

## Design Principles

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- Proportion
- Scale
- Perspective
- Space
- Focal Point
- Balance
- Line
- Structure
- Form
- Shape
- Movement
- Movement
- Repetition
- Rhythm
- Pattern
- Texture
- Unity
- Color
- Value
- Light
- Contrast

## Grounding Elements

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### Inspiration (Indoor Style informs Garden Style)

- Formal - Order and Balance
- Modern - Clean lines, Asymmetric
- Cottage - Informal with Privacy
- Asian - Natural elements, Follies/Focal Points
- Eco-Inspired - Supporting nature: Water-wise, pollinator, habitat

### Functionality

- Kids/Pets - Open Areas and place to relax
- Gathering - Highly variable from dining to relaxing by a fire pit
- Solitude - Enclosed, hidden from view, seat
- Food - Growing, Harvesting, Cooking (grill or outdoor kitchen)
- Wildlife - Pollinators, drinking/bathing, bat box, insect hotel

### Color (Plants and Adornments)

- Warm - vibrant, energizing, come forward
- Cool - calm, relaxing, recedes
- Combinations
  - Analogous - 3 colors in a row
  - Complimentary - 2 colors opposite each other
  - Complex - Analogous plus complimentary
- White - tends to be cool, but bounces adjacent colors so it warms up

### Adornments

- Containers - color, size, groupings, layering
- Walls - vertical growing, hanging baskets, wall accessories
- Art - sculpture, water features, found objects
- Furnishings - size, color, style
- Lighting - creates instant atmosphere

### Collecting Ideas

- Pinterest
- Flipboard
- Screen Grabs > Albums
- Magazine Cutouts

## **Making It Yours**

- Create a Boundary Sketch - Utilize grid paper and make the square a measurement that makes sense in your garden.
  - Measure the edges of the garden
  - Locate "fixed" elements such as trees, utility poles and overhead wires, structures, paving not intending to move, etc.
  - Make note of things to hide or highlight
- Space Allocations - Utilize trace paper
  - Using boundary sketch grid - make templates for site furnishings you plan to incorporate. If you don't already have them, be sure to have a general understanding of the sizes that fit your wants because things are usually bigger than they seem.
  - Review the Grounding Elements to inform the different areas to be incorporated into your garden design.
    - What are your functional needs?
    - What colors are you drawn to?
    - How will you adorn your space to create an atmosphere?
- Test in Place
  - Sit or stand in the locations identified for gathering spaces.
  - Are there any "Hiya Neighbor!" moments? Are there any sun/shade conditions you'd like to change?
  - Consider your options for mitigating your observations.
    - Adding Trees, or taller shrubs?
    - Plants with a trellis
    - Fabric shade sails
- Materials
  - Informed by who's installing, long-term maintenance capacity, need for evolution
  - Consider the variety of paving choices
    - Are there any paving materials you are keeping?
    - How will the new areas complement or detract?
    - Monolithic - One big poured in place - cast in place concrete, asphalt millings
    - Unit Pavers - Consider patterns and edge
      - Bricks
      - Precast Concrete Pavers
    - Natural Stone paving - raw or dimensional
    - Loose - Consider impacts to visitors with impacted mobility
    - Decking - Wood, recycled plastic, maintenance (slippery)
      - Height informed need for guardrail
  - Vertical elements such as walls, fences, planter beds (height variable), structures (pergola, trellis, archway, etc),
- Concept Thinking
  - Remember your grounding elements
    - Style informed curvilinear or rectilinear
    - Materials may also inform shape
    - What are your functional needs - make a note on margin of plan
  - Connecting the spaces - think of widths of paths, views (framing or hiding)
  - Note locations for potential "adornments"
- Planning It Out
  - Using your grid, begin to add actual dimensioned materials to your plan.
    - If it's a unit paver, you will want to use the incremental size to minimize cutting.
    - Look at lines of your house or existing structures to find alignments
      - This has been noted as one of the most distinguishing factors of a professional design.
    - Planting Layers (Tall to small)
      - Trees, Understory Trees, Shrubs, Perennials/Grasses, groundcover and bulbs