

I LOVE YOUR LANDSCAPE!

**Your Ultimate Guide For Creating the
Most Beautiful Garden Landscapes from
Concept to Creation**

By Anthony Legins

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Do It Yourself Landscape Design - Where To Begin

It's no surprise that the most frequently asked landscape design question is "where do I begin?" or "how do I start my design?" I understand how difficult it may be. Especially if you don't have a clear idea of what you want to achieve with your design.

So, how do you get started? How do you begin designing a landscape or garden?

While each design is unique and each designer adheres to a set of rules and principles, I have found that most do-it-yourselfers achieve the best results by starting from the same place. Begin by planning out any necessary walkways, driveways, access routes, or walk spaces. Develop access to any sections you intend to create, as well. This will help to construct a framework that you may design around in numerous designs.

Of course, this isn't true for all designs, as some don't necessitate any access or travel. So, take this advice and apply it where and when you can.

In your landscape or garden, paths and walkways can serve a variety of purposes. Of course, their primary purpose is to provide a demarcated area for people to walk on.

However, their job in design and as a design aid could be to direct your guests to, through or away from another location in the garden. They're also an excellent method to break up a large expanse of lawn, meadow, or bed.

Let's start with the basics: walkways, paths, and other important pieces.

To guide guests or yourself to and from another region, walkways are required. Observe that practically every house has a walkway going to the front door, which is, of course, where most people like to welcome visitors. To "guide" or "direct" visitors to, through, or away from a location, paths, whether refined (brick, flagstone, etc.) or primitive (gravel, mulch, etc.), are required.

So, where are the spots where you'll require additional pathways or access? Maybe from the back door to the garbage can in the alley. Alternatively, you can walk from the house to the pool area. Alternatively, you can go from the pool area to the children's play area or the outdoor cooking area. You see what I mean.

In terms of design.

Borders and boundaries will be established as a result of the establishment of walk, drive, and access areas. You may design a lot of the landscaping surrounding your walkways once

they're built out. The same may be said about driveways and parking lots. You can plant beds on one or both sides of a path or utilize the walkway as a border.

If you can, keep it interesting.

If you wanted to put a sitting area at the back of the garden, for example. Of course, you and your guests would need to find a way to get there. Why not design a winding tour through other intriguing regions of the garden on the way there instead of arranging a straight path?

Curves and meandering routes provide more than simply visual appeal. They can also give the impression of additional space, travel, and distance. This is particularly good for tiny gardens and landscapes.

You'll have a strong starting framework for the rest of the design once you've laid down walkways, driveways, and access areas. Now all you have to do is create around them.

The Basic Principles Of Landscape Design

Regardless of whether you plan on "borrowing ideas" or designing your own landscaping design, you need have a fundamental understanding of landscape design principles.

This does not imply that you must apply each principle to every aspect of your strategy. However, simply grasping these principles will aid you in coming up with new ideas and increasing your creativity.

Great landscaping is in the eyes of its creator. So, while the principles of landscape design are excellent guides to follow, don't consider them landscaping's "must-follow" regulations. It's okay to be abstract and creative.

One of your key design goals should be unity. Consistency and repetition may be a better way to understand and apply it. By repeating similar components such as plants, plant groups, or decor throughout the landscape, repetition promotes cohesiveness. In the sense that some or all of the many aspects of the landscape come together to form a whole, consistency provides unity.

The uniformity of character of elements in the design might help to achieve unity. Character refers to the height, size, texture, color schemes, and other characteristics of certain objects.

Accent boulders are a fantastic illustration of how to do this. If you've ever seen a landscape design with one enormous white round granite boulder here, another large red square granite boulder there, and so on, you've realized that this specific feature does not generate unity.

This is just one example, but the theory holds true for all other elements, including plant groups and materials.

Creating themes is an easy way to bring your landscape together. Using a little garden decor or garden statuary is one of the simplest methods to create themes. It's easier to make a theme garden when it's about something you're interested in or passionate about.

If you're interested in butterflies, for example, you may design a theme with plants that attract them as well as statues, ornaments, and other decor connected to butterflies.

At least one, and preferably more, elements in your landscape should reflect unity. Harmony is achieved by using elements to represent a major idea in a consistent style and with a certain theme.

Simplicity is one of the design and artistic ideals. As a newbie or do-it-yourselfer, it's one of the greatest principles you can follow. To begin with, keep things basic. You'll be able to do more later.

Choosing two or three colors and repeating them throughout the garden or landscape is an example of simplicity in landscaping. Simplicity can be achieved by limiting decor to a minimal and sticking to a theme, as well as keeping hardscapes like rocks consistent.

Design balance is exactly what the word indicates. Equality. In landscape design, there are two sorts of balance. There are two types of symmetry: symmetrical and asymmetrical.

When there are more or less evenly spaced matching parts in the landscape design, it is called symmetrical balance. Both sides of a garden divided evenly could have the same shape, form, plant height, plant groupings, colors, bed shapes, theme, and so on.

You might recall doing something similar in art class when you were a kid. When you take a sheet of paper, paint it, fold it in half, and unfold it, it miraculously transforms into an interesting symmetrical design. As a result, symmetrical balance or design is a reflection or mirror image.

Asymmetrical balance, on the other hand, is one of the more complicated landscape design ideas. While textures, forms, colors, and other elements may be consistent to provide a sense of cohesion, shapes and hardscapes may be more haphazard. This style of equilibrium frequently contains separate or distinct themes, each with a similar but distinct type of attraction.

A nice example would be where the bed shapes or routes on each sides of the dividing line are different. One side could be flowing and curvy, whereas the other is straight, direct, and hard.

This can also be used to create a pleasing contrast. While flowing lines are appealing to the eye, the stark contrast between a curve and a straight line may be rather intriguing.

The form of your garden isn't the only thing that can create asymmetrical balance.

One example would be a garden with largely tall shade trees on one side and primarily low-growing flower gardens on the other, or a combination of both. Your imagination is the only limit.

Plants can also be used to create contrast and harmony. Color complements and contrasts, fine foliage vs. coarse foliage, round

vs. spiky leaves, and color complements and contrasts

Plant height, color, and texture might vary from one section to the next, but each motif should be constant throughout.

You'll hear me mention "themes" frequently. To achieve most of the principles of landscape design outlined on this page, many successful do-it-yourself designs follow a basic theme. A simple approach to achieve themes is to utilize plants and garden decor, or a combination of both.

Color gives the scene a sense of realism and appeal. Bright hues, such as reds, yellows, and oranges, appear to move closer to you and can really make an object appear closer. Cool hues, such as greens, blues, and pastels, appear to travel away from you, making an object appear further away.

Neutral hues such as grays, blacks, and whites are best used in the background with vibrant colors in the foreground. However, you can utilize dark and coarse textured plants in the foreground and fine textured and light-colored plants in the background to provide depth to a landscape.

Colors can also be utilized to draw attention to a particular part of the garden. A vibrant

display set against a backdrop of cooler colors would naturally draw attention.

To avoid drastic or sudden changes in your landscape design, use natural transitions. Transition is a term that refers to a progressive shift. It is best expressed in terms of plant height or color, but it may also be used to all landscape features, including but not limited to textures, foliage form or size, and the size and shape of various pieces.

In other words, a gradual, ascending or descending arrangement of distinct pieces with varying textures, forms, colors, or sizes can be used to generate a transition.

A stair step effect from giant trees to medium trees to shrubs to bedding plants is an example of a nice transition. In this case, a basic understanding of plant selection would be beneficial.

One of the landscape design ideas that can be used to "create illusions" in the environment is transition. A transition from taller to shorter plants, for example, can create the illusion of depth and distance (as in a painting), making the garden appear larger than it is. A transition between shorter and taller plants can be utilized to frame a focal point, making it stand out and appear closer than it is.

Line is one of landscape design's main structural aspects. It usually has something to do with how beds, hallways, and entryways move and flow.

Straight lines are straight and strong, whereas curving lines are more natural, delicate, and flowing.

The size of elements in relation to one another is referred to as proportion. This is the most obvious of all the landscape design ideas, yet it still requires some thought and planning. The proportions of the majority of landscape design elements can be carefully planned.

For example, if you're designing a small courtyard garden, putting a seven-foot garden statue in the center would be out of scale and, to put it mildly, tacky. A little four-foot waterfall and pond in the middle of a wide open yard, on the other hand, would be lost in the void.

Don't take this to imply that just because you have a vast yard doesn't mean you can't have smaller elements or garden design. Proportion is relative, and items can be resized to fit by dividing the garden into distinct rooms. The objective is to achieve a pleasing balance between the three dimensions of length, width, and depth or height.

When positioned in a corner or on the edge of a huge area, a little water feature becomes a focal point of the larger area while providing its own distinct mood. It can be used to create a whole room, sitting area, or theme. Other rooms and themes are also possible. For ideas on how to make rooms and create illusions, look at little gardens.

Also, good plant selection should be given careful thought and study to prevent utilizing plants that are out of proportion.

Unity and repetition are inextricably linked. In the garden, it's nice to have a range of elements and forms, yet repeating these elements offers varied expression.

Repeating items or elements that are similar is how unity is achieved. A garden with too many unconnected elements can appear chaotic and disorganized.

There's a narrow line to be drawn here. Too much of one aspect in a garden or landscape can make it feel unattractive, boring, and monotonous.

However, by repeating the use of numerous diverse elements, unity can be achieved. As a result, the garden remains intriguing.

Gardening Tools- an Overview

The majority of individuals are well-versed in the rules and regulations that must be followed in order for your plants to thrive in your garden. Your garden plants will need adequate soil quality, plenty of sunlight, and plenty of water to thrive in a sustainable manner.

Gardening tools are required to maintain your garden, despite the fact that they were given to you by nature. Good gardening tools will aid you in caring for your plants as well as developing favorable growing circumstances, resulting in improved plant health.

Gardening tools that aren't up to par can be harmful to both your garden and you. Gardening tools that aren't up to par might harm your plants as well as yourself.

Gardeners should invest in the highest-quality garden implement they can. When you call a garden tool "the greatest," you're implying that it does the job well and with the least amount of effort.

The following is a list of common garden tools and their functions.

Lawnmowers

The Luxus Push Reel Mower has a huge top cover that protects overhanging flowers and bushes. It is considered as the best by gardening connoisseurs. Another unique gardening tool, the American Lawn Mower Deluxe, has also been recognized as the greatest, as it can be used with only elbow grease and produces no pollution. However, this is not ideal for grasses that are too tall.

Garden Shredders

All garden shredders, in general, have a high-watt motor and a silent crushing method. This type of gardening tool speeds up the shredding process. Gardening shredders with an electric shredder are simple to construct and can prune trees up to 40 mm in diameter. The lawn shredder can also be used to shred rubbish from your hedges. Because it comes with a plunger for improved portability and built-in wheels, this gardening tool is regarded the greatest of all the garden shredders.

Cultivators

These modern gardening tools come with unique tines that help cut through hard, compacted soil with ease. Cultivators come with a complimentary border edger. It's ideal for moss removal, aeration, and thatching applications. This garden equipment comes in

handy when it comes to preparing vegetable plots, flowerbeds, and other areas.

Leaf blower

Smaller lawns benefit greatly from these gardening products. With a 200-liter collector, it has an endless height adjustment.

Edge Trimmer

This gardening tool has also been deemed important by the gardening equipment evaluators. This assists with hedge trimming and plant pruning.

Spading Fork

This is a fantastic gardening tool for aerating and transplanting your plants. Splitting grasses and perennials can be accomplished using this gardening tool. This garden tool can also be used as a manure fork, mulch fork, and hay sorter.

Mattock

Mattock is a useful gardening tool for breaking up clay soils and working with the roots of established trees. When you have a mattock, you don't need a pick or a hoe.

Before you leave the garden store, take a look at this gardening tool checklist to make sure you have everything you need to make your garden picture perfect.

10 Landscaping Design Ideas To Enhance Your Home Garden

A home garden is a space that can help your house stand out in a neighborhood. You may enhance the look and feel of your garden with a little imagination to make it stand out from the rest of the neighborhood's gardens. Here's a list of possible landscaping garden items to include so that everyone loves it, and you receive the credit.

1) The garden's boundary is also defined by the compound wall of the dwelling site. Use artwork on the inside of the wall surface to bring excitement to your garden. You can choose from a variety of themes, such as nature, waterfalls, and sunsets.

2) Make stone sculptures that are human-scale. These statues give the garden a human touch while also giving it a sense of size. Everything we use in our daily lives, including clothing, culinary utensils, office equipment, and computer parts, is based on human measurements. Why should a garden be excluded if this is the case with all other objects?

3) Use a fountain with artificial lighting to create a relaxing atmosphere. This heightens the sense of intrigue at night.

4) Instead of using regular lanterns, use Japanese stone lanterns. This is due to stone's rough texture, which contrasts with the smooth and fresh appearance and feel of plants in a garden. If you plan to utilize light bulbs inside the stone lanterns, this will produce "hotspots" in the garden. These stone lanterns can also be used to indicate the direction of travel along a trail.

5) Create a pond that flows into the residential building in part. This is a terrific method to integrate the interior and exterior of a home landscape in a seamless manner.

6) If your garden contains a pool, instead of having standard diving boards, get creative and build it into the shape of a house or a human emerging from an animal's mouth, etc...

Your children will enjoy it and will be remembered by anybody who comes to your garden.

7) In your yard, create private semi-open patios. This is a fantastic location to sit and visit with friends and family, and it can also be used as a tiny deck for a small party.

8) If you enjoy having pets, consider having bunnies, ducks, and a small pond in your backyard. These dogs have vibrant colors and provide a lot of vibrancy to the garden.

9) If at all possible, grow fragrant flowering trees. This is a completely free and fantastic approach to keep your landscape in good shape.

10) Create levels in your garden to separate different places based on the garden's function. A leveled garden always piques one's interest and piques one's curiosity.

Remember that landscaping design also entails experimenting with different materials and finishes.

8 Tips to Wow Your Neighbors

1. Creating a landscape is similar to creating a painting on canvas. Have a major point of interest and add multiple sub points to make your lovely landscape more intriguing, just like your high school art instructor advised you. You visualize it in your head, sketch it out, then fill in all the details you've imagined. Continue to refine your sketch until it resembles the image you're after.

2. Not in the mood to be creative? If you prefer to be more "concrete," try laying down garden hoses or strong rope in your yard to get a sense of how and where you want to split up your space. Remember to consider in terms of balance rather than symmetry. Some individuals believe that trees and flowers must be planted in neat, boring rows. When planting trees or flowers, use an odd number. When it comes to flowers, put several of the same kind together to create a great color splash. It's preferable to have a few well-placed, powerful splashes of color than a big number of small spots of color.

Close your eyes and think about what you appreciate best about your yard if you're having trouble deciding what your main point of interest should be. Is there a tall, single pine tree, a clump of birch trees, a rocky ledge, an old weathered fence, or something else that draws your attention? If you can't locate

something interesting that's already there, consider adding something you appreciate from a magazine photo or anything that struck your eye when driving through a lovely neighborhood. Don't try to imitate what your next-door neighbor is doing. If both of you are going for the same impact, they won't appreciate it and it won't seem nearly as remarkable.

4. Can't come up with a main point of interest? Why don't you make a place for a water fall? It's not a pond, that's for sure! You won't have to worry about algae or standing pond water with a re-cycling water fall. Simply select a variety of intriguing rocks or boulders of various sizes, position them to cascade down a slope, then finish with plants and water. Viola! Or how about a winding rock walkway through your yard? Or how about a native stone rock wall to add interest?

5. If you want your main point of attraction to be a tree or a group of trees, don't put them in the middle of your yard. It's far more fascinating to put them off-center. Choose a tree with a decent shape and something unique about its bark, leaves, seed pods, blossoms, or fruit rather than a large, overwhelming tree. While the poplar is a beautiful tree that grows quickly, it drops its leaves early and is left with barren branches in the early fall. The poplar is a better choice for a backyard tree or for constructing a barrier between your yard and your neighbors' yards. The vivid berries of the

mountain ash, the brilliant foliage of the sugar maple, or the bark of the white birch are all good tree selections that add appeal to your overall environment.

6. Always choose trees and bushes that flourish in your particular climate. It's tempting to select an exotic tree from a catalog, but you'll be disappointed if the tree you select isn't suitable for your climate. Trees are a significant investment, so make the best decision possible.

7. Flowering vines can be used to provide interest as well. Whether you use ivy to climb the brickwork on your house or a trumpet vine to wrap over an old weathered fence along the side, both can be employed as accents to your main point of interest. Perennial vines can be employed as a long-term addition to your landscaping plan. Virginia creeper, wisteria, honeysuckle, a climbing rose, or clematis are all wonderful choices for adding beauty to walls while also masking minor flaws.

8. Finally, add a bright flag to your landscape design for a finishing touch. Whether you choose a quirky garden flag or a grand, patriotic American Flag, both will add color to your landscape and offer intrigue. Choose polyester for a flag that will be flown on a daily basis for maximum longevity. Nylon flags are ideal for flying in light breezes. If you don't already have a flag pole in your yard, there are various different flag hanger options

to choose from. The spinning flagpole is meant to keep your flag from winding around your house, deck, or mailbox post. The telescoping flagpole expands up to 20 feet in seconds and then collapses to 7 feet for transportation.

7 Timeless Garden Decor Practices

Are you looking for a solution to improve the aesthetic of your garden? Do you want something timeless, natural, or stylized? There are numerous things you can do to make your outdoor living space more pleasant and welcoming while just requiring a few hours of maintenance. Here are seven different ways to decorate your garden.

Tip 1: Unadulterated Is Best. When it comes to adding things to your outdoor space, from furniture to statuary, you should always go for the most natural options. When you accomplish this, you'll be able to create something that blends in with the surroundings rather than standing out.

Tip #2: It's All About Flow. You can build a flow throughout a huge garden or landscape to make it a much more pleasant and organic atmosphere. A pathway flowing through the garden, for example, is vital since it provides a method to navigate across the space while taking in all of the main features.

Tip 3: Going Overboard Isn't a Good Idea. It's poor business to overcrowd a space with too much decor or even too many plants.

Instead, search for a landscape element that is more based on nature. Plants that are overcrowded will either perish or take over the entire garden. Too much decor can make it appear cluttered rather than luxurious.

Tip #4: Make use of lines. Lines from your house or borders might help to create a beautiful aesthetic in your garden. The house's roof line can be a line that draws the attention to something beautiful at the end. Make use of the lines you already have to create a visual flow.

Tip #5: When it comes to charm, the word "theme" comes to mind. While a specific theme isn't required for your garden decor, you should hunt for items that are similar or the same. For example, if you want to create a relaxing environment by placing a white metal table beneath your trees, make sure the chairs that go with it match. To tie particular portions of the garden together, use a white picket fence or other matching elements.

Tip #6: Keep it up. Many components of a garden will necessitate some level of maintenance. Don't let the fact that you haven't washed your white things in a year overshadow the fact that you pulled your weeds. Keep track

of any broken or misplaced goods. Make sure to put as much as possible in storage that can be broken during the hard winter months.

Tip 7: Garden decor isn't complete without a search for gorgeous patio accessories. Allow it to blend in with the settings you've created. Look for an organic, lovely product like teak in a wooded environment, for example, to maintain it appearing like it belongs there.

The aforementioned factors can assist in creating a wonderful and fashionable garden decor that is long-lasting, easy to maintain, and an inviting place to call home.

5 Steps To A Better Lawn And Garden

Much of the hard work of maintaining a beautiful lawn is already done for you if you have a lawn with a top soil base. Many of us, however, do not have this luxury, and even with a good top soil base, maintaining a beautiful lawn and garden requires effort.

1. Mowing a lawn is best done when the weather is cool and dry. Wait until the morning dew has dried and the afternoon heat has set in. Alternatively, after a morning watering, late afternoon or early evening is an excellent period.

2. A hedge is far superior to a fence as a boundary divider. It will provide you more privacy and keep your dogs and children inside – or out. It will attract birds to its nesting area and provide as a beautiful backdrop for plants and flowers.

Plant hyacinths near walkways and entrances to bring the beauty of your garden to you. Their beautiful scent will pervade the spring air and bring your garden to life.

4. Decorate non-garden items like lampposts and mailboxes with your garden. Plant flowers around these items to take advantage of the earliest to the later flowerings. White snowdrops, purple and gold crocus, blue

hyacinths, and various colored tulips are all possibilities. You might also add rocks to the area around the posts to add interest.

5. By mowing your lawn frequently in the spring, you can achieve simple but effective weed management. By removing the yellow blooms and inhibiting seed production, dandelions will be unable to spread. During the late spring and early summer, mow high. This will allow grass blades to shade the earth, preventing crabgrass from germinating.

Your lawn and garden should provide you pleasure and be a source of pride. You don't need to spend a lot of money on elegant lawn furniture and ornaments, or on pricey fertilizers and pesticides.

A little common sense and consideration can go a long way toward making your lawn and garden a lot more pleasant environment.

Lawn And Landscape Watering Tips

When it comes to keeping your lawn and landscaping in top shape, it's likely that you'll use a lot of water. Watering your lawn may be costly, both in terms of the environment and your cash, and most people are unaware that they can save a lot of time, effort, and money by following a few simple watering guidelines.

When it comes to watering equipment, there are several options to consider when it comes to your yard. If you have the funds, an automatic sprinkling system with a timer would be a good choice. These are costly, and they might be difficult to figure out, especially if you have a large yard with a lot of hoses. Keep in mind that subsurface sprinklers have been known to erode the earth, and they may be prohibited by city regulation in some regions due to the risk of sinkhole formation.

When it comes to manual sprinklers, there are a number of options. Traditional back-and-forth sprinklers, revolving sprinklers, and rotor heads are the three most prevalent kinds. Each of these models has its own set of benefits and drawbacks. Back-and-forth models provide excellent coverage, but they can be difficult to adapt. Rotating sprinklers are less difficult to adjust than back-and-forth types, although they are often flimsy. They also don't cover a huge area because of their close proximity to

the ground. Due to their reset cycle, rotor heads ensure maximum coverage of an area, but they can be difficult to adjust and sometimes do not effectively water the area around their base.

Watering your landscaping ground plants with drip lines is a great idea. Excessive sprinkling can harm your plants by causing the water to fall on the leaves rather than the ground, which can lead to rot or mold. Drip lines solve this problem by directing water to the earth beneath the plants, where it will soak up into the roots.

Various hose attachments can also help you water your grass as efficiently as possible. Spray heads with multiple settings, such as stream or mist, are the best attachments. These settings will be especially useful at the start of the season, when new plants are too delicate to be sprayed directly and require a gentle mist application.

When it comes to watering your grass, hoses can be a significant source of waste. To avoid leaks, make sure your hose's threads are securely attached to the tap. Hoses should be stored correctly over the winter by draining them thoroughly to prevent any water collection from freezing and producing little or big breaks in the plastic, and the hoses should be coiled and hung up.

Finally, don't overwater your plants. Watering during the day is pointless, especially on really hot days. The majority of the water will evaporate rather than seep into the earth. Wait until the evening when the weather starts to cool down. Watering during the dusk and darkness ensures that the earth absorbs more water than evaporates.

Remember that you don't need to leave your sprinkler on for very long; fifteen minutes is generally plenty for lawns, and manicured areas will probably need even less.

Planning A Flower Garden

You could be bewildered when it comes to choosing flowers if you're intending to build a flower garden. Although there is no such thing as a bad flower pick, there are several that may elevate your landscape from good to spectacular. When deciding which stunning blooms to add to your garden, keep these easy recommendations in mind.

First and foremost, how much natural light do you have? If your garden is in a location that receives direct sunlight for part of the day and shade for the rest, your flower options are nearly limitless. The majority of the world's flowers thrive in these half-and-half lighting conditions. If your garden area is exceptionally sunny, on the other hand, try growing flowers that can withstand direct heat as well as sunlight.

Sunflowers (of course) and daylilies are two flowers that thrive in bright sunlight. If your environment is more shaded, though, lower-light flowers like irises, tiger lilies, or honeysuckle are a good choice. These plants are more tolerant of the cooler temperatures in the shade, and their photosynthesis process has been modified to work with less light.

What about the ground? You can have problems getting many plants to take root if you're planting in a rocky region. Of course,

black, fine dirt with little rubble is perfect for flowers. If you reside in a location where the ground is sand-like, consider planting indigenous flowers, such as violets, which are best suited to growing in sand.

Now it's time to have some fun. It's time to choose which types of flowers you'd like to plant once you've figured out what you're capable of growing. On a piece of paper, sketch out your garden based on the various heights the plants are predicted to reach. Consider surrounding sunflowers with groundcover plants that will thrive in the shade of the larger plants. Pay close attention to the colors of the flowers and arrange them in a beautiful way. Feel free to plan a garden with a rigid outline, showcasing only blue and yellow flowers, or to allow your imagination and your garden run wild, with bursts of color everywhere. It's entirely up to you.

Keep in mind that a flower garden's first year is just the beginning. Plant perennials that will return the next season if you actually want to appreciate your garden to the fullest.

That will give the plants a year to mature and strengthen, and with any luck, you'll be rewarded with a beautiful flower garden that grows stronger and brighter each year.

Planning Your Patio Garden

A patio is a great place to unwind during the beautiful months of spring, summer, and autumn, or all year if you live in a warmer climate. When the lawn is too wet or muddy to sit on, the solid floor of a patio allows you to sit outside even after heavy rain and enjoy the fresh air and beauty of your garden. To add interest to your patio, you can turn it into a patio garden.

With the help of containers or outdoor planters, even the simplest patio may be transformed into a patio garden. If you're beginning from scratch and designing and building (or have already designed and built) a brand new patio, it's worth considering the garden element.

The reason for the forethought is that you have the ability to build something truly unique for very little money, except from the foundation and patio floor. Here are a few ideas to incorporate into your design so that your patio garden is more than just a flat piece of paving slabs.

Patio Design Color Scheme

When designing a new patio, it's important to think about more than simply the color of the paving slabs. You'll need containers to grow

plants in if you want a patio garden. Make certain that you can find containers or plants that complement the color of the slabs. Light brown paving slabs, for example, may appear attractive, but they are difficult to blend in with the surroundings or find suitable plants for.

Natural grey stone, on the other hand, is much easier to locate suitable planters for and may give your garden a lot more natural aspect.

That isn't to imply that you can't utilize paving slabs that aren't grey; just keep in mind the rest of the decor you'll need to complete your patio garden.

Consider your height

When planning a patio garden, height is vital, as it is with many aspects of garden design. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways, all of which can be employed simultaneously. Some instances are as follows:

1. Consider erecting a wall around the patio, which you may use to display a few potted plants. Columns and balusters on a patio or terrace can be very appealing and provide a particular character.

2. Consider a patio that is partially or completely covered. This allows you to provide shade and cover while also allowing for trellis on one side. The manner, you can grow

climbing plants on the patio, which will give your patio garden that much-needed height.

3. Select some tall containers that will stand out against your smaller containers.

4. Contrast the low-growing and trailing plants with some tall-growing plants and container-friendly shrubs.

Consider your surrounding garden and the view you have.

It's better not to think about the patio in isolation, but rather in conjunction with the view you want to see the most. This means that the positioning, as well as the garden design considerations in the surrounding garden, are critical.

You can, for example, put sweet-smelling plants adjacent to the patio to delight your senses on a warm evening. Alternatively, if you want a more secluded spot to sit, planting larger plants outside the patio in that region would suffice.

You may create a patio garden that will be a charming and stunning highlight of your yard overall, as well as a nice spot to rest on those lovely sunny days, by combining the above characteristics.

If you try to imagine it completely before beginning construction, your garden patio may turn out to be your dream garden patio.

Design Your Own Rose Garden

The rose has a texture and fullness unlike any other flower, and it comes in a wide assortment of smells and colors, from a bright yellow to a dark deep red.

Roses are native to the northern hemisphere, and there are over a hundred different varieties that grow in generally temperate climates. Although the rose has long been the flower of choice for expressing love, it was originally developed for therapeutic uses in medieval times.

Rose gardens are not only one of the most attractive flower gardens to have, but they are also the most challenging to produce and manage. This isn't to say you shouldn't try it; it just means you should do your homework so you're well equipped.

Finding the time to continue your hunt for rose garden material is one of the most difficult problems you'll face. Many of the articles you find on this topic will be helpful, but there will be some that aren't. It is critical that you locate the most up-to-date resources on this issue.

When planning your rose garden, you'll need to decide whether to plant red roses, yellow roses, rose vines, rose bushes, or climbing roses, to name a few options. There are many

different sorts of roses to plant in your garden, so think carefully about what kind of blooms you want to see flowering there.

If looking at your blueprint alone isn't helping you imagine your finished rose garden design, there is some excellent garden landscape design tools available. Much of the garden landscape design software was originally created for professional landscapers, but it has subsequently been adapted for the do-it-yourselfer.

Today, there are a plethora of do-it-yourself landscape design software tools to choose from. Landscape design software allows you to see a virtual representation of your rose garden design, as well as move stuff around and see your changes come to life. Most landscape design software applications will advise you on how to use and place the various types of roses available today in your design.

A well-designed rose garden will evolve over time, and certain landscape design software will allow you to monitor your rose garden's progress. When the rose bushes and plants have grown and developed, you can see what it will look like in 5 or 10 years.

Google is the most popular search engine for rose garden information. Finding rose garden stuff on the internet isn't difficult; it just requires some time and effort. While it is

tempting to feel that the internet is the best place to go for comprehensive information on this subject, it is critical not to overlook alternative options.

Keep in mind that not every nugget of rose garden knowledge will be educational. Consider subscribing to a rose garden RSS feed to stay up to date with the most recent information.

The White House Rose Garden, located in the west wing of the White House, is one of the most well-known rose gardens. There have been numerous Presidential ceremonies and press conferences held here, including the wedding of Richard Nixon's daughter Tricia to Edward Cox in 1971.

The garden was founded in 1913 by First Lady Ellen Louise Wilson, the wife of President Woodrow Wilson, when she rebuilt what was formerly known as the colonial gardens.

Build a Rain Garden

There is a new garden in town! It's (relatively) simple to install, looks great all year, requires little upkeep, and has a fantastically positive influence on the environment. It's no surprise that rain gardens are a popular new gardening fad.

During strong thunderstorms in the summer, storm water runoff can be a major issue. Water gathers up oil and other pollutants as it flows across rooftops and roadways.

Municipal storm water treatment plants are frequently overwhelmed, and untreated water is discharged into natural rivers in many areas. Storm water is thought to be responsible for up to 70% of the pollution in our streams, rivers, and lakes, according to the EPA.

You can help safeguard our rivers, streams, and lakes from stormwater pollution by taking responsibility for the precipitation that falls on your roof and driveway.

Many towns are encouraging companies and families to create rain gardens in their yards to decrease excess water flow. Rain gardens are specially designed gardens that are placed in low parts of a yard to collect storm water.

The plan is for the water to flow naturally to this garden. Water runoff is collected in the rain garden, which is then stored and filtered until it can be gently absorbed by the soil.

Rainwater can accumulate in a garden instead of flowing into a storm sewer or a local stream, where it will be organically filtered by plants and soil.

It's simple to set up a rain garden. Simply dig a shallow trench in your yard and fill it with easy-to-grow native grasses and wildflowers appropriate to your area.

What distinguishes a rain garden from a regular garden? To begin, a low location in the middle of the garden will be created to collect and absorb rainwater and snowmelt. This depression can range in size from a few inches in a small garden to a several-foot-deep dug trough.

Second, rain gardens are typically placed where runoff from impervious surfaces such as sidewalks and roads, as well as gutters and roof valleys, will be captured.

Third, rain gardens are typically planted with natural wildflowers and grasses that flourish in arid environments.

Finally, rain gardens are built to divert heavy showers to another rain garden or another area of the garden.

Your rain garden should be set back from the house by at least 10 feet. The size and position of the garden are determined by the yard. The best location for the garden would be in a natural depression. You can also direct water from gutter downspouts into the garden.

Water should not sit in the garden for more than two days; therefore, the soil should be adequately drained. A unique "rain garden" soil mix consisting of 50-60% sand, 20-30% topsoil, and 20-30% compost is advised. Before planting, dig this mixture to a depth of 2 feet into the soil.

Remove the sod and dig a shallow 6-inch-deep depression once you've determined the new garden's position. From the outside edge to the deepest section, progressively slope the sides. Use the soil you removed to create a slightly raised space on the garden's lowest side. This berm will help to confine rainfall while also allowing it to slowly percolate through the rain garden.

Stormwater will normally be absorbed in one to seven days if your rain garden is no more than six inches deep. This will help you avoid mosquito problems because mosquitoes

need seven to ten days to deposit and hatch their eggs.

Your downspout or sump pump outlet should be aimed at the depression in your rain garden. A natural slope, a shallow swale, or piping the runoff straight to the garden through a buried 4" diameter plastic drain tile can all be used to accomplish this.

The last touch is plant selection. Plant selection can be the most difficult aspect of creating a rain garden.

Plants must be strong enough to resist recurrent flooding while yet looking appealing in the garden. The ideal plants are deep-rooted, low-maintenance natives like asters and sturdy non-natives like daylilies.

The rain garden can be made up of a variety of appealing shrubs, perennials, trees, and ground coverings if appropriately arranged. Planting grass strips around the garden and applying mulch can also aid in water filtering.

For the first two weeks or so, new plants should be watered every other day. Your garden should thrive without any further irrigation after they've established themselves.

After the first summer of growth, no fertilizers will be required, and only minor weeding will be required.

A Guide To Japanese Gardens

Are you ready to try something new in your garden? Take a peek at the bridges in Japan. These lovely ornamental bridges transport you to the Far East right in your own backyard or garden.

Japanese bridges add refinement to gardens and appear particularly lovely when erected over a koi pond or a dry riverbed in the Japanese style. Japanese bridges are often complemented by a variety of flowers, plants, and trees.

If you're looking for ideas and proposals for Japanese bridges for your garden, you might want to explore online. There are some wonderful websites that not only feature the bridges but also provide information on how to plan a Japanese-style garden space.

The designs for several of these Japanese bridges are based on old drawings. Japanese bridges are beautiful and one-of-a-kind. Create a meditation zone in your yard with a Japanese bridge, as well as a calm area for reflection and dreaming. These are only some of the advantages of owning a Japanese bridge.

You could wish to start planning a Japanese bridge by measuring the available space. Check to see if the Japanese bridge is the right size. If

the Japanese bridge is too wide or too little for the location, it will not seem as attractive as it could. Consider the other items you'll be bringing into the room. Flowers, trees, and any other decorative components you plan to employ should all be coordinated. If you have a pond, you'll need to figure out which Japanese bridge is appropriate for it.

Even if you reside in New York City, you can add a little Oriental flair to your yard if you plan correctly.

An Introduction to No-Dig Gardening

Esther Deans, an Australian, came up with the concept of no-dig gardening. It was created as a labor-saving innovation as well as a way to rehabilitate severely depleted soil in a vegetable garden.

Starting with newspaper layers and adding lucerne hay, straw, and compost in successive layers, you can build a growing medium that is rich in nutrients, easy to weed, and encourages the growth of your desired plants without having to resort to heavy digging. The layers compost together, which attracts a lot of earthworms. The gardens are maintained by adding manure, compost, and other organic matter, and should not be dug up because this would destroy the previous effort. I've used this method to create vegetable gardens before, and it works well.

The notion of not digging is based on logical reasoning. Excessive soil cultivation, especially when the weather is extremely wet or dry, damages the soil's structure and causes compaction. Excessive cultivation might also discourage earthworms, which are a gardener's best source of free labor.

Some permaculturists and organic gardeners have misinterpreted no-dig to mean "never-dig," which I believe is incorrect.

Your no-dig garden will function well at first if you start with a poorly compacted base soil, but you may find that it does not perform well in the long run. The fertile layer you've created will attract earthworms, but we do know that they need to be protected from extremes of heat, dryness, cold, or wetness. They have been discovered to seek protection from harsh weather by burrowing deeper into the dirt, sometimes several feet down. If they are unable to find shelter in this manner, I believe they will perish or relocate.

In the long run, I believe that cultivating the soil before using the no-dig approach will provide a better environment for the worms, and hence a better garden for growing your plants.

Don't be afraid to attempt the no-dig method; you'll be happy with the results.

Low Voltage Landscape Lighting

Most homeowners who wish to light up their homes at night are turning to landscape lighting. Landscape lighting, often known as painting with light, is the art of enhancing everything natural and man-made in a manicured area around the home.

Landscape lighting is no longer considered a luxuries item in the typical to affluent community. When applied sparingly and subtly, landscape lighting is most effective. It can be an extension of your house's décor and extend the use of outdoor spaces into the home while providing safety, atmosphere, and space definition if properly constructed. It's also great for concealing unsightly elements like trash cans and compost bins.

Landscape lighting is used to illuminate trees and shrubs at night and to highlight aspects around your home that aren't apparent or noticeable during the day.

Low-level lighting can be used to illuminate paths and staircases for safety and security if used correctly. Even after the sun has set, landscape lighting allows you to appreciate your garden and other external features of your home.

Security

Landscape lighting is one of the most effective security solutions available. Residential crime can be deterred by landscape illumination. Landscape lighting in the right proportions around your home has been demonstrated to reduce crime by as much as 50%. Landscape lighting serves two purposes in terms of house security. To deter potential intruders from trespassing on your property, the lights might be used to scare them. If this fails, the lit regions will allow you or your neighbors to see any intruders as they enter your property.

Safety

Landscape lighting surrounding the house is usually done with low voltage lighting systems. Low voltage, weather resistant lights are the chosen light fittings for landscape lighting. If live wiring or terminals are contacted, the low voltage utilized decreases the risk of electrocution. Furthermore, if power supply transformers are used to lower the voltage, they separate the low voltage system from the mains voltage, increasing safety.

Not just the Garden

Although landscape lighting brings your garden and outdoor amenities to life at night, you should also consider facade or feature

lighting for the façade of your home. During the day, if the landscaping has been done appropriately, it should complement the house nicely. Why not extend the landscape lighting to the homes outside walls as well?

It is preferable to use narrow beamed lighting to accentuate sharp features and wide angled flood lighting to pick up flat surfaces. These two easy approaches create pools of light and shadows that will bring a house to life at night, even if it is dull during the day.

Installation

Even if you've never done any electrical work before, installing low voltage landscape lighting is simple. Prewired lighting systems are the most straightforward. Weatherproof transformers, sealed connectors, and pre-installed bulbs are included in these low voltage light fittings, which are totally prewired and ready to install. Simply position each light fixture linked to a string of wire where you want it, connect the transformer to the mains voltage, and switch it on. That's all there is to it.

Low voltage light fittings and transformers that are separately wired should only be installed by people who have the necessary experience. It is suggested that these installations be completed by a licensed electrician.

Remember to include a timer or a daylight sensor during the installation so that the lighting is automatically turned off during daylight hours.

Landscape lighting is often installed after the landscaping has been done. With this in mind, installing conduits or ducts in your yard is a fantastic idea. When it came time to run your low voltage wiring, this would eliminate the need for trench digging. Plan out where you want your light fixtures to go and install conduits or ducts accordingly.

Design

It's critical to consider the location of your landscape lighting once the landscape layout has been decided. Lighting can be used to highlight particular features in your environment, such as garden art, a water feature, or an uncommon vegetation.

Use a flood light placed at ground level and focused upward to draw attention to a certain tree, shrub, or architectural feature in your landscape.

When light and shadow are combined, dramatic effects can be created that are in stark contrast to the daylight landscape. Pool lighting can provide a pleasing reflection off the water or a tropical atmosphere. Lighting can be used to conceal evident landscape flaws while

highlighting favorable characteristics. The design of landscape lighting is quite comparable to the design of the landscape. The majority of landscape architects will include a lighting plan in their plans.

Budget

Low voltage landscape lighting is frequently a do-it-yourself installation, with a variety of solutions to fit your budget. Landscape lighting is also more accessible than ever, with a wide choice of styles and pricing. Although it may be tempting to go with the less expensive incandescent lights, the compact fluorescent solutions are preferable in the long term.

Incandescent lamps have a lifespan of 750 to 1000 hours. Halogens have a life expectancy of 3500 to 5000 hours. Fluorescent lamps, on the other hand, can last up to 10,000 hours. Low voltage fluorescent light fittings are more appealing than incandescent or halogen light fittings since they consume less energy. Fluorescent light bulbs survive longer than other types of bulbs because they do not get as hot.

Solar Lighting

Solar lights are an alternative to low-voltage lighting. Solar landscape lighting stores energy absorbed throughout the day, and when it becomes dark enough, it turns on automatically.

and stays on all night until the battery power runs out. Solar lighting does not require any wiring or other power source, which is an excellent aspect. Unfortunately, one of the disadvantages of solar lighting is that it produces very low amounts of light, which dims as the night progresses.

Building A Garden Fence

In your garden, privacy and shelter are two essential elements. In gardens that are exposed to cold prevailing breezes, the latter is frequently a concern.

Both of these considerations are critical not just for the gardener, but also for the plants in his garden.

Cold winds can be quite damaging to young growth, and frequent buffeting can cause a lot of root disruption. Although trees and plants can give seclusion and shelter, fences also play a significant role.

The selection of fencing should never be taken carelessly, as its appearance and structure must be carefully considered.

It is critical to have strength. The strength of a fence is determined by the strength of its supports. Strong posts, usually 4-6in (10-15cm) square, are included with most fences. Concrete stakes, which are exceedingly sturdy, are sometimes provided.

The avoidance of rot is equally important for wood strength, and unless cedar wood is used (save for supports), all wood should be treated with a suitable preservative. Creosote can be used, but it should be allowed to soak into the

wood for a few weeks before planting against it. There is a risk of stem and leaf scorch unless this is done, and it is not generally suggested for usage when plants are to be planted against or near a fence. Copper naphthenate preservatives, such as the green, horticultural grades of Cuprinol or Solignum, are a safer option.

Fencing styles

The most common varieties are bought as units or panels. They are usually 5-6ft (1.5-1.8m) in length, with heights ranging from 3-6ft (90cm-1.8m). A solid or close boarded fence is a design that comprises of vertical or horizontal strips of wood that are 6in (15cm) broad and 1in (2-2.5cm) thick, as the name implies. At the back of the panel, the strips are nailed to two or more supporting rails. These offer complete privacy and protection from the wind.

Weather board fencing is made up of wedge-shaped wood strips that are 1 in 2cm thick on one edge and taper to 0.5 in (1cm) on the other. Each strip is about 1 inch longer than the one before it (2cm). This design has the advantage of being virtually peek proof.

Climbing and trailing plants can be supported by trellis fencing. It's not a particularly strong design, but it can be utilized to good advantage to hide ugly walls or as part

of a fence design. It is commonly made up of 1 by 3/4in (2.5 by 1.5cm) thick wood laths that are joined vertically and horizontally to produce 6-8in (15-20cm) squares. The laths are joined to a more robust framing of 1in (2.5cm) or 1in (2.5cm) square wood.

One of the most recent developments in fence manufacturing is the selling of kits that are so precisely machined and complete that even a novice can assemble panels with ease. New design ideas have emerged as a result of these kits, and many of them can be transformed into modern designs. This is especially useful in the creation of patios when bold effects are sought. Many ultra-modern homes are being developed, and their owners will appreciate the improvement in fence appearance.

Fencing in the form of chain link or mesh netting is also an option. To survive the rigors of the weather, the greatest quality is extensively galvanized.

Plastic coating of chain link over galvanized wire is a relatively recent innovation. Dark green, black, white, yellow, and light green are all standard colors.

Beat the Weeds and Save Time in the Garden

New gardeners are frequently put off by the notion that it will need hours and hours of labor. A popular low-maintenance garden concept is to cover the space with decking and gravel and plant a few grasses and evergreen pots.

However, I've discovered an excellent approach to assist avoid one of the most time-consuming garden chores: weeding.

This happened nearly by mistake because I have a cat who considers any open ground to be a magnificent litter tray! I needed to cover as much of the soil as possible immediately, but I soon realized that ground cover plants provided an even larger benefit: they drastically reduced the quantity of weeds.

Of course, many gardeners like spending time weeding, and I admire them greatly; there are numerous physical and mental benefits to spending time outdoors among your plants.

However, for those of us whose time in the garden is restricted due to work obligations or physical constraints, there is a method to enjoy our plants with the least amount of bother. Of course, early ground preparation and planting will take time; nevertheless, this will likely take

significantly less time than laying decking and gravel!

Weeds are strong survivors and will rapidly take over any bare soil piece. Once established, they can quickly suffocate existing plants and are notoriously tough to eradicate.

The goal is to discover plants that grow in dense groups or spread throughout the ground via their roots. There are ground cover plants for each season when they are at their best, as there are for most plants, and those that look excellent all year.

A word of caution, though. Because some of these plants spread rapidly, which is exactly what we want, they don't know when to stop! As a result, you may need to prune them from time to time to keep them within their given space.

What should I plant?

Bugle (ajuga) - with purple, bronze, or variegated foliage; euphorbia - with gorgeous acid-green flowers in early to late spring; lesser periwinkle (vinca minor); begonias - also known as elephant's ears; and small-leaved variegated ivies - all give year-round ground cover, I've learned. Another benefit of these plants is that they are resistant to slugs and snails!

You can use aubretia, arabas, alyssum, and candytuft (iberis) in the spring and summer because they all hug the ground. Aquilegia – the old-fashioned cottage garden type - is very good for adding height to a border and keeping its foliage in lovely clumps after flowering. They also self-seed profusely, providing you with additional plants each year.

The hardy geranium is another of my favorite plants. Although some types do die down in the winter (weeds don't grow much then), the plants quickly rebound in the spring and offer ground cover and loads of flowers throughout the summer.

Herbs are another good choice for ground cover. Comfrey, feverfew, catmint, golden marjoram, and mallow are just a few of the many options.

That's all there is to it! You won't have to spend hours on your knees once your ground cover plants are established, and you'll be able to spend more time in your garden.

Tips on Dealing with Slugs and Snails in the Garden

Slugs and snails are one of the most prevalent challenges that gardeners confront. Even seasoned gardeners are tearing their hair out at the devastation these critters can wreak. So, I thought I'd provide a few tried-and-true, as well as some lesser-known, ways to help you deal with them – you won't be able to completely eliminate them, but you will be able to keep them under control!

They might not all work for you – a lot depends on how severe the problem is where you live – but it's worth trying at least some of them.

Barriers:

Because slugs live in the ground and may circumvent barriers, these tactics will be more effective against snails than slugs.

You can use crushed eggshells, grit, bran, or wood-ash or soot as barriers around plants in your garden borders. Slugs and snails, according to the notion, are hesitant to traverse these materials and will therefore seek their next meal elsewhere. Make sure there are no gaps in your installation.

Slugs adore oat bran, but if they eat too much, they will enlarge and die!

The deterring effect of petroleum jelly applied thickly around the rims of pots is similar.

You can buy copper tape with an adhesive backing to wrap around the pot sides, giving the snail a mild electric shock as it tries to cross.

Traps:

Use beer traps, which are particularly successful in catching both slugs and snails and can be purchased at a garden center. Fill the trap with cheap beer and place it in a hole with the top at soil level. You can also utilize out-of-date fruit juice or milk that is almost off the shelf. Alternatively, cut around 3-4 inches from the bottom of a plastic drinks bottle to build your own.

Cut a small hole in the skin of your half grapefruit and set it upside down on the dirt when you've finished eating it. Slugs adore it and will flock inside, where you may gather them each day.

Collect all the slugs and snails you can locate late at night, when they're most active, then drown them in a pail of severely salted water. They will simply swim to the surface and crawl

out if you use plain water. You can also harvest them during the day if you know where they hide — check beneath logs or bricks, plants, and any dark, damp spot.

What are you going to do with all the slugs you've collected? If you place live slugs or snails in your compost heap, they'll most likely stay because there's enough of food for them to eat. You can also put the dead ones in there, including those in beer traps, but first scoop out the dead slugs and snails from the salty water.

Predators:

Nematodes — microscopic parasites that kill slugs above and below ground — can be used as a biological control. You simply mix the powder with water and spray it on the soil with a watering can, which you can get from organic garden providers. This has a six-week duration of effectiveness.

Adopt some hens or ducks if you have the space — they adore eating slugs — and you'll get some free eggs in the process.

Encourage natural predators of slugs and snails to visit your yard by making it nature friendly. Dig a pond to attract frogs and toads, put out hedgehog food, and hang bird feeders. This will not provide a "immediate fix" for the

problem, but it will result in a healthier garden with fewer pests in the long run.

Create A Garden And Patio Design To Enjoy Year-Round

Retreat to a garden and patio design that is both gorgeous and easy to maintain throughout the year. What makes this possible? Plants that continuously bloom and a well-designed garden structure.

You don't need to be a landscape designer or a lawn and garden specialist to do this. Here are a few pointers for constructing a stunning garden and patio design that is both simple and affordable.

Take a bird's eye perspective of your garden and patio area as the first step. Make a rough drawing of your room and experiment with different styles until you find one you like. Get some terrific ideas from current garden and patio decorations while you're at it. Pay a visit to someone else's or a public garden. Look through gardening and landscaping periodicals to see what you like and make your own plans.

Choose a style or theme that suits you best... formal, casual, rustic, Southwestern, Japanese... the options are endless. Then stick to that style and theme so that the overall effect isn't muddled. You wouldn't want to put bronze garden sculptures of saints or cherubs next to rustic wooden wagon wheels, for example.

Consider how your patio will be used most frequently. You may intend to host a large number of guests for an outdoor dinner party. If that's the case, make sure your patio space has enough space to accommodate the biggest number of people from the start. Your patio may serve as a private, contemplative hideaway where you may soak up the sun, read a book, or gaze up at the stars. Determine whether you want to employ shade, open sun, or even a roof.

Now incorporate your preferred ideas into your preliminary plans, and you'll have a design that's ready to go in no time.

The next stage is to scale up your garden and patio design, which you may do using landscaping software or by hand. Select the flowers you want to plant, keeping track of how many you'll need for each month of the growth season, and the landscaping structures that will give your design shape.

Some people believe that a good amount of hard structure is the key to a stunning garden and patio design. Walls, fences, garden bridges, gates, garden arbors, landscape statues, garden fountains, and even a strong line of evergreen plants are what landscape designers refer to as "good bones."

Forms and lines are created by garden structures like this, giving your garden and patio design definition and dimension. Plus,

even when most plants are dormant and naked in the winter, your garden will retain its structure and sense of completion. It's incredible how just a couple of structures can yield such a pleasing result.

The majority of garden and landscape constructions are weatherproof. Trellises, arbors, and ornate fencing made of treated wood, cedar, and teak are excellent alternatives. Garden statuary made of stone, copper, or bronze will never fail you down. Garden fountains provide a lot of beauty and ambience to any garden or patio design; in fact, entire gardens have been designed around them.

After that, choose annual spring flowers and perennial plants that will bloom from season to season. Choose low-maintenance roses that don't require pruning or spraying and bloom constantly from spring through fall. Throughout the summer, fill planters with lovely flowering flowers such as Oriental lilies or verbena for a variety of colors. Plant flower beds in corners and along paths. Always keep in mind your local environment and plant according to your plants' sun and shadow requirements.

Create trails or walk ways that lead from one location to the next when you arrange your garden and patio design. Rambling garden walks are pleasant and charming... and they

may be a huge assistance to you as a gardener if they are thoughtfully planned out. Stone, brick, flagstone, gravel, or mown turf walks are all options, however grass paths require more maintenance. Beautiful expression can be found in the form of garden sculptures or sitting benches strategically placed along the path.

There are ready-made blueprints available in books and publications if you prefer pre-drawn garden and patio designs. This is one another excellent method to begin off on the right foot. Pre-made garden plans can be used from start to finish or parts of them can be incorporated into your own creative plans.

Garden Fountains - How To Create A Haven Of Tranquility In Your Own Backyard

From ornately carved wall fountains to floating pond fountains, garden fountains come in a wide range of artistic forms. A water fountain can be a nice element to add to the sanctuary of your backyard or patio if you're searching for a method to add a relaxing environment.

The sight and sound of running water may be very relaxing, and it can help to wash away the tensions and strains of everyday life. A beautiful focus point for your garden design might be an outdoor fountain. The soft trickling sound might serve to drown out the city noise and create a relaxing and inspiring atmosphere.

Outdoor water fountains can be powered by electricity or solar power. They are available in a variety of sizes and shapes to fit a variety of garden themes. Some of the various alternatives include tiered cascades, birdbaths, wall mounted, and traditional pedestal designs.

Mythical figures, animals, and cherubs, as well as more contemporary designs, are popular. A pond fountain not only contributes to the relaxing and soothing environment, but

it also keeps the water moving and prevents it from growing stagnant.

Many individuals are interested in patio fountains and waterfalls because they want to decrease tension and create a tranquil paradise in their own garden.

Water fountains have long been a part of many civilizations' gardens, and the calming effects of running water have long been acknowledged. Moving water in certain places of a garden, for example, can assist generate healthy chi energy, according to Feng Shui principles.

A water fountain could be precisely what you need to transform your yard or patio into a calming getaway.

How To Make Your Own Moss Landscape Rock and Garden Statues

Moss may give some garden components, as well as complete gloomy gardens, an ancient and established appearance. Garden moss, on the other hand, has the disadvantage of not always growing on its own. And even if it does, it could take a long time to establish itself.

Here's how to hasten the growth of a lovely green moss cover over your garden rocks and concrete structures. On resin statues and artificial landscaping rocks, this procedure does not work well.

To make a thin paste, mix a fist-sized clump of porcelain clay with 3 cups of water. Porcelain clay is frequently available at local hobby shops.

Then add one cup of undiluted fish emulsion and one cup of fresh, shredded moss to the clay mixture. A plant fertilizer prepared from entire fish is known as fish emulsion. It's most commonly seen in retail nurseries and garden stores.

Mix everything together and use a paintbrush to paint it on your rocks and concrete objects. Mist the garden to keep things damp but not wet, and don't wash the mixture away.

Keep in mind that moss grows in patches, prefers the north side of things, and thrives in cracks and crevices.

In a few weeks, you'll have moss on your garden statues and landscaping rocks if you use this solution in shaded gardens and moist areas.

Gardening And Landscaping: Doing It Yourself Or Calling In A Professional

With the rush and bustle of everyday life in the twenty-first century, many individuals have become increasingly interested in creating a relaxing, quiet, and peaceful living environment at home. Towards this end, an increasing number of individuals are recognizing and appreciating the advantages of gardens. Plants and flowers do have important life-enhancing properties.

Many people are faced with the decision of whether to plant and create their own garden spaces or hire a landscaping professional as a result of an expanding segment of the population expressing an interest in developing that perfect home garden — complete with lush plants and bright flowers.

There are advantages and disadvantages on both sides of the proverbial fence when deciding whether to "do it yourself" (when it comes to designing a garden and landscaping) or hire a professional. Of course, as previously stated, the twenty-first century is a period in which many, many people have extremely busy schedules. To put it another way, they just do not have the time to devote to designing the ideal garden or landscape for their houses. Obviously, a professional landscape artist is the ideal alternative for such men and women.

Gardening, on the other hand, may be a huge release and comfort for many individuals, exactly because their lives are so hectic. Spending quality time working the soil, planting flowers, and tending to garden plots and patches in general can provide a much-needed break from the machinations of daily schedules.

You might be one of those persons who wants to create their own flower and plant gardens. You may, however, believe that you lack the essential "green thumb" to create an aesthetically beautiful landscape. If that's the case, and you'd like to try your hand at flower gardening and landscaping on your own but need some instruction, there's advice and assistance available.

A collection of gardening and landscaping experts is now available to assist you in the conception and creation of beautiful outdoor settings. These consultants collaborate with you to provide expert advice and assistance in the design and implementation of a beautiful environment that includes exquisite flower beds and vivid foliage.

In the end, there are advantages to taking your own gardening and landscaping course as well as hiring the services of a gardening consultant or a full-service landscaping company. When all is said and done, you will

have gardens and landscaping that will make you proud and will enhance the appeal of your property.

Don't Forget Your Garden When It Comes To Home Insurance

While most people understand the need of obtaining contents insurance to protect their belongings from theft and other disasters, the contents of the yard are frequently overlooked, which may be a costly mistake if you have expensive patio furniture or other items.

According to a recent survey, we spend millions in the UK on garden furniture, plants, and equipment to enjoy what little summer we have. With the theft of garden and patio furniture on the rise, it's critical to check your home insurance policy to see if you're covered.

Another interesting finding was that while many people thought about securing their homes with security measures, few people thought about securing their gardens or patios. This has exposed them to the increased numbers of garden and patio thefts, which are estimated to reach approximately 1.4 million per year.

There are, however, a number of easy things you can do to assist safeguard your home and yard. One solution is to make it a practice to store all of your valuable garden equipment in a lockable shed. When it comes to securing

your garden, one of the finest precautions you can take is to make sure there is enough of adequate protection to keep criminals at bay; a basic solid fence is all that is required to keep prying eyes at bay.

However, even with the best of intentions and increased security, thieves may and will strike, so it's critical to double-check that your current policy includes items like furniture, garden equipment, and even bicycles if they're stored outside.

In order to cover such items, most policies will require a second policy; while some policies will have this openly stated, it is more frequently than not hidden in the fine print.

When shopping for home insurance, using a specialist broker is the quickest and easiest method to do so; not only will you receive excellent advice, but you will also receive the lowest costs. If your policy doesn't cover your garden equipment, several companies will offer you significant discounts if you purchase additional coverage at the same time as your home contents insurance.

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