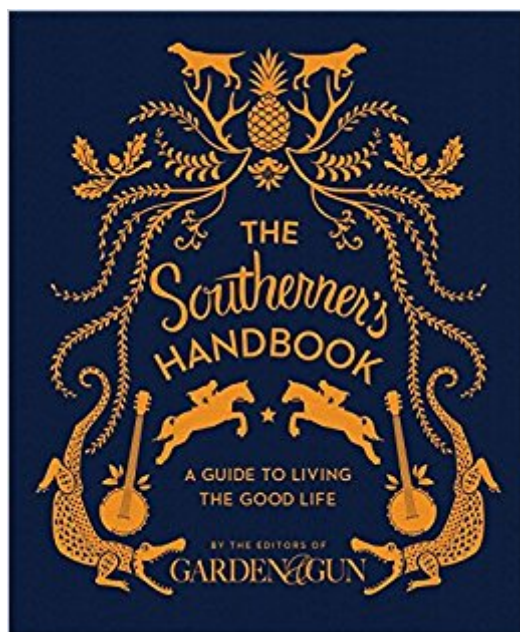


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The Southerner's Handbook: A Guide To Living The Good Life



Synopsis

Whether you live below the Mason Dixon Line or just wish you did, The Southerner's Handbook is your guide to living the good life. Curated by the editors of the award-winning Garden & Gun magazine, this compilation of more than 100 instructional and narrative essays offers a comprehensive tutorial to modern-day life in the South. From Food and Drink to Sporting & Adventure; Home & Garden to Style, Arts & Culture, you'll discover essential skills and unique insight from some of the South's finest writers, chefs, and craftsmen—including the secret to perfect biscuits, how to wear seersucker, and to the right way to fall off of a horse. You'll also find: Roy Blount Jr. on telling a great story; Julia Reed on the secrets of throwing a great party; Jonathan Miles on drinking like a Southerner; Jack Hitt on the beauty of cooking a whole hog; John T Edge on why Southern food matters; and much more. As flavorful, authentic, and irresistible as the land and the people who inspire it, The Southerner's Handbook is the ultimate guide to being a Southerner (no matter where you live).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a very nice book, lovely cover on the hardbook version. I am a transplant to Georgia from California. This book explained some aspects about Southerners that I did not know. The book has six parts; each addresses a different aspect of life in the South. The parts are: 1) Food, 2) Style, 3) Drink, 4) Sporting & Adventure, 5) Home & Garden, and 6) Arts & Culture. Food is, of course, a big part of life in the South. The book has a section of boiled peanuts, something I'd never had before moving here. It's still something I am not crazy about. Don't care for grits either, which is covered in

another chapter. There is even a chapter on okra. That one was very interesting. Pecan pie and collard greens also had their chapters. I was surprised that banana pudding wasn't covered. The section on style was humorous. I loved the chapter on "finger salutes". This is definitely a southern thing. Driving along the roads (not the interstates) when you pass someone going the other way, even a stranger, you lift your index finger, just to say hi. If you recognize the person you lift the index and middle finger. Another chapter addressed writing notes. This is a part of Southern life that I admire. You don't do email, or texting. You take the time to actually write a letter. The style of your stationery is also important. It even addressed the proper way to seal the envelope. Most of these "chapters" are only a couple of pages. However, one chapter actually rated SEVEN pages. Can you guess what it is? Sweet tea, of course. Southerners take their sweet tea VERY seriously. Three other chapters I must mention: 1) Southernisms: you've heard them ("That dog won't hunt." "Happy as a tick on a fat dog." Should have included "Bless his/her heart." 2) Southern music: Living outside Macon I'm very aware of this one. There's some big musical talent from the South. 3) Southern football: They take their college football almost as seriously as their sweet tea. There were several areas I had no interest in and just skimmed them (i.e., hunting and fishing.) Overall, it's a cute book. Native Southerners would probably rate it higher than I did. I received my copy from a BookTrib giveaway. This is an honest and unbiased review.

This is a well written book by many of my favorite contributors to Garden & Gun magazine. I especially love Julia Reed's writing, the section on sweet tea, How to Talk Faulkner & the care & seasoning of cast iron -- Well shucks, I like the whole book! BTW, I'm either going to buy another book or keep the one I bought for my sister's birthday!

Such fun stories to lose oneself in. I enjoyed this book for the light reading it provided. Someone wasn't having a good day or perhaps a good life when they read it..... Pity. I found it fun, frolicky & a bit flirty. Great gift for any Southerner who enjoys out of doors sporting or to entertain or be entertained. The pleasures of life are not to be taken quite too seriously when escaping within the pages of light reading.

I picked this book up while traveling to Texas. Being from Minnesota, I have enjoyed reading about the southern way of life. This book just touches the surface of what it means to be born in the American South. The contents of the book cover general views of the southern way of doing things. The book covers many topics...from Food to Drinks to Style and Art... I loved it. I have made the

Fried Chicken recipe and amazed my Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa friends. I found the ingredients to make the original New Orleans Sazerac Cocktail, made with Pierre Ferrand Cognac. It was wonderful to taste. I may be from the North, but I want to thank my southern American cousins for the great contributions they have made to our country. I look forward to telling wonderful and delightful stories to my family and friends, just like they do in the south, while sipping a mint julep...

Really enjoyable book, great gift material at a super good price. Only two comments that are negative - the size is a little strange (kind of short and squat) and the back has a large sticker on it, describing what's inside. It seems very 'anti-southern' having such a nicely bound book to have a huge sticker stuck on the back (including the price!). Try and take it off - it'll rip into a thousand pieces and leave a sticky gunk.

This fellow's story about picking a whiskey and ordering a Jameson in a Scots bar is classic. Great humor and keeps a person in tune with many aspects of a proud heritage.

A delight, makes you wish you were from the South...even if you don't hunt and don't like grits. (Can't imagine anyone not like grits for heavens sake!) Every segment makes me wish I was back down in the Carolinas, in the heat and the smell of the ocean and the cicadas buzzing for all they're worth. If you like the feel of the Old South, even if you're born and bred a Yankee, you will truly enjoy the lovely feeling of the old traditions, the culture (with a dash of snobbery depending on "your people") and the humor.

I had exactly the same complaints as other reviewers. I like the writing but the cover is flimsy, the huge sticker on the back cover is as distracting as I'd heard, and the "Southern Expressions (Slang)" are just WRONG!!! Most of them are too long, words don't flow and the syntax is stilted....what a hoity toity writer or editor *thinks* might be funny coming from a "typical colorful Southerner". I much prefer the magazine and was pretty disappointed in this collection.

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