



Spring is on the Way

Fresh Garden Ideas from **A to Z**

By NANCY IGLESIAS

Arbor

Top your arbor with a floral cascade or crown of blossoms and buds.

Bucket Bouquets

Even a bucket can look beautiful when filled with sweet blooms or baby's breath.

Children's Racetrack

Your munchkins will be thrilled with this fun play area. Succulents, miniature pines, and even a poured concrete track can turn a small flower bed into a fun little racetrack, complete with match-box cars.

Dresser

Turn an old dresser into a 3 - tiered planter.

Edges and borders can make a sweet statement of welcome to your friends and neighbors.

Fairy Gardens

Let your imagination bloom with a tiny magical fairy garden.

Garden Gates

Wooden or weathered, formal or floral, a garden gate can add interest or intrigue to your garden. Some gates can even be a canopy of flowers or greens.

Hanging Gutter Gardens

Hang it from your porch or a big old tree. Gutters can make the perfect little planter boxes.

Illustrations

Use extra props to turn mounds of brightly colored blooms into garden art.

Jars

Big or small, jars can be the perfect vessel to plant herbs or display cut flowers inside or outdoors.

Kiddie Pool

Turn a kiddie pool into the perfect large container garden. This would make a fun planting project to do with your kids.

Lights

Gardens can look magical day or night with a variety of strategically placed lights. Tea lights, candles, battery or solar powered, strings of lights, uplighting, downlighting - so many ways to light up garden space.

Mirrors

Mirrored balls or framed mirrors can magnify the light and beauty of your blooms and buds.

Neighborhood Garden

Whether veggies or flowers, why not share the work and beauty by joining with those on your block to create something the whole neighborhood can enjoy?

Office Gardens

provide many benefits, including helping workers be more productive.

Party

Pull out your calendar now and plan to make good use of your outdoor spaces! A garden party can be frilly and floral with roses and tea sandwiches. But it can just as easily be the perfect idea for something a little more casual. Decorating with all things fresh makes it easy, breezy and so much fun!

Quotes

Look for funny or inspirational quotes to hang in your garden.



Upside Down in a Bottle

Who says things have to grow up?

Vertical Gardens

Turn a tight space into a wall of greens, pinks or purples.

Water Gardens

A water garden feature - with or without the fish - is sure to bring beauty and relaxation to a lovely corner of your yard.

Xylophones

Every garden should have a little music flowing through it.

Yoga

Simple or elaborate, a peaceful outdoor spot for yoga can be enjoyed day or night. Why not turn a peaceful corner in your yard into your own personal yoga garden?

Zen Garden

With the right plan for a Zen garden, tranquility will abound.

Nancy Iglesias is a freelance writer and storyteller. She is a Midwest girl through and through with roots and stories from Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota. Whether she's chatting with someone who is four or fourscore, she loves to hear their stories.

Recycled & Upcycled

The seat of an old chair, the basket of a vintage bicycle, a broken bird bath or an antique metal headboard, just about anything can be turned into a planter or piece of garden art.

Stump Planter

Don't be annoyed by that ugly stump in your front yard; turn it into a vessel of beauty.

Terrarium

A great way to bring a little green indoors to your office or home. If done right, terrariums are very low maintenance.

