



2019 Outdoor Living and Design Trends

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Outdoor living continues to grow in 2019 as homeowners dream of adding spaces that provide tranquility, connection, and touches of nature. More than just a home enhancement, these spaces are meant to inspire people to set digital devices aside and find moments of calm while making memories with friends and family.

Now is the perfect time to enjoy your outdoor space to the fullest. Joe Raboine, director of residential hardscapes at Belgard, offers his expert insight into top outdoor design trends of the year that you should consider for your home.

BLURRING OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR AREAS

Beyond windows and patio doors, home designs are truly blending indoor and outdoor areas thanks to features such as folding walls and collapsible screens. For example, imagine a family room that opens up completely to an outdoor patio for easy entertaining, made possible by retractable walls plus smart lighting and strategic heating and cooling sources for seasonal comfort. These types of integrated spaces make the backyard a one-of-a-kind extension of the home.

CLEAN LINES AND CONTEMPORARY STYLE

Modern lines are a top interior design trend and they are expanding into outdoor living spaces, offering a seamless visual transition. Contemporary style with clean lines, textures, and shapes have taken over more traditional styles, particularly among younger homeowners. Modular, large-format pavers embrace

this trend and are expected to continue to increase in popularity, with smoother textures gaining traction.

MONOCHROMATIC AND “GREIGE” TONES

The contemporary trend also leans toward monochromatic color schemes. Gray continues to be popular, with the growing trend of “greige”—blends of gray and beige tones—poised to take off in 2019. These muted hues blend seamlessly with the landscape, plus they allow homeowners to use strategic pops of color with furniture and flowers to create customized spaces that reflect their personalities perfectly.

OUTDOOR KITCHENS AND FIRE FEATURES

In an effort to make outdoor spaces an authentic extension of the home, livability is a priority. That means outdoor kitchens and fire features continue to be top trends. Kitchen additions such as pizza ovens are reflective of the foodie movement, while fire features using gas fuel rather than wood are reflective of the desire for convenience, plus they are a good fit for many municipal regulations.

SUSTAINABILITY IS KING

As more homeowners are prioritizing green living, outdoor designs that become a part of the local ecosystem are in high demand. This could include planting to support pollinators or integrating edible landscape into the design. Water features are growing in popularity because they add a tranquil element to outdoor spaces while masking unwanted sounds, such as traffic or other noise pollution.

SMALL FOOTPRINT DESIGNS

Outdoor living isn't just for homeowners with large properties. Houses with small footprints are adding impressive outdoor spaces in surprising places. This could be maximizing alleyway access, adding a courtyard to a small backyard, or shifting the focus by utilizing the front yard for a patio and fireplace area. If you long for an outdoor living space, don't let space constraints limit your dreams.

These 2019 outdoor living trends, in effect, will prove to create a year full of innovative outdoor projects that fit the needs of every homeowner.

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