



# Landscaping: Tips And Tricks For A Great Yard

Is your yard an eyesore that even the local birds avoid? Don't worry, you are not alone. There are many homeowner like yourself who are improving the look of their property with innovative landscaping techniques. This article is filled with tips to get your yard looking fantastic.

Make liberal use of native plant specimens. Native plants are comfortable in the soil and climate of your region, so they are easier to maintain. These means that you will have to take less time to help keep them growing. You could find more info on plants that are local to your area at any gardening store in your region.

**TIP!** Find out about the climate and hardiness zones of the plants you choose. Also think about whether annuals or perennials will work best for you.

Carefully consider your plant choices, as this will determine the success of your landscaping once the planting portion is done. You want to avoid things like putting plants that need lots of sunlight in a shady area. If there is not much room for plant growth, it is not wise to place a tree in that location. Take the time to consider the needs of your plants and plant them in a place that they'll thrive.

There is more to landscaping than just planting grass and trees.

Landscape design also includes water features, decorative elements and walkways. You can add more depth to your yard by adding archways, pergolas, decks or birdbaths. These elements can be in various price ranges that can suit most budgets.

Before visiting a lawn and garden center to pick up plants and landscaping materials, take the time to get exact measurements of the work area. This will help you to figure out the exact amount of each product you'll need for your project. This will keep you from buying too little or too much of any item.

Always keep any existing structures in mind prior to any landscaping project. Be sure to incorporate structures such as gutters, sprinklers, and air conditioners into your landscaping plan and sketches. Call your city before digging to ensure underground lines won't be damaged.

Don't gather up all the grass clippings as you mow the lawn. The decomposition of the grass will help add necessary nutrients your lawn needs which in turn will mean that you will decrease how much fertilizer you have to use.

**TIP!** There is more to landscaping than just planting grass and trees. Add a little texture and fill out your design with accent pieces or structures in wood, iron, or even cement.

Learn which landscaping products should be top quality, and which one are the same whether they are generic or name brand. There is not much advantage to buying the most expensive

mulch or containers. Cheaper plants are often just as good, although they may be smaller and need more time to reach their full size. You need to examine plants carefully before buying them, however. Plants that are sold cheap may not have been given the proper care that they require.

## Ground Cover

Planting flowers in the shade often leads to disappointment. Ground cover is a much better choice. This can make your yard look beautiful, and it's also easily maintainable. Some options for ground cover include hosta and sweet woodruff.

Use borders that are curved to surround your plants. These rounded borders are more visually appealing than straight ones. Remember that when someone looks at your entire property, curved planting borders can offer a good contrast to the right angles visible in areas such as your house and your driveway.

**TIP!** You get what you pay for. While you can locate inexpensive supplies, the quality can be below what you want or need.

Those of you that want to do some landscaping would be smart to select plants that have unique leaf textures. Incorporating these plants into an existing landscape can offer dramatic contrast and interest to your design. Make sure they are dispersed evenly for maximum appeal.

Whether you want the neighbors to join you for a barbecue or you're trying to attract birds to your yard, this article gives you lots of

information you can use to do just that. The tools you have learned here will give you success. Just be sure to stay dedicated to the work that you do.

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