

1 LIGHT AS A FEATHER

With its burgundy leaves and feathery plumes, the fronds of Purple fountain grass (*Pennisetum* sp.) add colour and movement to a bed. Try this weeping ornamental grass with *Verbena bonariensis*, sedums and salvias.





2 BOWLED OVER

Create a view from every angle with bowl planters. Made out of lightweight fibreglass they're perfect for mixed plantings of topiary trees plus structural, low-growing and trailing plants.

You don't have to be a landscape designer to create a lovely garden – you just need to steal their tricks of the trade! And one of their best-kept secrets? Hold the flowers. That's right! Think structure and form, and plant at every level, with groundcovers, climbers, easy espalier and decorative planters. Use curves, spheres and angular lines to trick the eye and create visual interest. ▶

go glam

Check out these 14 ideas from a landscape designer to zhooosh up your place

AND GORGEOUS



3 FALL IN LINE

If you love a bit of green underfoot but don't want to look after a lawn, opt for the best of both worlds with oversized pavers and strips of a groundcover like *Dichondra repens* or mini mondo grass in between.



4

GOO
Contrasts
and
small
strap
trees

D FORM
Fast foliage forms
hapes for depth
dimension. Layer
-leaved spheres with
py-leaved plants and
branching overhead.



5

GREEN THE SCENE

No garden beds? No worries. Here, there was a basement area under the front garden, but whatever the reason, raised beds and decorative planters can create a fantastic garden. They're easier on your back, too!



MEET THE DESIGNER

Award-winning landscaper Jane Jones has over 20 years' horticultural experience and works to create inspiring spaces that complement her clients' homes and lifestyles. With a focus on living sculptural features, her aim is to create sustainable gardens that will continue to evolve and give joy over time (jjl.com.au).

6

COME INTO FLOWER

For a garden to look good all year, evergreens are a must. Lay a backdrop of greenery and rely on perennial plants that flower in different seasons, such as clivias, dahlias, hostas and feisty foxgloves, to provide pops of colour throughout the year.



7

DINING OUT

A big table, cushioned chairs and a bio-ethanol fire with stone chimney make for an inviting alfresco eating area.

“ Grow plants you love to look at and your garden will never feel like hard work ”



8

GO UP THE WALL

Attach wires to a masonry fence for an easy way to espalier fruit trees or other plants. Use braided wire and add turnbuckles so you can tighten them as the plant grows. Secure the branches to the wire using soft ties. >



9

A ROSY GLOW

Rosette-style succulents, such as echeveria, are an easy-care way to add colour.



PLANT PICKS

- *Acer rubrum* 'Armstrong'
- Luma cloud trees
- *Syzygium australe*
- Star jasmine
- Wisteria
- Boston ivy
- *Buxus sempervirens*
- *Westringia fruticosa*
- *Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Lacecap white'



10

PUT ON A PEDESTAL

An urn planter on a plinth is a great way to add height in an area where you can't plant trees. Here, an ornamental grass flanks French doors.



11

RAISE THE ROOF

Now you see it, now you don't! You may not have the subterranean space for a retractable carport roof, but you can use this idea another way. With clever design you can create a parking space that doubles as a pergola for entertaining. The key is in the materials, so think pavers or tiles instead of concrete and choose a structure to suit the style of your home. Also don't forget strategically placed hedges for some front garden privacy!



JASON HODGES

G'day DIYers!

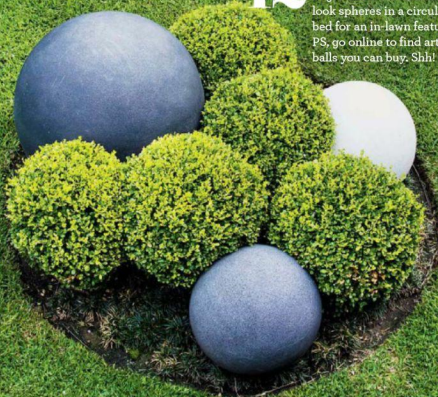
Come with me on a tour of three top gardens from one talented landscape designer to get tips for your own patch on *BHG TV*, Friday 22 June at 7pm, on Channel 7. Apologies, may be subject to change

GO TO BHG.COM.AU FOR MORE GARDEN TIPS AND TRICKS.



12 HAVING A BALL

Take traditional topiary balls to ground level with concrete-look spheres in a circular bed for an in-lawn feature. PS, go online to find artificial balls you can buy. Shh!



13 ON THE FACE OF IT

Succulents enjoy a reputation as sun lovers, but many like a break from harsh afternoon light and could be just the thing for a bright side passage. In this triple-faced urn planter, *Echeveria imbricata* in flower and trailing *Senecio* 'String of beans' create the look of a garden goddess with an elaborate hairdo!



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AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Defined edges? Yes. Straight lines? No! Give garden beds, lawn areas and hardscaping shapely curves for a lush-looking landscape. ■

