



FOLLOW THE RIGHT PATH

There's a misconception in the UK that gardens can only be enjoyed in the summer months. Garden designer, *Teresa Potter* explains how hard landscaping can transform your garden into a year round wonderland. Photography: LottieDesigns.com



As a garden designer I take the access, space, lay of the land, materials and above all, year round usage into consideration. Creating a design that will combine all of this together and reflect the style of the owner is where garden design becomes an 'art'.

One of the first things that should be regarded when creating a garden is how each area will be used and how they will link together. Will your network of paths work with your garden

to proportion your entertaining area properly. There's no point cramming your guests in for the sake of a garden feature that may never get used.

Don't forget that choosing the right hard landscaping materials can also be key. You should bear in mind your property's appearance and the surrounding environment and don't be afraid to inject a little of your own taste and personality into the design by combining colours, textures and quirky



harvest season, carefully chosen trees and herbaceous planting can allow you to marvel at the colours and interest that autumn has to offer, and a well placed bird feeder allows you to enjoy wildlife from the comfort of your sofa. ■

To book an appointment with Teresa to talk through your garden design needs, simply give her a call on 01254 271070.

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When people think of gardens they tend to think of pretty flowers, lawns and greenery, but the true backbone of any garden is the hard landscaping.

I often refer to the hard landscaping aspect of the design as the 'bones of the garden'. Getting this right is crucial, as the constituent parts will be there for a long time. They form the unchanging basis of the design on which everything else is laid.



features? Can all areas be reached no matter what the weather? If you get these points right then you're one step closer to getting the most out of your garden.

Pay careful thought to the type of hard landscaping features that will elongate your usage of the outdoor space. Sheltered areas with patio heaters and even outdoor wood-burning ovens are great for outdoor entertaining enthusiasts. If this is your thing it's important

features, like mosaics and statues.

Of course you don't have to actually be outdoors to enjoy your garden throughout the year. A greenhouse can extend your





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