

Gardening: Tips & Resources

Design Like a Pro: 3 Essential Tips

Transforming your yard doesn't require a degree—just a few designer "secrets" to help your curb appeal stand out!

1. Harness the Power of Color

- **Warm Colors (Red, Orange, Yellow):** These colors "advance" or feel closer to the eye. Use them to make a large space feel more intimate or to create a bold focal point.
- **Cool Colors (Blue, Purple, Green):** These colors "recede" or feel further away. Use them to make a small backyard feel more spacious and serene.

2. The "Step Across the Street" Test

- Don't just design while standing in the flower bed. Walk across the street and look at your home as a whole. Does the landscaping balance the height of the house? Does it draw the eye toward the front door?

3. The Rule of Three

- Avoid planting "onesies." Group plants in odd numbers—3, 5, or 7. This creates a more natural, rhythmic flow that is pleasing to the eye, whereas even numbers often feel too symmetrical or rigid.

The Gardener's Digital Toolbox

Keep these local and national resources bookmarked for expert advice tailored to our specific North Texas climate.

Collin County Master Gardeners	CCMGATX.org	Local events, plant sales, and North Texas-specific advice.
Texas A&M AgriLife	agrillife.tamu.edu	Science-based research on Texas agriculture&environment.
AgriLife Extension	agrillifeextension.tamu.edu	Practical "how-to" guides for home gardeners.
Homegrown National Park	homegrownnationalpark.org	Focus on native plants and restoring biodiversity.
USDA Plant Hardiness	planthardiness.ars.usda.gov	Check your zone to ensure your plants survive the winter.

Featured Channel: Must-Watch Inspiration

Growing a Greener World

Hosted by Joe Lamp'l, this show focuses on organic gardening, DIY landscaping, and sustainable living. It's a fantastic visual resource for seeing design principles in action.

- **watch:** growingagreenerworld.com

Note to Homeowners: Before starting any major digging or structural changes, remember to consult your HOA guidelines and always call **811** to have your underground utility lines marked!

