

**Style**

English Traditional  Georgian  Natural   
 Tuscan  Resort  Poolside

**Colours**

**Paving**

Paver

**Plants**

Lawn

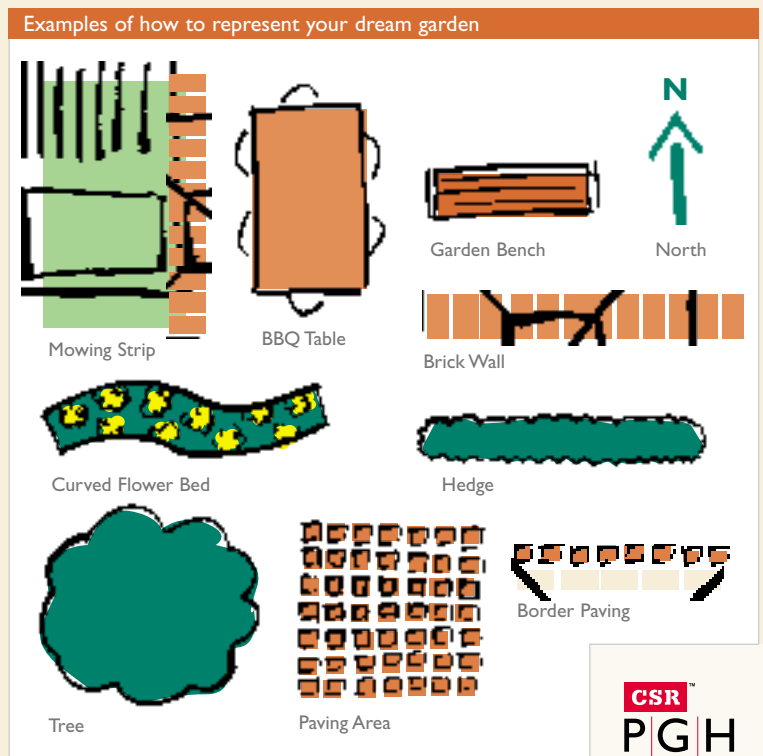
Trees (large)

Trees (small)

Hedges

Pot plants

Flowers



Planning Guide



Planning Guide  
by PGH Colours™

Instructions

- Measure up your garden space, and draw the perimeter of your property and external walls of the house that borders your garden area.
- Work out the best scale to represent your garden space. For example one square centimetre may represent one square metre.
- Add existing elements such as fixed structures or trees.
- Add a symbol to indicate north.
- Draw your planned entertainment area and other areas to be paved or bricked, such as fences, paths and mowing strips.
- Add key features such as water features, arbours and outdoor furniture.
- Add any lawn areas and garden beds.

To order a free copy of the PGH Colours™ Dream Living Design Kit or to find your nearest stockist, call PGH on 1800 012 121 or visit [www.pghpavers.com.au](http://www.pghpavers.com.au)

There is natural variation in fired clay products affecting colour, texture and other features. We do not warrant that our clay products will match any particular sample or brochure. Always check delivered product before installation.



# Planning Guide

This guide is part of the **PGH Colours™ Dream Living Design Kit**, a complete information package to help you create the ultimate outdoor living space. The kit also includes:

**The Colour Guide:** with swatches of PGH natural clay pavers

**Garden Style Guides:** with detailed information on various garden styles and how to achieve them

**The Paving Guide:** with instructions on laying pavers

On the opposite side of this Planning Guide there is a grid for mapping out your garden plans. The steps below will take you through the basics of planning and creating a design for your outdoor living area.

We recommend you consult a professional landscape designer or builder if you would like further advice or if your needs are beyond the scope of this guide. For instance, you may want a split-level garden, or to have steps, terraces, walls or a veranda constructed. You may also like to seek a professional opinion about whether elements you've included in your garden design – for instance, plants or a water feature, or even a large sculptural piece – are suitable for your particular situation.



■ Georgian Living



■ English Traditional Living



■ Tuscan Living

## 1 Getting started

When you're planning a garden, the first stage is to select the style of garden that's best for you. Then you can consider what kind of spaces your garden should include – for outdoor living and entertaining, as well as storage and other practical purposes. Once you have this mapped out, you can decide which areas to dedicate to lawns or garden beds, should they feature in your plans.

## 2 Selecting a style

You may already have your heart set on a garden filled with colour and fragrance, an all-white floral design, or perhaps extensive hedging to create a formal, symmetrical look. The Garden Style Guides will help you visualise your ideas and develop them into a complete vision for your garden.

The Garden Style Guides provide information and images of Tuscan, Georgian, Resort, Natural, English Traditional or Poolside gardens. They outline the basic features of each style, and provide tips to help you determine which style is suitable for your space and lifestyle.

### Working with plants

When you set out to redesign an existing garden, which trees and plants to keep is a major decision. Established plants can be a great asset to a garden, and it may be well worth the effort of working around them. On the other hand, this is also a great opportunity to banish plants that are struggling in an inappropriate location or conditions.

To help choose new plants, refer to the Garden Style Guides for some ideas, and put together a list of your favourite plants. You can refer back to this when you have worked out which spaces to dedicate to garden beds and other plantings.

Think about how much maintenance your garden will require. Once native plants are established they require minimal watering (see the Natural Garden Style Guide), whereas a Georgian garden with neatly clipped hedges may require more attention. If you're not keen on mowing, consider

minimising lawn areas. Clay paving suits all kinds of garden styles, and is a practical and attractive alternative to lawn in many situations. It is easy to clean and doesn't stain. PGH pavers aren't just water resistant, they stay resistant to sun and weathering, oil, food, fungus and mould – for years. This is due to Pavgard,™ an exclusive PGH sealant applied to PGH pavers during manufacturing.

The most effective gardens complement the style of the house, and make the most of any views and vistas. Consider whether you are more comfortable with modern or traditional styles. Does your home have heritage qualities you would like reflected in the garden? Are there any other traditional or cultural influences you would like to work with?

### Selecting colours

In creating a garden colour scheme, think about the atmosphere you want your garden to have, and which colours create this atmosphere.

- If you find rich earth tones soothing, you may decide on a natural style garden that evokes the tranquillity of the Australian bush, using native plants and tones such as browns and silver, with paving in rich red and deep charcoal (see the Natural Garden Style Guide for more details).
- If you wish to create a romantic atmosphere, consider the soft, dappled hues of an English Traditional Garden. A rambling garden with a mix of flowering ornamentals, pots of herbs and climbers such as summer jasmine, clematis or climbing roses invites you to wander through the garden and enjoy the abundance of colour and perfumes.

Look at the interior colour scheme of your house as well as the exterior trim and roof colours.

- Take elements of your interior design palette for use in your garden to create a sense of continuity between indoor and outdoor living spaces.
- Identify the dominant and recessive interior colours in your home, and imagine how they would work in your outdoor living space. A recessive interior colour can be very effective as a dominant paving or floral colour.

Take a look at the exterior surfaces of your house – the particular textures and colours of rendered, bagged, exposed brick, timber or painted surfaces will help guide your choice of garden style.

- Cement rendered or bagged exterior walls in cream, tan or terracotta become a feature in Tuscan style gardens. Floors paved in a complementary colour strengthen the impact of this simple and relaxed style.

- Alternatively, if the exterior of your home includes exposed timber, you may opt to continue the theme and colours in a natural style of garden.

The natural textures and colours of clay pavers create warmth and character, and years of use may even enhance the appearance of pavers. The PGH natural clay paver collection is derived from a rich palette of Australian clay soils and shales. See the Colour Guide for a complete range of swatches from the extensive range.

Ultimately, the garden is your environment to enjoy, and the best style for you comes down to personal choice. Once you've settled on a style for your garden, you can start planning the design. This involves designating the areas to pave, and where to put garden beds and lawns.

## 3 Designing outdoor living areas

One of the greatest rewards of a well-designed garden is being able to extend your living space outdoors. When you plan an entertainment area, consider how much space to pave, and whether the area needs some kind of cover to protect you and your guests from exposure to the elements. This will partly depend on the aspect of your garden, and how much sun and shade it gets in different seasons.

You may decide to have pathways linking the house and entertainment area, or leading to the clothesline or a shed. Keep in mind that paths and service areas (for instance, a shed area or a storage area for bikes or firewood) may also require paving. Garden beds with raised perimeters also look best capped with coordinating pavers.

Investigate the full range of natural clay pavers, including accessories and special shapes (to create kerbs or channel drainage, for instance). You can effectively combine different types of clay pavers. For instance, you could make retaining walls a recessive colour and paving a dominant colour, and perhaps give the wall a bullnose trim to match the paving colour.

### Selecting laying patterns for pavers

There's a broad range of patterns to choose from for laying clay pavers. It largely comes down to personal choice, but there are a few points to keep in mind. If you're paving a driveway, herringbone is the best choice, as its strong interlocking action provides the best resistance to shunting. You can choose from herringbone 45° and 90°.



■ Herringbone 45°



■ Stretcher bond



■ Herringbone 90°



■ Basketweave

### Selecting pavers

The Colour Guide includes colour swatches and information to help you select the right pavers to complement your garden design. If you're also constructing planter boxes, steps, fences, walls or water features, use coordinating bricks from the PGH natural clay range for maximum effect. PGH clay pavers are available for special purposes including pool coping (the trim around the edge of a pool).

## 4 Lawns and plantings

If the style of garden you've selected includes lawns or garden beds, think carefully about the best position for them. As well as the layout of your garden, this will depend on soil types in your garden, and the sunlight and shelter available in various positions. This also applies to feature trees and hedged areas; make sure you understand the requirements of the species you select.

If your garden doesn't provide suitable conditions for your favourite plants, seek advice on which plants will flourish in the areas you have available. If your style of garden includes pots, you may have greater flexibility in your choice of plants, as you can move them into sunnier or shadier positions in different seasons.

## 5 Focal points in the garden

In gardens of any size and style, your eye is drawn to particular features. These may be water features; decorative objects, such as urns, birdbaths, pots or sculptural pieces; pieces of garden furniture; a pergola or cabana; or even feature trees or garden beds filled with flowers. The Garden Style Guides provide many ideas for feature pieces and other accessories to suit different garden styles. If your garden is dominated by a swimming pool, have a look at the suggestions in the Poolside Garden Style Guide.

## 6 Putting it all together

Once you have considered all these basic elements, you should be ready to put your design ideas down on paper. On the reverse side of this sheet, you'll find a grid that allows you to map out your garden design to scale.

Measure up the outdoor space you have to work with, and mark in buildings and any existing elements retained by your design plans (such as other structure or trees). Note the location of any water, sewerage or drain pipes, and power or phone cables that are in the vicinity, and take particular care when working in these areas. For underground network plans, contact Dial Before You Dig on 1100 or visit [www.dialbeforeyoudig.com.au](http://www.dialbeforeyoudig.com.au).

Add the major elements of your design, starting with the hard surface areas such as paved areas, then lawns, garden beds and major features (such as trees, water features and outdoor furniture). Drawing up your plans should help you visualise your new outdoor living area, and allow you to calculate the quantities of materials and plants etc you need to make it happen.

To get started on making your new outdoor living space a reality, refer to the Paving Guide. It explains exactly what is involved in laying pavers, so you can decide whether to do it yourself or seek the help of a landscape professional.

