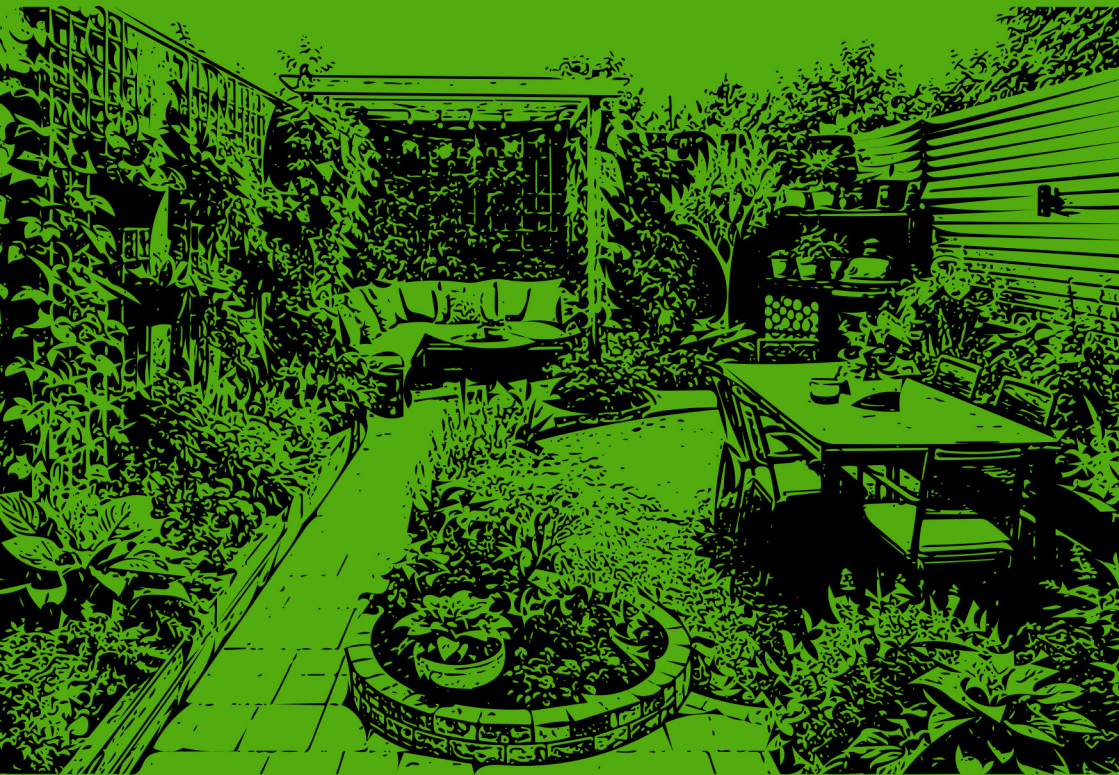




MAXIMISING YOUR GARDEN SPACE



Maximising Your Garden Space: Making Every Square Metre Count

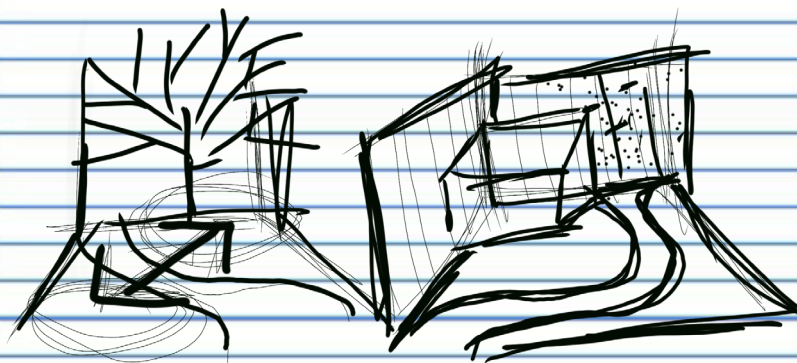
Is your garden smaller than you'd like?

Whether you have a compact courtyard, a narrow terrace or a modest suburban garden, it's easy to feel like you're running out of space. Many people think the only solution is to move somewhere with a bigger garden—but that's rarely the case.

The truth is, it's not the size of your garden that matters most. It's how well it's designed.

A carefully planned outdoor space can feel much larger than it really is, while a bigger garden with a poor layout can feel cramped, cluttered and difficult to use.

With a few clever design ideas, even the smallest garden can become somewhere to relax, entertain, grow plants and enjoy throughout the year. Here's how to make every square metre work harder.



1. Start With How You Want to Use the Space



Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Walk around your garden and note which areas you use most.
- ☐ List three activities you'd like your garden to support.
- ☐ Remove anything you no longer use or enjoy.
- ☐ Measure the usable space.
- ☐ Draw a rough plan showing how you'd like the garden to function.

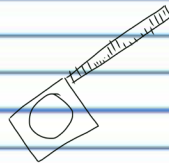


Five Do's

- Design around your lifestyle.
- Think about how you'll use the garden in five years.
- Prioritise quality over quantity.
- Make access between areas easy.
- Leave enough open space to move comfortably.

Five Don'ts

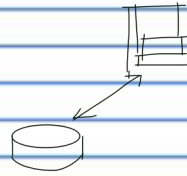
- Don't try to fit everything into one space.
- Don't design around trends
- Don't buy furniture before planning
- Don't forget storage.
- Don't let unused features dominate the garden



2. Create Different Garden Rooms

Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Identify where separate zones could work.
- ☐ Decide the purpose of each space.
- ☐ Mark out proposed rooms with string or hosepipe.
- ☐ Add screening ideas to your sketch.
- ☐ Check every room receives enough light.



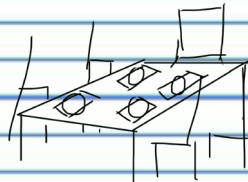
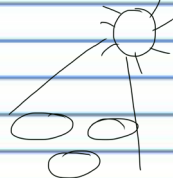
Five Do's

- Create spaces with a purpose.
- Keep views interesting.
- Prioritise quality over quantity.
- Use planting to soften boundaries.
- Make every area feel welcoming



Five Don'ts

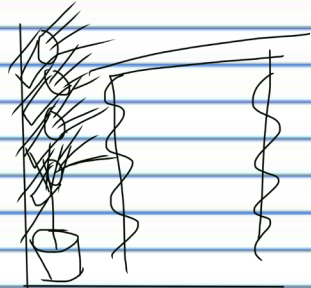
- Don't try to fit everything into one space.
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- Don't let unused features dominate the garden



3. Think Vertically

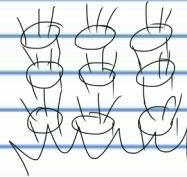
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Inspect fences and walls.
- ☐ Add trellis where possible.
- ☐ Choose suitable climbing plants.
- ☐ Install wall planters
- ☐ Look for unused dvertical space.



Five Do's

- Grow upwards.
- Add height gradually.
- Mix climbing plants with shrubs.
- Use strong supports.
- Create green boundaries.



Five Don'ts

- Don't overload fences.
- Don't ignore maintenance.
- Don't block windows.
- Don't choose invasive climbers.
- Don't leave bare walls.



4. Choose furniture that fits.

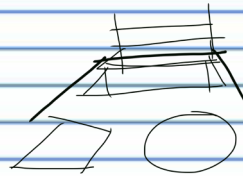
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Measure the patio.
- ☐ Mark furniture positions.
- ☐ Check Circulation Pace
- ☐ Choose multipurpose furniture.
- ☐ Remove oversized items.



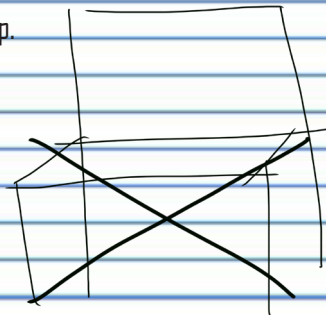
Five Do's

- Scale furniture properly.
- Use built in seating
- Keep layouts flexible.
- But durable materials
- Store unused furniture



Five Don'ts

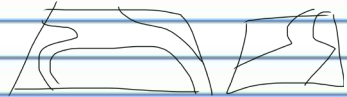
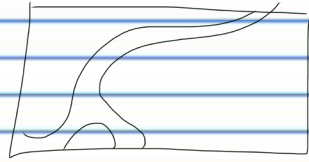
- Don't overcrowd patios.
- Don't block views.
- Don't ignore comfort.
- Don't buy furniture thats too deep.
- Don't forget storage.



5. Make Paths Work Harder

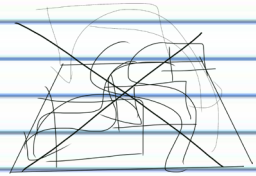
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Walk your normal routes.
- ☐ Identify awkward corners.
- ☐ Check path widths.
- ☐ Consider gentle curves.
- ☐ Remove unnessesary paths



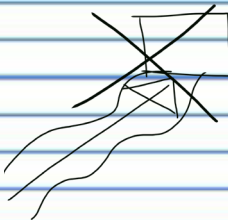
Five Do's

- Make routes obvious.
- Keeps paths practical.
- Use quality materials.
- Connect key spaces.
- Frame interesting views.



Five Don'ts

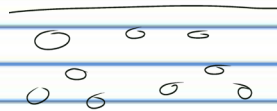
- Don't make paths too narrow.
- Don't over-design.
- Don't create dead-ends.
- Don't ignore accessibility
- Don't waste valuable space.



6. Use Planting to Add Depth

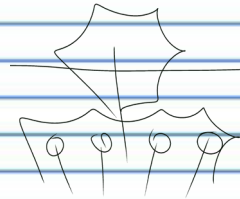
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Garden To-Do List
- ☐ Group plants by height.
- ☐ Repeat key plants.
- ☐ Add evergreen structure.
- ☐ Introduce ornamental grasses.
- ☐ Fill bare soil.



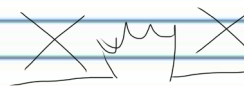
Five Do's

- Plant in layers.
- Repeat species.
- Mix textures
- Think seasonally
- Use larger planting groups.



Five Don'ts

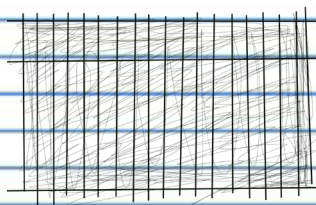
- Don't buy on of everything.
- Don't leave gaps.
- Don't overcrowd
- Don't ignore mature size.
- Don't rely on only flowers.



7. Blur the Boundaries

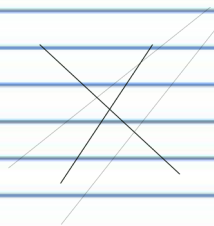
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Paint fences darker.
- ☐ Add climbers.
- ☐ Plant layered borders.
- ☐ Remove visual clutter.
- ☐ Introduce feature trees.



Five Do's

- Soften edges
- Blend planting.
- Create depth.
- Use evergreens
- Keep boundaries simple.

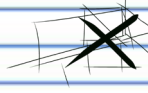


Five Don'ts

- Don't leave fences exposed.
- Don't use bright fence colours.
- Don't create harsh lines
- Don't overfill borders
- Don't ignore neighbouring views.

8. Make the Most of Corners

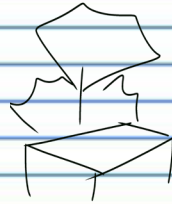
Garden To-Do List



- ☐ Clear unused items.
- ☐ Measure corner spaces.
- ☐ Decide a purpose.
- ☐ Add feature planting.
- ☐ Introduce seating if possible.

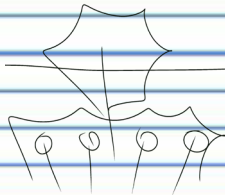
Five Do's

- Use every corner
- Add vertical planting.
- Create cosy spaces.
- Introduce focal points.
- Think creatively.



Five Don'ts

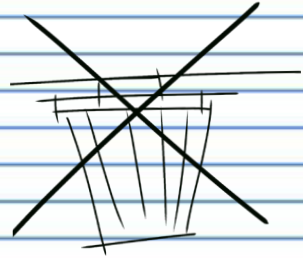
- Don't use corners as storage.
- Don't overcrowd them
- Don't forget lighting.
- Don't waste awkward spaces.
- Don't block access.



9. Add Multi-Functional Features

Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Identify features doing one job.
- ☐ Combine storage and seating.
- ☐ Add raised beds.
- ☐ Look for hidden storage.
- ☐ Maximise every feature.

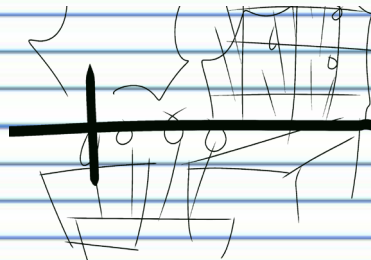


Five Do's

- Make features work harder
- Save space
- Simplify layouts.
- Build flexibility.
- Plan for everyday use.

Five Don'ts

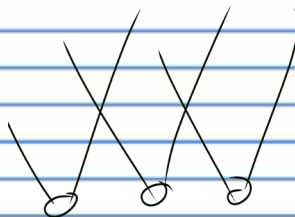
- Don't duplicate features.
- Don't waste valuable space.
- Don't ignore storage.
- Don't overcomplicate designs.
- Don't forget maintenance.



10. Use Light to Extend the Space

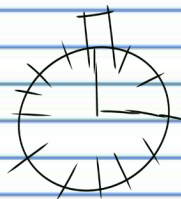
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Identify key features.
- ☐ Plan lighting zones.
- ☐ Highlight focal points.
- ☐ Add pathway lighting.
- ☐ Test lighting at night.



Five Do's

- Use warm lighting.
- Highlight planting.
- Light seating areas.
- Keep lighting subtle.
- Create atmosphere.



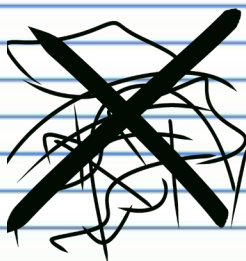
Five Don'ts

- Don't over-light.
- Don't shine lights into neighbours' gardens.
- Don't ignore safety.
- Don't mix too many light colours.
- Don't forget timers.

11. Create One Strong Focal Point

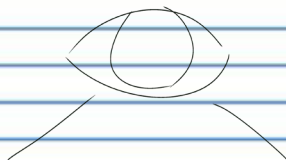
Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Choose your focal point.
- ☐ Remove competing features.
- ☐ Position it carefully.
- ☐ Frame it with planting.
- ☐ Make sure it's visible.



Five Do's

- Keep it simple.
- Create visual balance.
- Draw the eye.
- Give it space.
- Make it memorable.



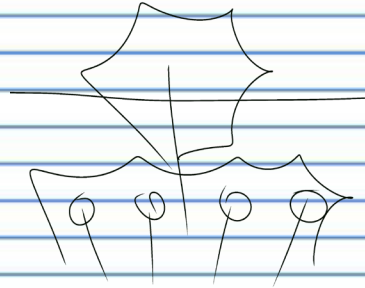
Five Don'ts

- Don't use multiple focal points.
- Don't overcrowd the view.
- Don't hide it.
- Don't overdecorate.
- Don't choose something too small.

12. Keep It Simple

Garden To-Do List

- ☐ Reduce unnecessary materials.
- ☐ Repeat planting.
- ☐ Declutter the space.
- ☐ Limit colour palettes.
- ☐ Review every feature.



Five Do's

- Keep it simple.
- Create visual balance.
- Draw the eye.
- Give it space.
- Make it memorable.

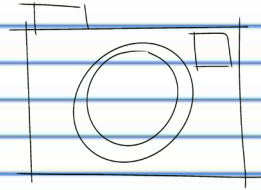
Five Don'ts

- Don't overfill the garden.
- Don't mix too many styles.
- Don't buy unnecessary ornaments.
- Don't chase trends.
- Don't forget that less is often more.

Your Garden Action Plan

Planning

- ☐ Photograph your garden.
- ☐ Measure the site.
- ☐ List your priorities.
- ☐ Identify problem areas.
- ☐ Set a realistic budget.



Design

- ☐ Sketch a simple layout.
- ☐ Decide on your planting style.
- ☐ Choose materials.
- ☐ Plan lighting.
- ☐ Select key focal points.

Implementation

- ☐ Complete one area at a time.
- ☐ Reuse existing features where possible.
- ☐ Improve the soil before planting.
- ☐ Add planting in layers.
- ☐ Review the space once everything is established.

