

IT'S TIME TO...

# DECORATE

## Get your garden summer-ready

### SCREEN TIME

A yew hedge defines the garden's living room space, giving it a secluded feel. High beech hedges hide the entire garden from neighbours.

### PLANT PROFUSION

A large, thickly planted bed close to the glass-walled extension gives the illusion of the garden being part of the house. The planting includes a tree, shrubs, grasses and perennials.

### SEATING PLAN

Choose a sofa that is as chic and comfy as an indoor one (try gloster.com). A bench clad in English sandstone provides extra seating. Just add some cushions when needed.

### NO FUSS

For low maintenance, opt for gravel. A creamy shade complements the surrounding green.

BE INSPIRED TO ELEVATE ANY OUTDOOR SPACE WITH THESE DESIGNER GARDENS

WORDS RACHEL LOOS



### THE GREEN ROOM

Despite having no grass, this city garden feels lush and inviting. The starting point? 'Breaking the garden into sections to make it feel larger,' says designer Charlotte Rowe (@charlotterowegardens). 'Behind the seating area pictured, at the end of the garden, is a destination dining space.'

Above: a city garden designed by Charlotte Rowe. Right: the Med-inspired courtyard belonging to interior stylist Luke and his partner Hugh

### SWEETLY SCENTED

Evergreen climbing star jasmine is green all year round, and its pretty white flowers fill the garden with scent in summer.



### COURTYARD CHIC

Interiors stylist Luke Wells and his partner Hugh channel the Mediterranean in the bijou courtyard space of their Victorian terraced house. 'We wanted to bring a little bit of sunshine to our tiny little Essex courtyard,' says Luke (@lukearthurwells).

### MED MOOD

The render on the built-in raised beds, in a rougher finish to fit the Med mood, is painted white (Pampas from coatpaints.com). Plants include olive trees and rosemary.

### SOLID GROUND

Reclaimed brick tiles (Luby from lubelska.com) add warmth and texture, making the space feel brighter, too.

### FINISHING TOUCH

A round metal coffee table (hm.com) is a foil to the squared features in the rest of the space.

### GO HIGH

Raise fencing high (these panels are from diy.com) to block out the outside world and paint it in a cocooning neutral (eg, Well Grounded from coatpaints.com).

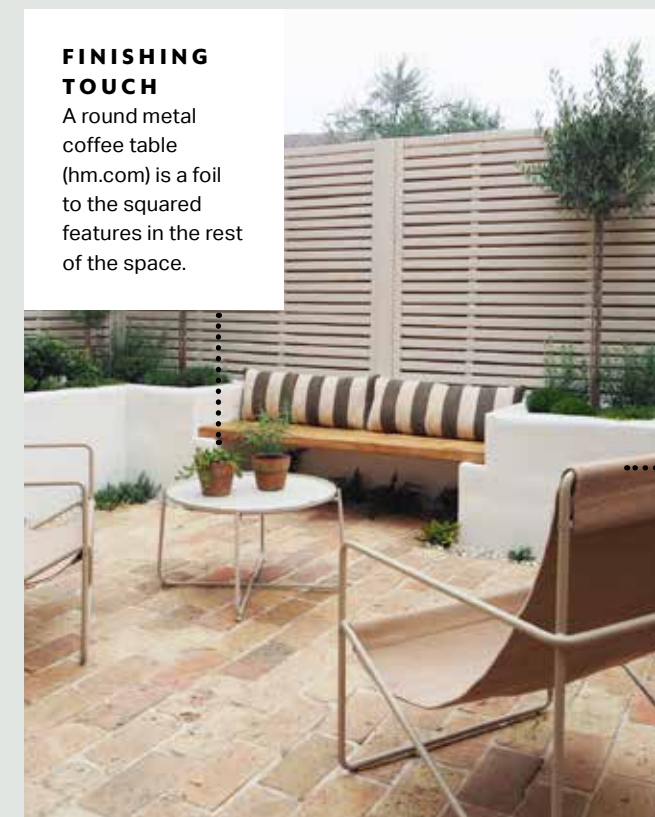


### BENCH PRESS

Lengths of timber set into the raised beds and stained create a wooden bench that doesn't intrude into the space. Pop in some bolster cushions for comfort.

### SITTING STYLISHLY

Loungers from Ferm Living (amara.com) are smarter – and more comfortable – than your average deckchair. ▶



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## CITY OASIS

It may be up high and in the middle of a bustling city, but this balcony garden still feels wonderfully relaxing. 'I wanted to create an intimate space, the plants acting as a visual filter to the surrounding buildings without blocking the skyline views,' explains designer Cristina Mazzucchelli (@cristina\_mazzucchelli).

### POT FRIENDLY

Choose plants that will thrive in planters and include evergreens such as carex oshimensis everest and pittosporum so there is green in winter. Add in scented plants (try Gardenia jasminoides Kleim's Hardy) and a variety of textures but stick to a limited colour palette so it feels cohesive and calming.



### BOX SET

Aluminium planters in pale grey (see hortology.com) run the length and width of the balcony.

### TABLE SERVICE

A bistro table and chairs (find them at johnlewis.com) in soft green feel less bulky in a small space.

### LIGHT TOUCH

Outdoor decking in a pale shade helps the balcony feel spacious.

## OUTDOOR ROOM MUSTS

- Floor lamp, £159.50, Lights.co.uk**
- Cushion, £58, Anthropologie**
- Candle, £185, Loewe**
- Side table, £99.99, H&M Home**
- Watering can, £20, Toast**
- Chair, £239, Selfridges**
- Lounge chair, £99, Dunelm**
- Pouffe, £80, John Lewis & Partners**
- Rug, from £139, Ruggable**
- Cushion, £75, Colours of Arley**
- Reclining pillow lounger, £399, Amara**
- Plant holder, £115, Oyoy Living**

PHOTOS: JAMES KERR, CRISTINA MAZZUCHELLI, @LUKEARTHURWELLS