

Renovate Your Landscape



Did you know that a **5%** investment in the landscaping of your property can increase its value by as much as **15%**?¹ Additionally, great landscaping may reduce the amount of time a home stays on the market by nearly six weeks.¹ Even if you're not thinking of selling now, summer is a great time to spruce up your landscape and make it a place where you enjoy spending time.

6 Tips to help your yard stand out²

- 1. Make your square or rectangular yard look more spacious** by planting flower beds in each corner. This will make the center of your yard appear larger.
- 2. Revitalize sparse hedges and shrubs** by covering their roots and applying fertilizer. Shrubs may become thin when the topsoil from around the roots washes away or diminishes over time.
- 3. Apply a thin layer of mulch** a few inches from the base of the tree. Many people make the mistake of mounding mulch around the base, which may attract pests.
- 4. Create privacy** with large shrubs or trellises covered with climbing vines.
- 5. Use a simple palette** of no more than three colors that complement your home's color scheme. This ties the space together and improves curb appeal.
- 6. Focus on the foliage of the plant.** Choose plants that have leaves in a variety of shapes, textures and patterns. If you want your landscape to bloom year round, choose plants that bloom at different times of the year.

Sources: 1. Realestate.com
2. Real Simple

Place taller plants toward the back of your flower beds; that way they won't overshadow smaller plants, and you'll create the illusion of depth in your garden.



5 Hot Trends in Landscaping

More people are beginning to view their outdoor spaces as an extension of their homes. These current landscaping trends show that people want more out of their yards than just visual appeal.

- 1 “Green” your landscape with sustainable features** such as native and drought-tolerant plants and organic gardening techniques.
- 2 Pops of vibrant color** in outdoor furniture, cushions, light fixtures and woodwork complement the natural tones of your garden.
- 3 Enjoy your outdoor spaces longer** by covering or installing screens on your deck.
- 4 A small water feature**, such as a small pond or fountain, not only enhances your landscape, it also helps to create a relaxing atmosphere.
- 5 The yard is fun again** with space for popular summer backyard games like Bocce ball and lawn bowling.

Keep your yard in top shape if your home is for sale.
A potential buyer may overlook your home if they can't see past overgrown shrubs and weeds.

Do you mow your lawn the right way?

- **Let your mower mulch your clippings.** It's better for your soil, and you'll save water and reduce your fertilizer costs.
- **Keep your mower in top shape.** Put fuel stabilizer in the gas tank to keep the carburetor in good condition all year round.
- **Edging is so nice, you should do it twice.** Use a horizontal cut in those hard-to-reach places and a vertical cut where the lawn meets your sidewalks and flower beds.
- **It's better to water less often but for a longer period of time** to allow the roots to fully absorb the water.

Source: CNN Money

