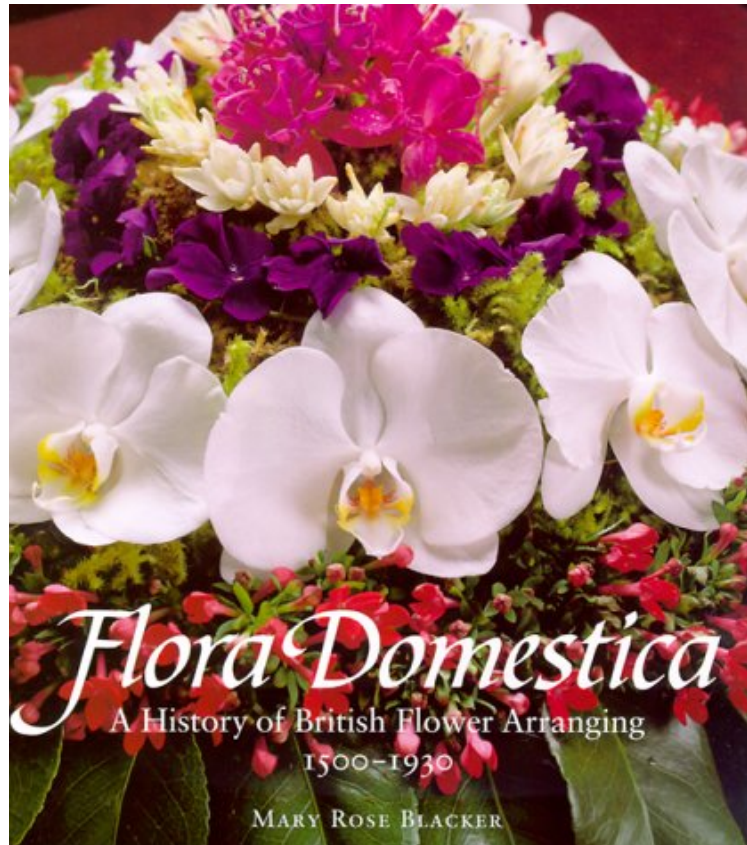


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For centuries people have been using flowers and plants to decorate their homes. In a lovely book that combines practical how-to advice with informative social history, Mary Rose Blacker details the use of flowers and plants in houses throughout Britain, Europe, and North America—from the delicate bouquets of the 16th century to the extravagant displays of the Victorian and Edwardian periods. Just as recipes culled from old cookbooks provide a taste of the past, so flowers and plants enhance the authentic appearance of a period room. Stunning photographs of specially commissioned floral arrangements, shown in the houses and great estates preserved by Britain's National Trust, offer ideas and step-by-step instructions for arranging Elizabethan wedding bouquets, Georgian-style garlands, Victorian table decorations, and much more. 200 photographs, 165 in full color, 8 3/4 x 9 5/8" MARY ROSE BLACKER has worked with Britain's National Trust for 30 years, and was research assistant to the noted architectural historian Gervase Jackson-Stops. Blacker, who grew up in Ireland and whose family includes such knowledgeable and well-known gardeners as Lady O'Neill of the Maine, was instrumental in re-creating the famous 18th-century flower displays at the Trust's Osterley Park in 1985. ANDREAS VON EINSIEDEL is an acclaimed photographer of interiors whose work has appeared in such magazines as House Garden and Architectural Design and in Abrams' Historic Interiors of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland.