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# Yard 'n' Garden

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## PATIO PLANTS

Plants are used on the patio for special reasons. These reasons may include shade, fragrance and special color. Or the plants may be used as decorative specimens. Screening plants are necessary to provide privacy.

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For screening plants, select shrubs that will be an appropriate height to remove undersirable views. They should also be dense enough to provide shelter from wind. Shrubs should be selected in combination with fencing or masonry. Some useful shrubs are hedge cotoneaster, redosier dogwood, Chinese lilac, French hybrid lilac, mock orange, highbush cranberry, Claveys honeysuckle, Zebes honeysuckle, Schubert Chokecherry and ninebark. Selections and varieties of evergreens may also be appropriate.

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Small trees for the patio may include the Toba hawthorne, Pagoda dogwood, flowering crabapple, Japanese tree lilac, Russian olive or mountain ash. To give pattern, the seedless varieties of honey locust are interesting and especially attractive in night lighting.

\* \* \* \*

Plants can contribute ground pattern and soften the appearance of hard surfaces such as concrete or patio stone. Planter boxes can be constructed within the patio itself or above ground where plants may be used. Such plants as petunias, verbena, begonia, periwinkle, marigold are good annuals for both planters and ground beds. Hosta, daylily and fuschia will do well under shady conditions. Pansies and geraniums prefer full sun.

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A pool with water lilies can add considerably to the interest of the patio. Herbs are also appropriate for both fragrance and table use. Roses are especially desirable because of their interest when viewed close at hand, and also for the fragrance they might provide in the area.

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