

AUSTRALIAN

where inspiration lives

HOUSE & GARDEN

100%
Australian
homes

60+
BRILLIANT
GARDEN
IDEAS

Fabulous makeovers
for homes of all eras

STEP OUT IN STYLE

A decorator's
GUIDE TO
FLOORING

HOME
DECOR
UNDER
\$150

In the
kitchen

Andrew
McConnell

renovation
REWARDS

Warm &
liveable
FAMILY
ROOMS

TOP TIPS FROM HAPPY UPSCALERS & CLEVER DOWNSIZERS



60+

DELIGHTFUL GARDEN IDEAS

Create a little magic in your garden with tips from a coterie of top Australian designers.

- 1** / Ian Barker, Ian Barker Gardens, Victoria. **2** / Paul Stein, Seed Landscape Design, Queensland. **3** / Peter Fudge, Peter Fudge Gardens, NSW. **4** / Janine Mendel, CultivArt Landscape Design, WA. **5** / Peta Donaldson, Natural Design, Victoria. **6** / Phillip Withers, Phillip Withers Landscape Design, Victoria. **7** / James Hayter, Oxigen Landscape Architects+Urban Designers, South Australia. **8** / Brent Reid, Candeo Design, Victoria. **9** / Scott Leung, Eckersley Garden Architecture, Victoria. **10** / Matt Cantwell, Secret Gardens, NSW. FOR CONTACT DETAILS, SEE PAGE 208.

Produced by Elizabeth Wilson. Leaf image from Alamy.



1

COVER STAR

EAGER TO TRANSFORM A FORGETTABLE FENCE OR PRETTY UP A PERGOLA POST IN RECORD TIME? FOR SOUTHERN CLIMES, MELBOURNE LANDSCAPE DESIGNER SCOTT LEUNG FAVOURS BOSTON IVY (*PARTHENOCISSUS TRICUSPIDATA*), SEEN HERE AS A SPECTACULAR FEATURE WALL: "IT'S QUICK-GROWING, DECIDUOUS AND SELF-ADHERING"

Photograph from Getty Images (pagoda tree). Garden showcase by Natural Design from the 2014 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (opposite, top left).



2 / Shade solutions

Adelaide summers can be scorching, so planting for shade is all-important. Local landscape architect James Hayter's recommendations for shade-giving trees are:

- ✦ **Crepe myrtles** Perfect for a small garden, given their medium height and prolific flowering. I use both the white-flowering *Lagerstroemia indica* 'Natchez' [pictured above] and pink-flowering 'Sioux'.
- ✦ **Pagoda tree (*Sophora japonica*)** Larger than the crepe myrtle, this tree provides wonderful dappled shade. It's a focal point in our courtyard, we live under it summer and winter.
- ✦ **Turkey oak (*Quercus cerris*)** Too big for many gardens, but great if you have the space. It's utterly beautiful, with particularly spectacular autumn colour.



3 / IGNITE THE FLAMES

A flickering fire adds a special sparkle to soirees in the garden. "I absolutely adore fire. It provides warmth and an ambient glow that is so welcoming," says Melbourne garden designer Peta Donaldson. Her garden features a fireplace with traditional wood fire plus a portable fire pit fuelled by ethanol. "I love the romance of a crackling wood fire but the ethanol fire is more instantaneous, perfect for use in the courtyard."



4 For a sculptural and eye-catching plant, Sydney landscape designer Peter Fudge recommends *Furcraea foetida*, an ornamental succulent with variegated, sword-like leaves that grow to 1.2m in length. "I love it," says Peter. "It grows in sun or shade and is very low-maintenance."



5 / SMALL SPACE, BIG IDEAS

The key to making a small space work is to "think big", says landscape designer Peter Fudge. "Your aim is to create the illusion that the garden is larger than it really is. Use large pots, even if that means using fewer pots so the space remains uncluttered." Plant a small tree – perhaps a frangipani or an olive tree – in a large pot, underplant it with succulents and grow a creeper like *Dichondra* 'Silver Falls' (left) to spill over the edges.

6 / Make a splash

Water is a magical element in any garden design and can take many forms. "Even a simple, elliptical water bowl will bring reflections and movement to a corner of the garden. It also provides a water source for birdlife," says Peta Donaldson.

FOUR OF A KIND...
LANTERNS



7 Lani hurricane lamp, \$30, Emporium; (03) 9474 1300 or www.emporiumhome.com.au.



8 Oak Base hurricane lantern, \$50, Freedom; 1300 135 588 or www.freedom.com.au.



9 Gem lantern, \$80, Amalfi; (03) 9474 1300 or www.amalfihomewares.com.au.



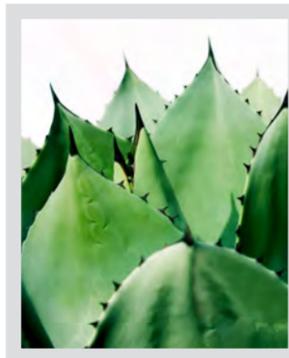
10 Glass lantern in Grey, \$99, Top3 by Design; 1300 867 333 or www.top3.com.au.



COURTYARD
CREATIVE

With careful planning, you can gain huge rewards from small spaces. Perth-based landscape designer Janine Mendel specialises in small gardens and has published a book on the topic (*Urban Sanctuary*, Hardie Grant, \$59.95). Here are her tips for successful courtyard design:

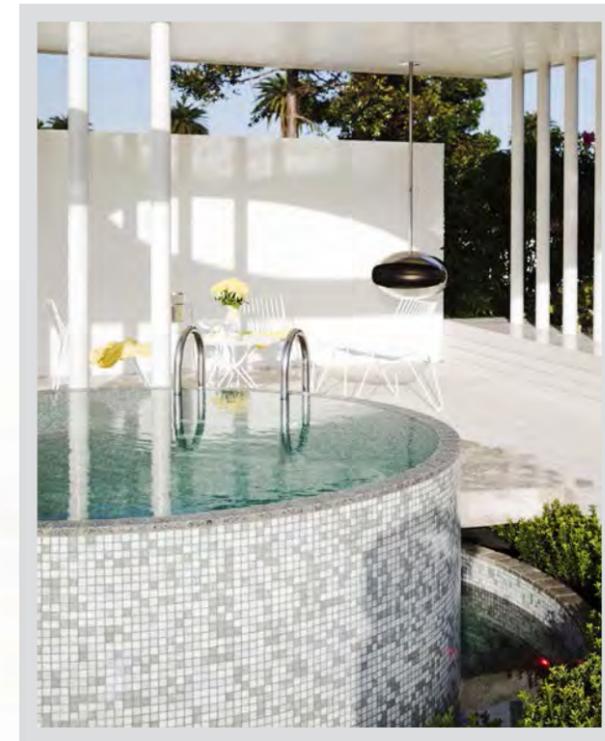
- ✦ Dedicate some space for furniture and utilities, and give the rest over to beauty: plants, water features and whatever entices you to sit outside.
- ✦ Choose furniture that's in scale with the space. Avoid bulky chairs: select designs with fine or recessed legs so you can see the ground beneath. This will make the area seem larger.
- ✦ Don't be afraid to fill the centre of the space with plants. Create zones with pockets of planting and you'll make a space that fills you with wonder.
- ✦ Use angles and curves when you compose the shape of the garden. This allows for multilayered planting and makes the garden more inviting.



12 / STATEMENT PIECE

Every garden needs a focal point and for Queensland landscape architect Paul Stein, Parry's agave (*Agave parryi*) fulfils this role beautifully. With its bold and spiky leaves, it's a specimen that needs to be located thoughtfully. "It is absolutely stunning," says Paul. Grey-green in colour, it works well with native or coastal plants. "And it looks great when partnered with other succulents of various sizes: have a play with size and scale."

13 / GO VERTICAL Create a wall of green with the Jamie Durie Vertical Greenwall Blanket. Made from recycled PET, it can easily be attached to a fence by means of heavy-duty brass eyelets. Featuring pockets for plants, it's available in three sizes. Pictured is the large (180x180cm), \$175, with 22 pockets and drip irrigation kit. Jamie Durie; (02) 9313 3200 or www.jamiedurie.com.



14 / POOL OF
THOUGHT

A swimming pool is a hub for entertainment and social activity and serves as a large-scale water feature. "Lighting the pool is fundamental," says Peta Donaldson. "A pool glowing at night is enchanting and extends the depth of view from within the home," she says. "I also just love to sit and watch the rain fall on the surface of the water."

15 Place a beautiful hanging planter in your courtyard or balcony, fill it with a pretty, tumbling plant and you'll instantly transform a space. This Moon Pot Armelle Rock (right) in Slate, \$119, from Patterson+Steele, is a stunning example. 0417 133 776 or www.patersonandsteele.com.au.



16 / BAMBOOZLED Creating privacy is at the top of clients' wish lists, says Sydney landscape designer Matt Cantwell. For screening, Matt loves slender weavers bamboo (*Bambusa textilis 'Gracilis'*). "Few plants perform like it in constrained spaces, but you need to be considerate to neighbours," he says, pointing to bamboo's propensity to drop leaves and grow to great heights.



17 / DECKED OUT Before you launch into re-staining your deck, check out Cabot's new Woodcare Solution app. Designed to help you select the right timbercare products for interior and exterior projects, it offers detailed product information, a troubleshooting guide and a handy calculator to help estimate how much product you'll need for the job you're planning. Free from the App Store and Google Play.



Photograph from Alamy (agave), Chris Warnes (pool), Nicholas Watt (bamboo). Garden/pool layout by Natural Design from the 2014 Australian Garden Show Sydney.



Helenium 'Mahogany'



Achillea 'Terracotta'



19 / FOR ALL SEASONS

Planting the right combinations of species in the garden will ensure a graphic display at different times of the year. And we're not just talking about flowers: luscious foliage plants, grasses and budding or ageing perennials can all contribute their own pops of colour.

FAB FOLIAGE PLANTS

Scott Leung recommends:

- ✦ **Leucadendron** (*Leucadendron salignum*), a dry-tolerant evergreen native with new red-blushed growth appearing in summer.
- ✦ **Portugal laurel** (*Prunus lusitanica*), a hedging evergreen shrub that puts out lime-green new growth and new stems in bright red in spring and autumn.
- ✦ **Silver vein creeper** (*Parthenocissus henryana*), a deciduous climber with purple new growth in spring and autumn.

GORGEOUS GRASSES

Ian Barker recommends:

- ✦ **Reed grass** (*Calamagrostis 'Karl Foerster'*) Following the flush of green growth, the seed head turns to a golden wheat colour, then a rusty brown by the end of winter.
- ✦ **Miscanthus 'Flamingo'** The feathery seed head turns from almost white to a charming shade of dusty pink as it ages.

PERKY PERENNIALS

Ian Barker recommends:

- ✦ **Helenium 'Mahogany'** The early spring buds are lime green and the flowers turn out rusty orange. When the petals drop, the centres turn a dark, velvety brown.
- ✦ **Achillea 'Terracotta'** The soft lemon flowers age to terracotta and dark brown.
- ✦ **Angelica gigas** A strongly structural plant with rich burgundy-shaded flowers that age to a rusty brown colour. ▶

18 Nothing says 'pretty' like a bed of mixed perennials. Landscape designer Ian Barker names his top three as Echinops 'Blue Globe' (right), a stunning plant with blue spheres that works with most colour combinations; Agastache 'Sweet Lili', a long-flowering plant with soft spikes of apricot-tinged pink flowers; and Pelargonium sidoides, featuring sprays of tiny burgundy flowers with silver-green foliage.





20 / Layered approach

The key to creating a beautiful courtyard is multi-layered planting. "This gives depth and dimension to your space," says Janine Mendel. Simply layer plants in order of height. Here is her current hit list:



- ✦ Groundcovers: Native violets (*Viola hederacea*); blue chalk sticks (*Senecio mandraliscae*, above); *Eremophila glabra* 'Kalbarri Carpet'.
- ✦ Lower-level plants: *Nandina domestica* 'Flirt'; kangaroo paws (*Anigozanthos* species); *Dianella* 'Border Silver'.
- ✦ Mid-level shrubs: *Pittosporum tobira* 'Miss Muffet'; *Rhaphiolepis indica* 'Cosmic White' or 'Oriental Pearl'; *Westringia* species.
- ✦ Hedging/screening: Orange jessamine (*Murraya paniculata*); *Viburnum* 'Emerald Lustre'; *Leucospermum* 'Veldt Fire'.



"MAKE SURE YOUR OUTDOOR SPACE COMPLEMENTS THE FLOW OF THE INTERIORS," SAYS MATT CANTWELL. "DON'T DOUBLE UP UNNECESSARILY BY INSTALLING TWO DINING TABLES ON EITHER SIDE OF A LARGE DOOR OPENING. HAVING A LOUNGE AREA OUTSIDE MIGHT BE A BETTER OPTION."



22 / LOVE LOCAL

Growing native plants is a wonderful way to respect the natural assets of your garden's site, soils and aspect. For South Australia, James Hayter recommends:

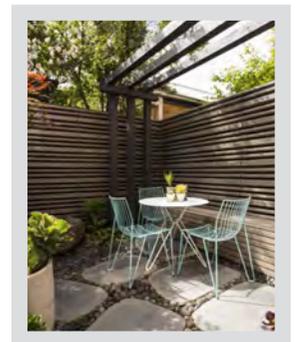


- ✦ Groundcovers: *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Royal Mantle' (left, top) + *Goodenia varia* + (centre) + *Eremophila subteretifolia* + *Hardenbergia violacea* (bottom).
- ✦ Clumping plant: *Juncus kraussii*.
- ✦ Grass: *Wahlenbergia stricta*.
- ✦ Mid-level shrubs: *Thryptomene saxicola* 'F.C. Payne' + gold-dust wattle (*Acacia acinacea*).
- ✦ Screening plants: *Acacia glaucoptera* + cup gum (*Eucalyptus cosmophylla*). "It's my favourite eucalypt," says James.



23 / New life

Melbourne architect Lisa Breeze transformed a drab 4x4m inner-city courtyard into an uplifting space (below) by focusing on "surfaces that stimulate the senses". Large bluestone steppers and pebbles create a permeable groundcover while border screens are made from strips of silvertop ash. Plantings include clusters of succulents in large pots, with a Japanese maple providing the focal point.



24 / EXTEND AN OLIVE BRANCH

If you love silvery-grey tones in the garden, an olive tree will appeal. It can be espaliered against a wall or on a wire frame to create a divider, trimmed into hedge or grown as a compact tree. "It's a classic option that can look so modern," says Matt Cantwell.

Photography from Alamy (kangaroo paw), Getty Images (blue chalk sticks, Thryptomene, Hardenbergia).



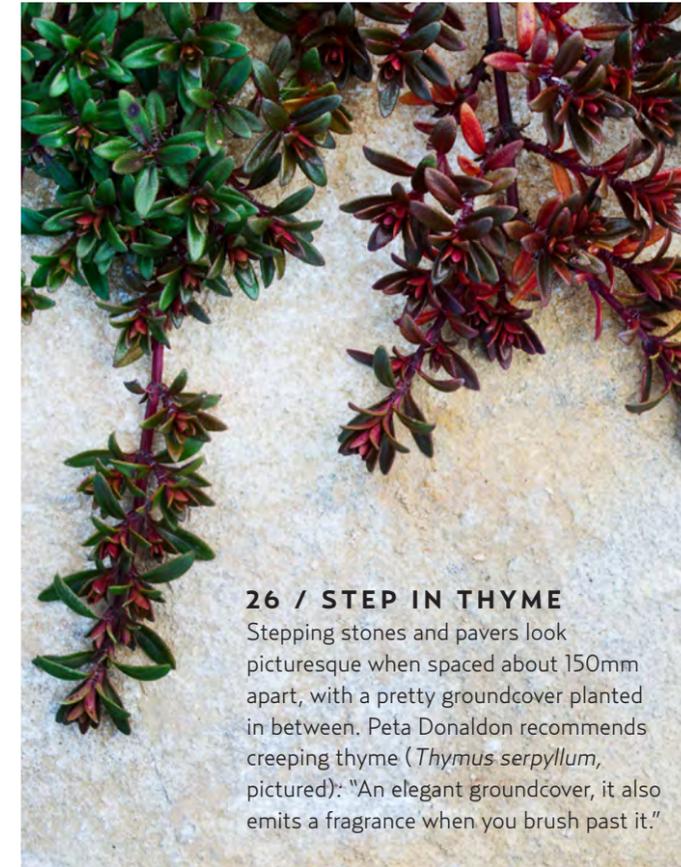
For more garden tips and tricks, use the free **viewa** app and scan this page.

25

A GARDEN JOURNEY

Create points of interest in your garden to entice people outside. This could take the form of a special tree, an oversized urn overflowing with climber tendrils or a sculptural piece. "Give the feature its own platform, whether that is a soft element, such as a groundcover, or a continuation of paving used elsewhere in the garden," says Peter Fudge, who also has these recommendations:

- ✦ Line the feature up with doors or windows so it can be seen from inside, making sure that the feature is balanced within the garden.
- ✦ Frame the feature with trees or *Buxus* spheres on each side.
- ✦ Create a screen behind your focal point to help highlight it.



26 / STEP IN THYME

Stepping stones and pavers look picturesque when spaced about 150mm apart, with a pretty groundcover planted in between. Peta Donaldson recommends creeping thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*, pictured): "An elegant groundcover, it also emits a fragrance when you brush past it."

27 / LANDSCAPE DESIGN MAESTRO JAMIE DURIE CALLS THEM "PEOPLE POCKETS": INVITING SPACES IN YOUR GARDEN WHERE PEOPLE WANT TO SPEND TIME. MAKE SURE YOU CREATE SEATING AREAS THAT ENCOURAGE VISITORS TO LINGER OUTDOORS, HUGGED BY PLANTS.



28 / POINTED CONVERSATION

With its ribs of golden-yellow spines, the aptly named golden barrel cactus (*Echinocactus grusonii*) has a commanding presence and is one of Matt Cantwell's favourite statement plants. "It stands out against other plants and looks great as a stand-alone in a large planter," he says. "It sparkles in the sun and is always a talking point." ▶

FOUR OF A KIND... OUTDOOR CHAIRS



29 Apparlo outdoor chair with armrests, \$65, Ikea; (02) 8020 6641 or www.ikea.com.au.



30 Golf handwoven outdoor chair, \$229, Domayne; www.domayne.com.au.



31 Thomas outdoor chair, \$595, Cotswold Furniture Collection; 1800 677 047 or www.cotswoldfurniture.com.au.



32 Seti outdoor armchair, \$1020, Robert Plumb; (02) 9316 9066 or www.robertplumb.com.au.

Photography by Dan Magree/bauerisyndication.com.au (garden), Avanti (creeping thyme), Getty Images (cactus)

FOUR OF A KIND...
PLANTERS



33 Coco planter with two pots, \$69, Down That Little Lane; dowthatlittlelane.com.



34 Urban Garden self-watering planter, \$199, Glowpear; www.glowpear.com.



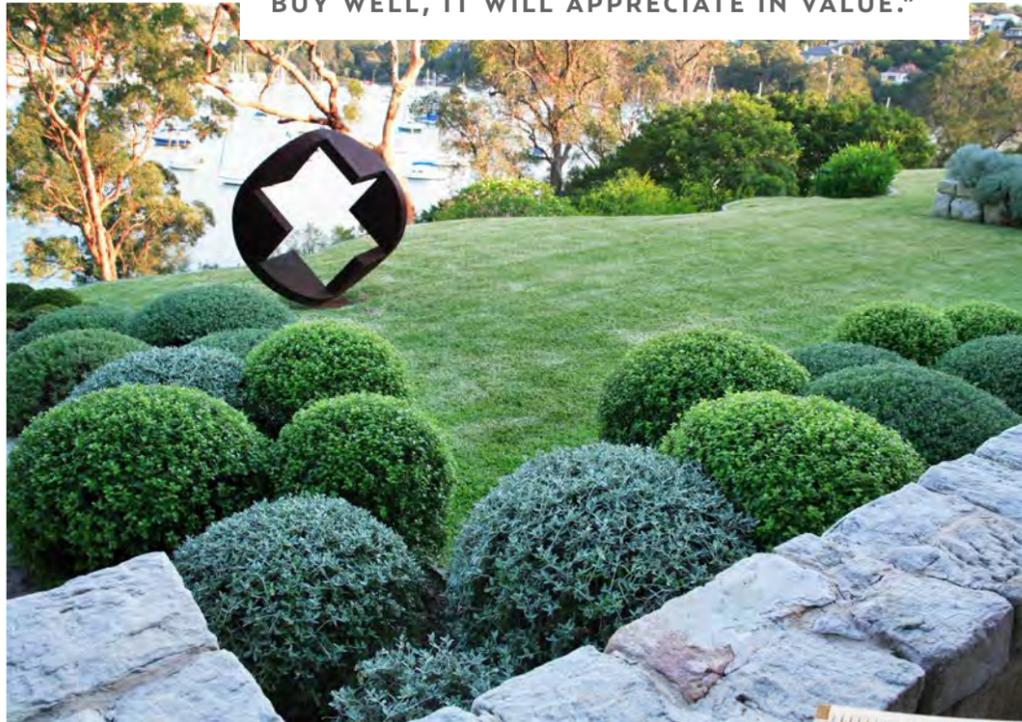
35 Coral planters, from \$720, ANONandCo; (07) 3839 0400 or www.anonandco.com.



36 DeCastelli Screen Pot 1 planter, from \$1650; (02) 9693 2288 or www.hgfs.com.au.

37

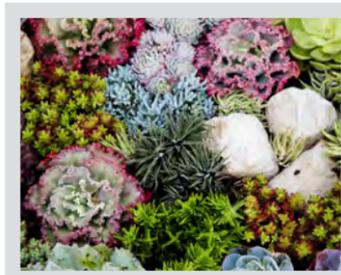
"I LOVE SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN. IT LEAVES A LASTING IMPRESSION ON THE VISITOR," SAYS MATT CANTWELL, WHO RECOMMENDS WORKS IN STONE OR STEEL. "STRETCH YOUR BUDGET AND COMMISSION A PIECE IF YOU CAN. YOU'LL HAVE IT FOR LIFE, TAKE IT WHEREVER YOU LIVE AND, IF YOU BUY WELL, IT WILL APPRECIATE IN VALUE."



38 / MAGNETIC POWERS

If you keep hard surfaces to a minimum and make your garden a soft, textured, fragrant place heaving with plants, you can create a magical space for yourself and your guests. "We find that creating a garden full of plantlife makes people want to go outside to look, touch, smell and connect with nature," says Ian Barker.

39 / TAKE A SEAT With its enticing combination of teak and synthetic wicker weave, the Barwon easy chair, \$699, offers a very civilised vantage point from which to observe and soak up your garden. Eco Outdoor; 1300 131 413 or www.ecooutdoor.com.au.



40 / Little wonders Succulents are renowned as hardy, drought-tolerant, year-round beauties. Melbourne landscape designer Phillip Withers used a stunning mass planting of them to achieve the effect of a coral reef as a centrepiece to his show garden, My Island Home, at the 2014 Australian Garden Show (pictured at left). To create this textured tapestry, he combined rounded, spiky, and frilled forms in a range of colours. "All these plants will grow well in poor, sandy soils that have good drainage, and they won't need watering," says Phillip. Species shown here include *Echeveria* 'Blue Curls' and 'Violet Queen', *Sedum* 'Gold Mound' and *Crassula* 'Living Coral'.

41 / Surreal appeal

Lush and luxurious, *Zoysia tenuifolia* is a sun and semi-shade loving, fine-textured groundcover. "Every time I see it I want to roll in it!" says Matt Cantwell, who uses it between pavers to soften hardscaping.



42 / Painting a picture

Contrasting foliage colour is important in weaving the tapestry of a garden. Scott Leung loves using purple-leafed species for points of contrast: "They are less dominating than variegated species". His top recommendations are:

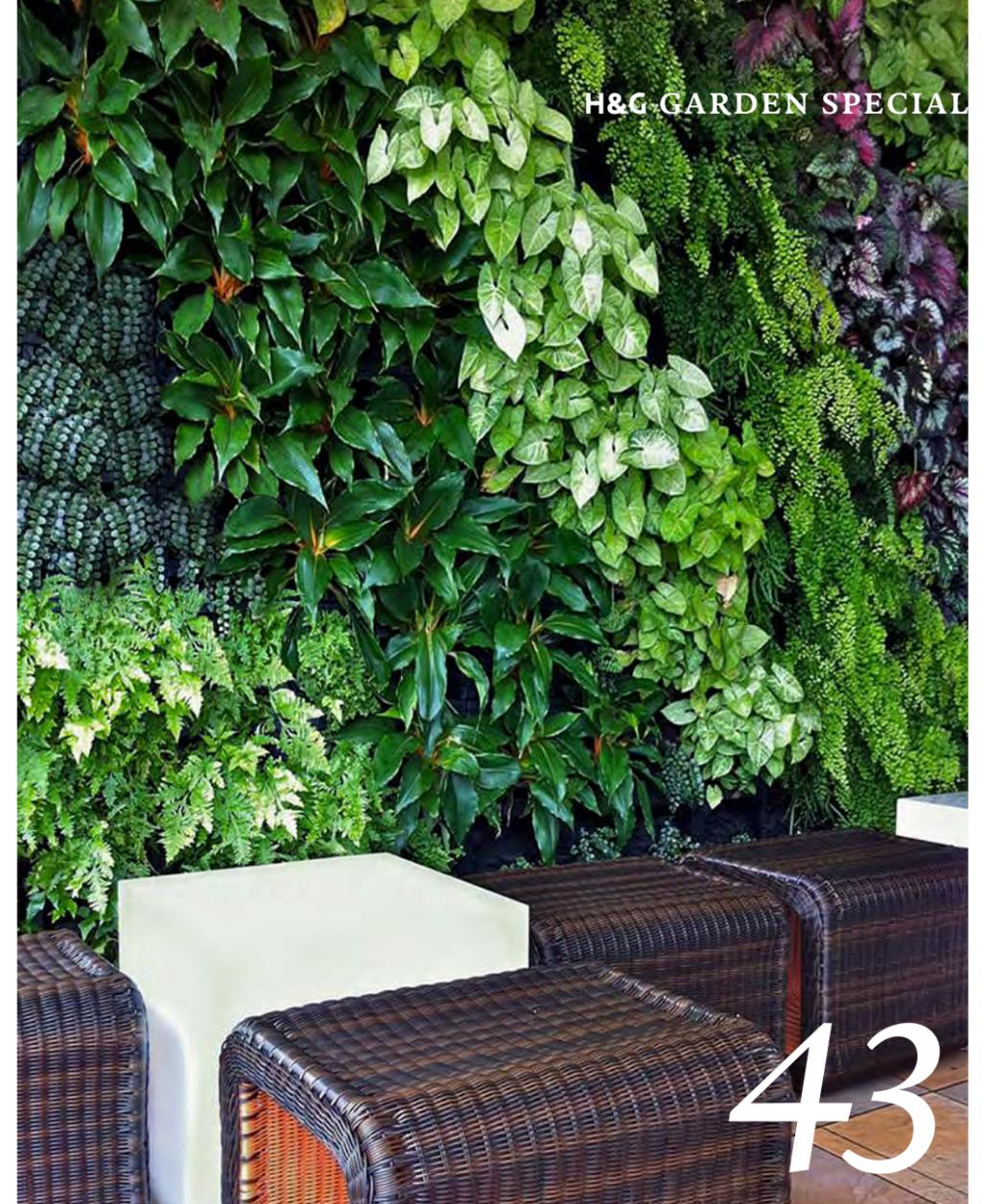


✦ Labrador violet (*Viola labradorica*, above): a purple-tinted green groundcover with mauve flowers that self-seeds to form a fab carpet in semi- and fully shaded areas.

✦ Holly tea olive (*Osmanthus heterophyllus* 'Purpureus'): a tough hedging shrub with a purple serrated leaf.

✦ Black mondo grass (*Ophiopogon planiscapus* 'Nigrescens'): a near-black deep purple that looks great en masse as a dark contrast to greens and colour.

Photography by Nicholas Watt (lawn), Chris Warnes (succulents).



43

THE GRO-WALL 4 VERTICAL GARDEN CONSISTS OF A MODULAR, EXPANDABLE FRAMEWORK WITH BUILT-IN IRRIGATION THAT ENSURES EACH PLANT IS NURTURED WITHOUT WATER WASTAGE. ATLANTIS AURORA; (02) 9417 8344 OR WWW.ATLANTISAURORA.COM.

44 / DESIGN CUES Look to the architecture of your home when seeking cues for your garden design. "It's all about establishing the right aesthetic to best enhance the home, and not hiding nor detracting from it, unless required," says Peta Donaldson. "I focus on the style and materials used within the building itself, looking at colour, texture and shape, and then incorporate this palette into the garden through the choice of plants and hardscaping."

45 / SHADY CHARACTER For a deciduous tree that will provide you with gorgeous colour plus shade in summer, it's hard to go past the magnificent *Jacaranda mimosifolia*, says Scott Leung, providing you have sufficient space. "It's a beautiful, medium-sized tree with sculptural branches and amazing flower colour." ▶

FOUR OF A KIND...
COMPOSTING
SYSTEMS



46 Roto Twin 140L composter, \$119, Composting Home; www.compostinghome.com.au.



47 Bokashi One 30L bucket, \$149, Bokashi Composting Australia; 1300 902 880 or www.bokashi.com.au.



48 Aerobin 200L composting system, \$198, Masters Home Improvement; 1300 337 707 or www.masters.com.au.



49 Maze 230L compost tumbler, \$199, Bunnings; (03) 8331 9777 or www.bunnings.com.au.

50 / NATIVE BEAUTY

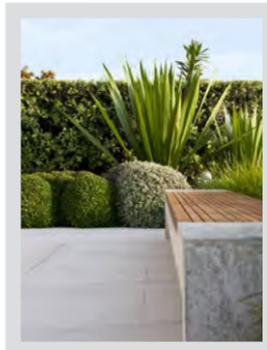
"The colours, textures and smells of Australian natives against a blue sky is something that continually amazes me," says James Hayter. For a favourite native, James nominates *Acacia acinacea*, a fast-growing, frost- and drought-tolerant flowering shrub. "It's one of the most beautiful wattles, flowering prolifically in winter. It works well with the lower-growing *Callistemon* and with *Hardenbergia*. It's a spectacular plant."



51 For a tough and lovely evergreen foliage plant, Scott Leung loves *Lomandra longifolia* 'Tanika', a fine-leaf form of mat rush. "It's an indestructible strappy-leaf plant. Mass-planted, it forms a knee-high soft groundcover, and you can plant clumps of perennials within it to provide seasonal change."



52 / BALCONY BEAUTY With the rise of high-density living, balcony gardens have become a survival tactic for garden-loving city dwellers. A clever way to combine greenery and entertaining is to install a bench bar. The balcony garden above, designed by Kim Earl from Melbourne's Candeo Design, features a merbau bench and a cityscape mural. Soft, strappy plants include *Aspidistra*, *Chamaedorea*, *Dypsis lutescens*, *Liriope* 'Evergreen Giant' and *Philodendron* 'Rojo Congo'.



53 / Sold on stone Stone is a lovely landscaping material to use in and around the garden, favoured by designers for the way it eases into the landscape. "We use stone a lot for walls and floors. It can be clean and smooth or rough and textured," says Matt Cantwell. Scott Leung concurs: "Natural stone is magical. It's a classic material that, if used correctly, will not date and will last a lifetime".

Photography from Getty Images (wattle), Chris Warnes (pergola).



SENSE OF
SANCTUARY

Your garden should be a hideaway, a place where you can relax in private, removed from the hum of work and everyday life, says Melbourne landscape designer Brent Reid of Candeo Design. This was the underlying theme of his Cache garden (left) at the 2014 Australian Garden Show Sydney. To reinforce the idea of the garden as a sanctuary, Brent designed a pergola made from welded steel strips. "I love an open pergola. This arched form encloses you protectively and gives you a sense that the garden is hugging you." Custom-fabricated using \$900 worth of steel, it's a structure that could easily be replicated in a home garden. "Perfect with a climber trailing over it. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* [Virginia creeper] is one of my favourites to use in Melbourne," says Brent. ▶

54

H&G GARDEN SPECIAL



55 / OUTDOOR DINING ZONES ENHANCE YOUR ALFRESCO EXPERIENCE AND ADD VALUE TO YOUR HOME, SO DON'T SKIMP ON THE SIZE OF YOUR SPACE. MATT CANTWELL SUGGESTS A MINIMUM AREA OF 4X6M. "GUESTS NEED TO BE ABLE TO FINISH A MEAL, PUSH THEIR CHAIR BACK FROM THE TABLE AND STILL HAVE ROOM TO CIRCULATE."



56 / On the waterside
Maximise the visual impact of water features by surrounding them with swaying grasses or dramatic forms of plantlife. "A lotus (*Nelumbo*) will transform a bowl of water into a lovely feature," says Paul Stein. "My favourite reed is knobby club-rush (*Isolepis nodosa*), with its beautiful weeping form."



57 / OLDIES BUT GOODIES

Some might call them 'nanna plants' but those old-fashioned species your grandma tended on her patio are enjoying a comeback. Rightly so, says Scott Leung, because they're tough and resilient, easy to grow and often simple to propagate. "For myself, I don't think they have ever been out of fashion," says Scott. His top picks are: swiss cheese plant (*Monstera deliciosa*, right); lacy tree philodendron (*Philodendron selloum*); Japanese aralia (*Fatsia japonica*); peppermint-scented geranium (*Pelargonium tomentosum*) and jade plant (*Crassula ovata*).

58 / Cutting time

The compact electric Husqvarna 305 Automower, \$1999, can trim lawns of up to 500m² by itself. It redirects itself when it detects an obstacle and returns to its docking station to recharge. www.husqvarna.com/au/home.



59 / Northern lights

Warmth, humidity and high rainfall make it easy to grow a garden in the subtropics. Paul Stein nominates five plants for these conditions:



- ✦ **Native violet (*Viola hederacea*, above)** A pretty, shade-loving groundcover.
- ✦ **Purple ginger (*Alpinia 'Red Back'*)** A tall screening plant perfect for narrow spaces.
- ✦ **Bromeliad (*Alcantarea imperialis 'Rubra'*)** A beautiful feature plant.
- ✦ **Lomandra 'Tilga'** A 400mm high grass for middle-tier planting.
- ✦ **Tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*)** A native, fast-growing small-to-medium tree. Its lollipop shape makes it a perfect shade-giver.

Photography by Nicholas Watt (dining set), Alamy (lotus, swiss cheese plant).

60

MEN OF STEEL

When selecting landscaping materials, steel and wire win hands-down for Scott Leung and Myles Broad, principal designers at Eckersley Garden Architecture. "Steel and wire are so versatile. We use them for pergolas, screening, edging, fences, letterboxes, fire pits... anything really," says Scott. They coat all steel forms in a micaceous iron oxide, which is dark charcoal grey in colour. "The dark steel highlights the green foliage and has a greater longevity than timber forms. Steel also looks amazing in combination with natural timber, especially decking."



61 / LITTLE BEAUTY

Looking for a reliable, delightful shrub that will look great either as a single specimen or planted en masse as a hedge? *Rhaphiolepis 'Snow Maiden'* (Indian hawthorn) is an evergreen shrub that offers a display of dark, glossy leaves and pretty white flowers in winter and spring months. It's a plant that Peta Donaldson uses in most of the gardens she designs. "It's tough, drought-, sun- and salt-tolerant, and so textural I never tire of looking at it," she says. "It provides a stunning organic hedge without the necessity of clipping."

62 / Light my way

Lead guests up the garden path in high style with this elegantly configured halogen light. Harbour 12V Apex pathlight in Copper, \$109, Beacon Lighting; 1300 232 266 or www.beaconlighting.com.au.



FOUR OF A KIND... OUTDOOR CUSHIONS



63 Anais Light outdoor cushion, \$85, Zanui; 1300 668 317 or www.zanui.com.au.



64 Kolsan outdoor cushion, \$30, Kas Australia; (02) 8035 2248 or www.kasaustralia.com.au.



65 Girl From Ipanema outdoor cushion, \$120, Hello & Behold; 0416 630 916 or www.helloandbehold.com.



66 Arabesque outdoor cushion, \$120, Eco Chic; 1300 897 715 or www.ecochic.com.au. **H&G**