Renovating the home landscape

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Goals in Landscaping

- Organize and develop the site for maximum use and pleasure.
- Create a visual relationship between the house and the site.
- Reduce landscape maintenance to a practical level
Landscaping is

- More than just plants
  - Drainage
  - Erosion control
  - slope
  - Lighting
  - Hardscapes
    - Decks, patios, pools, fountains, retaining walls, arbors, etc.
The temptation to begin planting or building immediately is almost overwhelming.

Whether you are landscaping a newly-built home or redesigning an existing landscape, the results will be much more satisfying if you plan first.
Before you begin

- Decide what you want and need
- Develop a map to help you decide on layout
- Make a five year plan.
- Prioritize—both in needs, cost and location
- Be realistic!
- Be able to maintain what you build.
Develop a Base Map

- **Scale**
  
  1” = 10 ft.

- **Include**
  
  house
  
  drive
  
  trees

- **Exclude things that are to be removed**
Dream big!
Water Gardens
How much money do you have to spend?
Evaluate the Site
Irrigation

- If you want an irrigation system, place it high on your list—before you plant.
- Leave easy access to future sites.
Many people evaluate the success of a landscape in terms of the plant materials, yet most well-designed landscapes contain a good balance of construction and plant materials.
Match your style with your home
Look at your options.
Organize your space

- Define your public and private area
- Decide on what things need to be built
- Establish service area(s) as
Consider Circulation Patterns
If you have a large lot, break the whole into bight size chunks
- Visit other yards or public gardens to get ideas.
- Go through magazines and books.
- Don’t rush into something that you have to live with for years.
- Make a budget and try to stay on it!
Establish Viewing Perspective
Enhancing Views
Elements of Design

- Formality
- Scale and Proportionality
- Line and Flow
- Continuity and Contrast
- Accents
What level of formality do you want?
Creating a comfortable scale

- Avoid too crowded or too open exposures
- Trees provide a roof enclosing the area
- Leave open spaces
Formality Increases by:

- Planting in rows
- Using symmetrical layout
- Using geometric forms
- Using fewer kinds of plants
- Planting in groups
Create a landscape plan that flows by grouping plants in beds
Encourage movement
Pick the Plants

- Adaptability is key
- Then consider size
- Evergreen or deciduous?
- Next comes form
- Then texture
- Finally flowers
Choosing Plants

- Know the maximum size you need.
- Sun versus shade.
- Group plants with like needs.
- Allow room for plants to grow.
Color
Contrast Using Color
Monochromatic Color Scheme

Blends of the same colors offers continuity and a look like you had a plan
Analogous Color Scheme

Colors next to each other on a color wheel always works

Fresh Look Red Celosia &
Scarlet and Yellow Swizzle Zinnia
Complementary Color Scheme

Opposites Attract

Pick out one color from the cool side of the color wheel

Then the hot color directly opposite

Honey Bee Blue agastache and Bonanza marigold
Contrast by Texture
Adding Accents
Plan for the long term

- Landscapes are at their worst when new—they improve with age.
- A well-designed landscape will seldom look the same any two months of the year.
Know your strengths and weaknesses

- Do it yourself is great, if you have time and talent.
- Share the load with friends.
- Don’t be afraid to hire certain elements.
The Key to a Green Thumb is How Brown it gets in Soil Preparation

3 to 4 inches of compost, will loosen the soil for better water penetration, drainage, aeration & root growth
Plants come in several forms.

- Container grown
- Balled in burlap
- Bare root
Remove all wires, tags, strings
No fertilizer at planting.

- Know what the numbers mean.
- Better to err with too little versus too much.
- Once a year should suffice for established plants.
Solve problems while young!
Mulch – preferably organic
Water

- Every yard is different.
- Know the plants needs.
- Know soil type.
Choose wisely
Plan well
Your landscape will be a success!