Landscape Design Series 11
Hardscapes

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What Exactly Is The Hardscape?
Hardscapes In Your Landscapes

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Hardscapes Are Non-living Elements In The Landscape
They Include Patios, Fences And Sidewalks
Landscapes Emphasize Plants But Hardscapes Are Important
They Enhance Outdoor Entertainment And Recreation
They Provide Focal Points In The Landscape
They Help Solve Privacy And Security Issues
Good Hardscapes Make Landscapes More Livable
Good Hardscapes Make Landscapes Easier To Maintain
Attractive Hardscapes Increase Property Values
There Are Countless Projects Homeowners Can Tackle
Utilize Hardscapes To Construct A Areas For Dining And Furniture
Think Of Ways You Presently Use Your Front, Back, And Side Yards
Create Ways To Separate Public, Private, And Service Areas
Could You Make Better Use Of The Space You Have?
Make Hardscapes Functional And Attractive
Make Walkways Adequate And Inviting
Study The Traffic Patterns Throughout Your Yard
Consider Attractive Winding Paths For Exploring Gardens
Is The Passageway To Your Front Door Welcoming?
Design Appealing New Walkways
Or Upgrade Existing Ones
Arrange Pavers, Bricks, Flagstone, Or Tile In A Variety Of Patterns
Set Materials In A Sand Base, To Make The Job Easier
Exposed Aggregate Is More Interesting Than Plain Concrete
Even Simple Gravel Pathways Are Attractive
Fences or walls provide privacy and security.
They Establish Boundaries And Protect Privacy
Limit Access To Pools By Fences And Gates To Prevent Accidents
Discourage Intruders The Same Way
Concrete Block Withstand Our Desert Climate
Low Walls Help Separate Garden Areas
Patios, Barbeques And Fireplaces Make Entertaining Easier
Attached Covered Patios Are
Excellent Hardscape Options
Cooking Outdoors Keeps Heat Outside During Hot Summers
A Pool Is Not The Only Water Feature For Your Landscape
Pools Relieve Summer Heat But Are Expensive
Look At Alternatives For Sound And Cooling Effects Of Water
Consider A Fountain, Waterfall, Or A Pond In Your Design
Do-it-yourself Kits Make These Projects Affordable
Arbors, Ramadas, Gazebos, And Trellises Offer Shade
They Create Opportunities To Add More Plants To The Landscape
Shade Is At A Premium In The Desert
It Makes Outdoor Living During The Summer Bearable
Structures Help Cool Areas And Provide Shade
They Are Practical And Attractive
Train Vining Plants Up These Structures
Containers Work Well If Your Space Is Limited
Raised Beds Give Easy Access To Your Plantings
Maintaining These Garden Areas Can Be Demanding
Construct Raised Beds From Wood, Concrete Or Blocks
Raised Beds Reduce Bending And Stooping
Garden Pots On The Patio Add Landscape Interest
Containers Come In Endless Sizes And Styles For All Tastes
There Are Many Ways To Integrate Hardscapes Into Your Landscape
Hopefully, These Will Start Your Creative Juices Flowing
Browse Garden Magazines Or Books For More Ideas
Try To Keep Your Plans Simple