

# Landscaping Ideas

Landscaping ideas are created in the heart, and in the mind. It really is amazing how easy it can be to create the look of a professional landscape renovation in your own front or back yard. It doesn't take a great deal of skill to make your landscaping dreams come true. All you really need is a little imagination, the right materials, and the will to roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty.

Take your time.

Planning is crucial to successful landscaping. The best thing to do when adding new elements or fixing your existing landscape, is to put it all down on paper first. Plan well and draw a diagram so that you can see what you are doing, and be sure that you have enough space to realize your goals. Take your time and consider what you are looking for in your yard. Plan around large unmovable items like trees and outside buildings including sheds and garages. Remember, you can't move these large objects, so be sure that they fit in with your landscaping design.

Ideas From Everywhere

Not sure how to get started with your landscaping ideas? There are many sources of inspiration to help you get on your way. You can gather ideas from home and garden magazines, local gardening stores or outlets. Consider taking a country drive and find idea starters in other people's landscaping. Seeing what someone else has done is a great way to create your own ideas and visualize your new backyard.

Know the Space

When you are planning the perfect landscape for your yard, consider the space of the area you are working with, and the elements surrounding it. For example, does the area receive full or part sun? Is there part of the space that receives only shade and no sun at all? Be aware of any drainage or watering issues. Plan ahead and you can avoid the disappointment of having planted your flowers in unsuitable growing conditions.

Artificial Elements

Consider adding texture to your landscape design with artificial walls or borders. Available in a variety of materials, these elements can add layers to a flat landscape, or emphasize the beauty of the natural slope of your yard. Create interest using lumber, railroad ties, cement blocks, stones, or simply rocks found in your yard. These are great creative ideas that are affordable and easy for almost any novice landscaper.

Keep it Beautiful

Whatever landscape design you choose, whether it is with plants or shrubs, with lumber or stone, be sure that you have the tools and the knowledge required to maintain the new design. If you are adding plants or flowers to your landscape, make sure that you feed and water them accordingly. You do not want your time and efforts wasted by having your plants turning brown or dying off. Weed your new landscape regularly to keep it looking fresh and maintained. If you have integrated lumber or rock into your landscape design, keep it clean and protect it so that it stays beautiful for many years to come.

A little creativity and a lot of effort will pay off with a beautifully landscaped yard to be enjoyed and appreciated for many years.