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Common Structures that Can Improve Your Garden Design by Jamie Keifer

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The proper structure can complement your garden design. Whether your garden is for entertainment, for the kids to play on or for pets to run around freely, your garden idea will seem incomplete without the right structure. Installing structures can mean you need to spend more but it will be worth it if they enhance your gardenâ€™s over-all appearance.

When deciding on what type of structure you want, think of how it can improve your garden design. Will a small structure do, or do you need something with a bit more sophisticated? Will it serve a specific function or is it merely for aesthetic purposes? Once you have decided on the details, you can now select the ideal structure for your garden.

Arbor

An arbor is a passageway with pillars topped with joists and crossbeams. Imagine if the walls on your house were removed and only the foundations remained; and if the ceiling was also taken out which leaves only the frame. Thatâ€™s what an arbor looks like. These structures can be as bare or as intricate as an owner wants them to be. Some people grow vines to cover the structure while others prefer that the main focus should be the arbor material. Common materials for arbors are wood and stone.

Fountain

From a woman pouring water out of a vase or a grand water feature that sprays water high up into the air, thereâ€™s a fountain thatâ€™s just right for your garden. You can have free-standing fountains or one that is attached to a wall. From extravagant formal gardens to small urban courtyards, fountains always add a touch of class. The sound of flowing water also soothes the senses and gives a sense of tranquility. Your garden planting ideas can also add accent to your fountain. You can surround it with flowers and ornamental plants to add color and life.

Deck

The deck is probably the most personalized structure in any garden. You may buy pre-designed arbors and fountains but there will be none of those for decks. Almost every house has one and there are a variety of styles to choose from. Your garden landscaping ideas will be enhanced by a deck where you can sit back and enjoy the view your garden.

Most decks are made of wood. However, if you want to save time and money, the better deck materials are the composite ones because these are extremely durable. They will never crack or rot and you donâ€™t need to paint them. Most garden ideas and designs look better with composite decks than traditional wood decks. For more gardening ideas, check gardening.about.com.

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