. Feed regularly with an organic food such as Neptune's Harvest Fish & Seaweed Fertilizer (2-3-1). Look for herbs at your local nursery, or order online from [tastefulgarden.com](http://tastefulgarden.com).

### Support Your Plants

Keep top-heavy flowers such as lilies, dahlias, and glads standing tall by using plant supports. As tomatoes grow, train them on wooden stakes, bamboo, or cages. For tighter growing spaces, try a tomato ladder. Find a great selection of plant supports online at [gardeners.com](http://gardeners.com).

COOL FIND!

### FILL UP

Use this Haws Slim Watering Can to get water exactly where you want it. \$72.50; [leevalley.com](http://leevalley.com)

