



Spring into Action!

February 5, 2001

Treat your house and garden to a spring overhaul

February 5, 2001: Spring is traditionally the time to clean your house from top to bottom and weed out those plants affected by the long winter chill. But sometimes, not even a spring clean can make your home and garden look its best and redecoration is called for. Leading online retailer **Amazon.co.uk** has the perfect selection of books, videos and software to get you started.

From dingy hovel to dream house

Whether you want to completely rebuild your house from the ground up or just need a few tips on laying the lino, *Complete Home 3-D Design Collection* (£44.99) is the answer to all your DIY questions. You'll have a crack team of design gurus in your house as the seven separate software packages take you through the ins and outs of over 200 DIY jobs step by step.

So once you've laid the wood flooring and re-fitted the kitchen, it's time to reassess that lime green and purple colour scheme. Expert help is at hand in the form of Anna Ryder Richardson's *Visual Home Professional* (£17.99) which also lets you import photos of your room so you can see if that gingham sofa really will look good next to your distressed-metal fireplace. Still stuck for inspiration? Leaf through Linda Barker's *Changing Rooms: Finishing Touches* (£11.99) and let those creative juices flow!

It's a jungle out there...

If you don't know your hibiscus from your herbaceous borders and your water feature is more of a mud-pit, consult Alan Titchmarsh's "*Gardeners' World*" *Complete Book of Gardening* (£10.39), which is packed full of essential tips from the basic to the more adventurous.

Gardening is more fun from the comfort of your armchair! Sit back and watch the experts do all the hard work: *Super Gardening with Alan Titchmarsh* (VHS £8.99) and *Ground Force Dug Up!* (VHS £12.99) are great choices to motivate you. Or if you prefer a more "hands on" approach, try using your mouse--*3-D Landscape Professional with Monty Don* (£26.99) is a complete garden design package with four modules that allow you to create the garden you always dreamed of!

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