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Terrain: Ideas and Inspiration for Decorating the Home and Garden User Manual

By Greg Lehmkuhl and the gardeners of TERRAIN
Published by Artisan

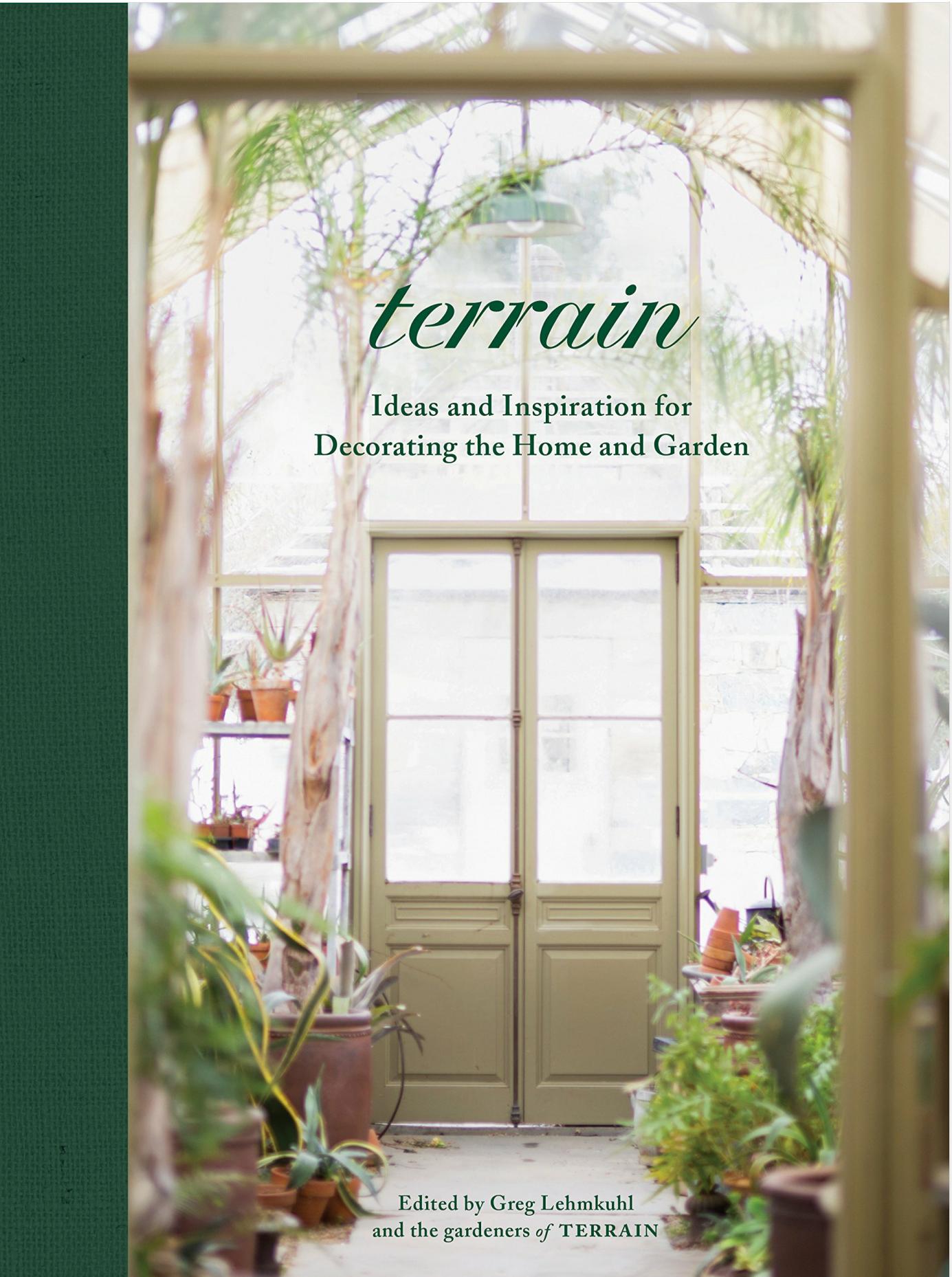
INTRODUCTION: LIVING WITH NATURE

"Terrain: Ideas and Inspiration for Decorating the Home and Garden" offers a comprehensive guide to integrating natural elements into your living spaces. This book, named one of the *Wall Street Journal's* Best Interior-Design Books, presents Terrain's unique philosophy of bridging the gap between indoor and outdoor environments. It emphasizes decorating with plants and inviting the garden into every aspect of home life, providing a fresh approach to living harmoniously with nature.

terrain

Ideas and Inspiration for
Decorating the Home and Garden

Edited by Greg Lehmkuhl
and the gardeners of TERRAIN



This image displays the front cover of the book 'Terrain: Ideas and Inspiration for Decorating the Home and Garden'. The cover features a serene view inside a greenhouse, with various potted plants in the foreground and a light-colored, glass-paned door in the center. The title 'terrain' is prominently displayed in green script at the top, with the subtitle 'Ideas and Inspiration for Decorating the Home and Garden' below it. At the bottom, it states 'Edited by Greg Lehmkuhl and the gardeners of TERRAIN'.

CORE PRINCIPLES OF TERRAIN DECORATING

The core of Terrain's approach lies in blurring the lines between the indoors and outdoors. This involves:

- **Embracing Natural Elements:** Utilizing branches, wild blooms, seed heads, and bulbs in arrangements.
- **Seasonal Integration:** Adapting decor to reflect the changing seasons, from forcing winter blooms to creating natural Christmas displays.
- **Creative Container Gardening:** Designing vibrant container gardens inspired by diverse palettes.
- **Handcrafted Decor:** Crafting wreaths from natural materials like vines, dried stems, evergreens, and preserved fern fronds.

TECHNIQUES AND PROJECTS

The book provides detailed instructions and inspiration for numerous projects, allowing readers to bring nature's beauty into their homes. Key areas covered include:

Flower Arranging

Learn to create unique floral displays that go beyond traditional bouquets. This section explores using unconventional elements from your garden or natural surroundings, such as branches, wild blooms, seed heads, and various bulbs, to craft arrangements that reflect the season and your personal style.

Container Gardens

Discover how to design ten distinct container gardens, each inspired by specific painterly palettes. These projects guide you through selecting appropriate plants and arranging them to create visually stunning and harmonious displays for both indoor and outdoor spaces.

Wreath Making

Explore dozens of ideas for crafting wreaths using a variety of natural materials. Instructions are provided for working with vines, dried stems, evergreens, and fresh fern fronds. The book also includes techniques for preserving materials, such as using glycerin for fern fronds, to ensure your creations last.

Seasonal Decorating

Gain insights into decorating for every season. This includes secrets for forcing branches to bloom indoors during winter, creative ways to use heirloom pumpkins as tabletop planters, and simple yet impactful touches like massing hydrangeas in weathered baskets. More involved projects, such as creating a natural Christmas inspired by Scandinavian and British traditions, are also detailed.

MATERIALS AND PRESERVATION

To ensure the longevity and beauty of your natural decor, understanding material selection and preservation is key. The book provides guidance on:

- **Selecting Fresh Materials:** Tips for choosing the best branches, blooms, and foliage.
- **Glycerin Preservation:** A technique for preserving fresh leaves and fern fronds to maintain their flexibility and color for extended periods.
- **Drying Techniques:** Methods for drying flowers and stems for use in long-lasting arrangements and wreaths.

TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON DECORATING CHALLENGES

Even with the best intentions, natural decorating can present challenges. This section offers practical advice for common issues:

- **Wilting Blooms:** Strategies for reviving cut flowers and extending their vase life.
- **Arrangement Stability:** Tips for creating stable and balanced arrangements, especially with larger branches or heavy elements.
- **Pest Management (Indoor Plants):** Basic guidance on identifying and addressing common houseplant pests to maintain healthy decor.
- **Material Sourcing:** Advice on where to find unique natural materials and how to forage responsibly.

BOOK SPECIFICATIONS

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND TERRAIN

Greg Lehmkuhl is the creative director of Terrain, a renowned garden, home, and outdoor lifestyle brand. Terrain was founded in 2008 on the site of a 100-year-old nursery in Glen Mills, PA, and has since expanded its presence. The brand is known for its unique approach to living with nature and has been featured in various national publications and media outlets.

Terrain's philosophy, as captured in this book, aims to inspire readers to integrate the subtle and surprising joys of nature into their daily lives, blurring the boundaries between indoor and outdoor living spaces.