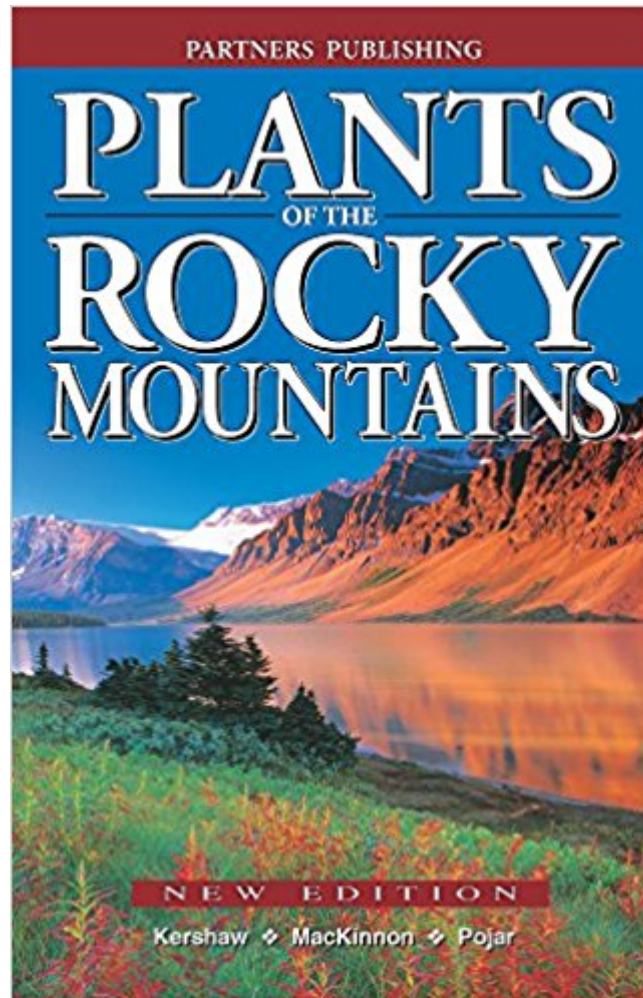




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# Plants Of The Rocky Mountains



## Synopsis

This outstanding field guide features 1,362 plants. Highlights of each account include edible plants, native uses of plants, habitat and ecology, similar species and origin of the plant's name. The book also includes a wildflower photo chart, over 900 color photographs, and more than 700 line drawings.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

LINDA KERSHAW has been an avid naturalist since childhood and focused her studies on botany at the University of Waterloo, earning her master's degree in 1976. Following her education, she has worked as a consultant and researcher in northwestern Canada and as an editor/author in Edmonton, while pursuing her two favorite pastimes--photography and illustrating. ANDY MACKINNON is a professional biologist and professional forester who works as regional ecologist for coastal BC for the B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range. Andy is also adjunct professor at the School of Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University. DR. JIM POJAR is executive director of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Yukon chapter and spent 25 years as an internationally respected forest ecology research scientist with the B.C. Forest Service. He is the author of numerous books and scientific papers related to the boreal forest, aspen parklands and coastal ecosystems.

This book is great as a brief overview to the Rockies' plant species, and I would recommend it for amateurs who are new to plant identification. However, it is not great for anyone who wants to go

more in-depth. This book is lacking in keys, which I find essential to identifying wild plants. The few keys it does contain are difficult to use. It does not contain any keys for identifying winter twigs, so it is mainly useful in the summertime or for evergreen trees. Because the book is relatively light it is good to carry around on a hiking trip, but I would prefer a thicker field guide with more detailed illustrations and keys to one that is light. My favorite thing about this particular field guide is that it has really great ethnobotanical information on the plants. I love reading the brief paragraphs about the plants' different uses without having to sift through an overwhelming amount of history. It is cool to be able to know which plants are edible, medicinal, or otherwise useful.

Great book! Exactly what I was looking for both for fun and to help me identify trees and plants of the Rockies. It's easy to use, pictures are pretty good and so are explanations. In addition to photographs, occasionally detailed drawings are included. You get common names as well as scientific, and you'll be given the low down on the benefits of such plants (ex. uses by Native Americans) as well as warnings (ex. common allergy inducer, itchy rashes, toxic, etc). For an all-around book on the plants in the Rocky Mts., I don't think you could find a better book.

We purchased a lot on the Mountain and enjoy long hikes. We have found many plants that we wondered what they are. We have not found one that was not in this book. Easy to use and find what you are looking for. Just the right size to fit in the pack on a hike. Used near Cimarron Colorado

As more of an "animal person" I found this book fairly easy to work with. I used this book when I went to the Rockies last summer for a graduate field course. This was an area where I had 0% plant ID experience. Fairly user friendly, I really like pages with all similar-colored wildflowers right next to each other so you can easily find which you're looking for or compare them side-by-side. When keying out plants the pictures were helpful but weren't always the best. I know you can only fit so much in a book, but when you have a plant that has other similar-looking options, it would be nice to have pictures of those or better descriptions of how to tell the difference, instead of only a list!

Very comprehensive and well bound and put together book. The price is on average with similar titles. The book is rather technical and the details of each plant is interesting and comprehensive. My biggest complaint is I would like to have more pictures for identification.

Not only does this book have great pictures, it is put together in a way that makes it easy to find the plant you are looking for. The flowers are even color-coded. If you see a white flower in the wild, just turn to the wildflower section, look at the pictures of white flowers and you are on your way! The extra facts, for instance how the plants may have been used by Native Americans, or the plants medicinal properties make this book a wealth of information. A must have for anyone from the beginner to the expert.

Indispensible for beginners and experts alike! The book begins with an introduction that includes info on different zones such as: foothills, montane, subalpine, alpine, disturbed areas, basic maps, wildlife, fires, and more. It then is divided and color coded for example: Trees-brown, shrubs-brown, wild flowers-yellow, grasses-green, ferns and Allies-reddish brown, Bryophytes-light green, lichens-light purple, and glossary-dark purple. Within each section, it is further divided by family. For example the tree section is divided into pine family, willow family, and birch family. At the beginning of this section is a key to help you identify the different families. The flower section includes a photo key, so that you can find the flower you are seeking at a glance, and then go to the correct page. Each plant includes info including common and latin name, description, where found and notes. The notes vary, but include much interesting information on the history of the plant. Some info on edible and medicinal plants is offered as well though the authors state, "This guide is not meant to be a 'how-to' reference for consuming wild plants." It also includes information on other plants in the "family within the family"...for example it discusses 3 different types of Tragopogon (Goat's beard or Salsify). It often gives pictures of more than one plant in the family-within-the family. It has a color photo for each plant, and many of them also include illustrations. I am a beginner, and my purpose in using this book is to study edible wild plants. One thing drew me to this book was that it includes much info on grasses, trees and shrubs. For learning edible wild plants, I also recommend *Edible Wild Plants: A North American Field Guide* by Elias and Dykeman. This book offers info about poisonous look alikes. Another wonderful aspect of *Plants of the Rocky Mountains* is its sturdy construction. It is well made, and appears that it will be able to handle many hiking and camping trips. In summary, I think everyone interested in wild plants could benefit from this wonderful book, particularly at such a great price!

This book is awesome. I've been hiking and backpacking the Rocky Mountain region for sometime now, and really wanted to begin learning the plants and flowers that I see all the time. This book is just great - the glossy pages make the book easy to travel with - get a little dirt on, or drop in the

grass. The colored key makes finding wildflowers a snap - just look for the color/key traits and go from there. In addition, I really like the summary given of each plant or flower, with medicinal qualities, or other uses provided. Altogether a great book to take hiking and just have on the shelf to review anytime.

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