

Do you have a small yard that never gets used?

Are you in need of strategies for transforming it into a useful space?

But, first you must...

Stop wondering what to do with that neglected space.

Stop believing that its too small to be useful.

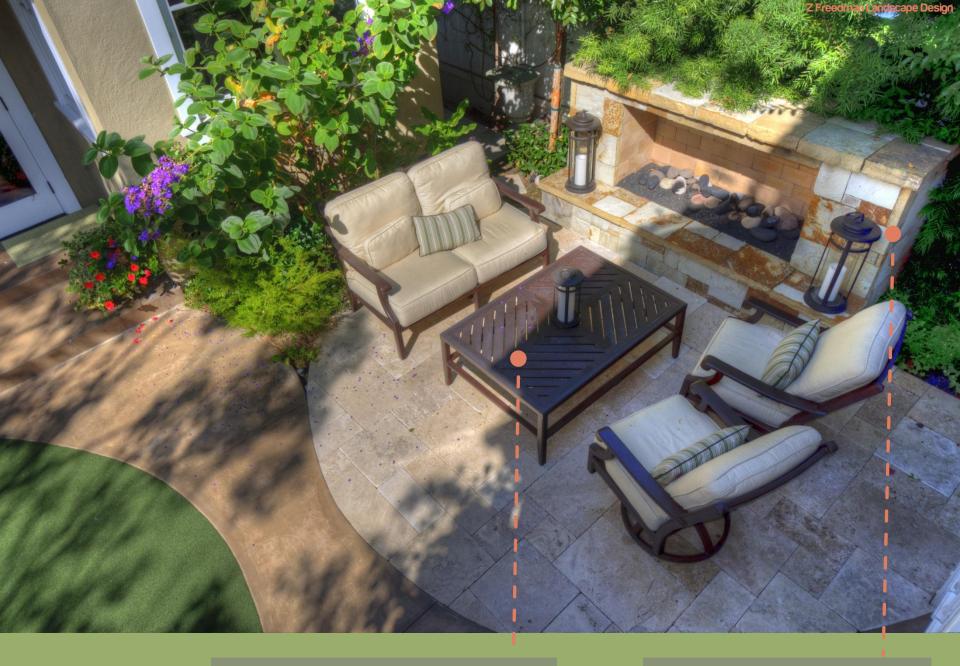
Start thinking of your small yard as a place of possibilities.

Start dreaming of how you'll use the space.

Now you're ready for the strategies...

Stay in scale

When deciding on the right scale for plants and landscape structures consider the size of your home as well as your available yard space.



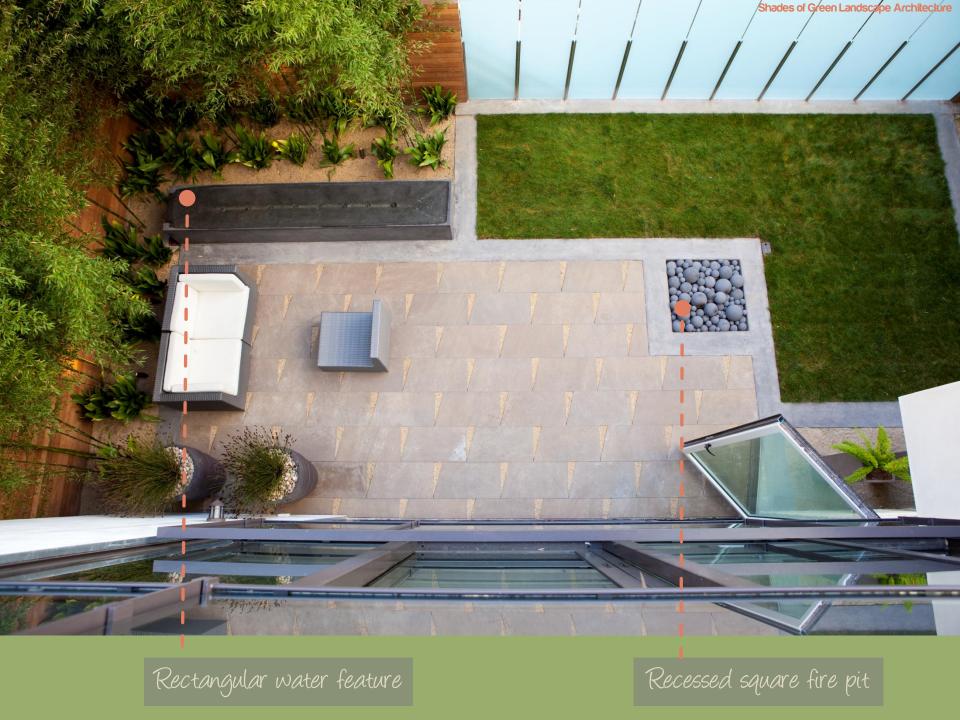
Appropriately sized patio furniture

Low profile outdoor fireplace

Keep it simple

"In a garden this size, I find that round shapes create leftover, wasted spaces. To keep things simple, I use straight lines to create the shapes of patios, planting beds, lawns and outdoor living elements."

-- Ive Haugeland, Shades of Green Landscape Architecture



Unify with repetition

"A small space can easily look cluttered if thought is not given to how the elements in the space relate to each other. Selecting a few key features and using repetition will create unity and help tie the space together. Try container groupings of the same shape or color, select plants with repeating colors, textures or forms, or use the same types of materials throughout the space (pavers, stone, etc.)."

-- Heidi Skievaski, Sublime Garden Design



Color repetition in the materials

Form and texture repetition in the plants

Select colors carefully

"On a recent project, we discovered that a black fence made the yard look bigger. The dark color acts as negative space, creating depth and the illusion of expansiveness."

-- Barbara Stock, Stock and Hill Landscapes

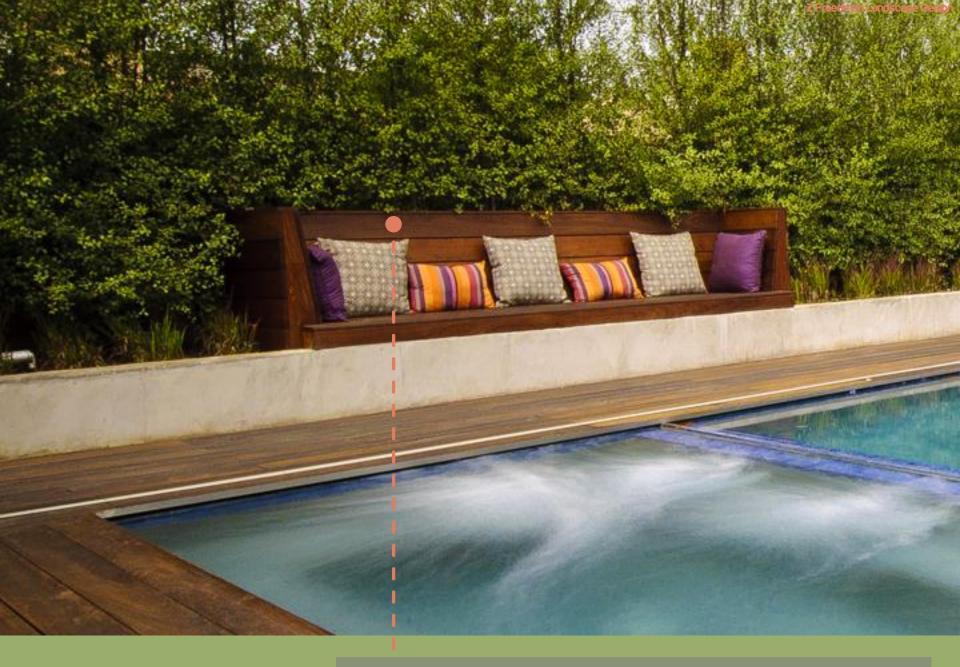


Black privacy fence with lattice topper

Install built-in seating

"I prefer built-in seating because it creates a cleaner look, helps to designate space and is great for maximizing small yards."

-- Zack Freedman, Z Freedman Landscape Design

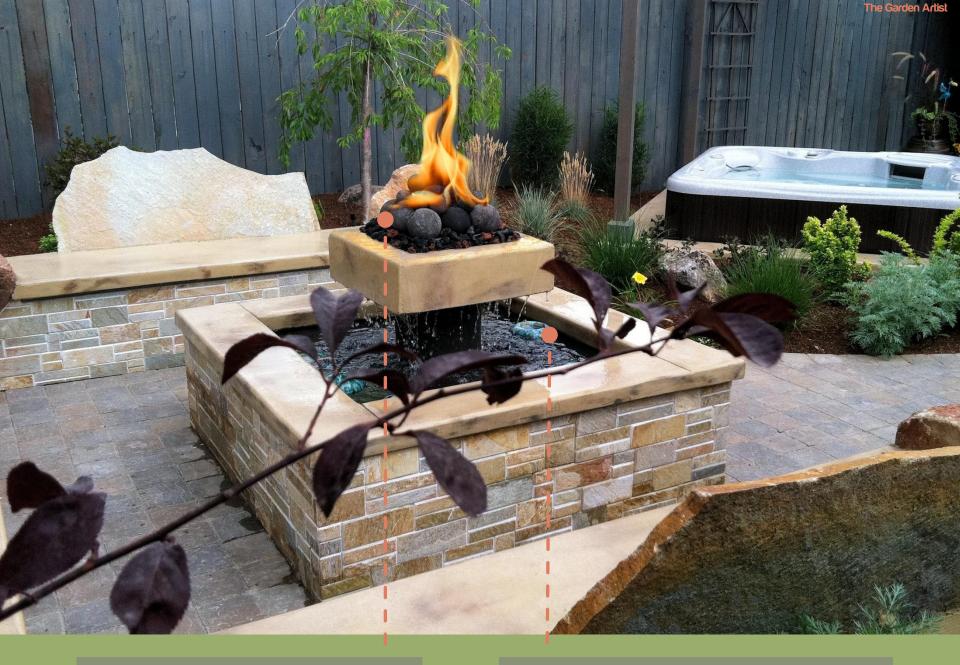


Built-in bench - takes advantage of otherwise unused space

Use double duty features

"Aside from saving space, a combined fire and water element will give you a one-of-a-kind feature that no one else has."

-- Terry Sims, The Garden Artist



Fire - creates a social atmosphere

Water – creates a relaxing atmosphere

Put it all together

- > Stay in scale
- > Keep it simple
- gardent Unify with repetition
- Select colors carefully
- > Install built-in seating
- > Use double duty features

Keep dreaming...

- Small yard photo gallery www.landscapingnetwork.com/pictures/small-yard-landscaping_26/
- Maximizing small yards

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- Plants for a small yard www.landscapingnetwork.com/plants/small-yard.html
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