

Deck décor article

Extend Your Living Space

No matter where you live, your deck can play a leading role in your life. Decks and patios are great for entertaining, so set the stage well. The only problem you'll have is that no one will want the party to end.

Outdoor home décor encompasses both practical and decorative items. Some can be built in, like deck railings, and some you may want to add, like fountains and garden planters. Experiment with different looks by drawing your deck and then playing with ideas. Or clip pictures from magazines that will fire your imagination and inspire you to use accent décor outside just like you do in your home.



Outdoor patio décor and deck accessories offer lots of creative combinations, but you'll do best if you start with outdoor furniture. Go for a garden look with wicker benches or contemporary chaise longues. If that's not your style, wrought iron will give you a completely different feel. Once you've chosen your basics, it's time to kick it up a notch with some garden décor.

Decorative hose holders are something new in accent décor these days. No longer are they merely practical—instead, they add class and texture in exciting new ways. From contemporary steel to copper that ages beautifully to whimsical beehive shapes hose holders have come a long way! You can even use them to store magazines or potting soil instead.

Your next layer in your outdoor home décor plan will be plants. This is where you can add in lots of color as well as visual interest and aromatherapy. Plant containers come in all sizes and shapes, so take advantage of the different heights and design options they offer. Also, plan for two plantings for your outdoor deck season by choosing plants that bloom early or late, like pansies, and switch to long-blooming horticultural stars like petunias and impatiens for the middle season.

Don't forget to add scented flowers in flower boxes or trough planters. Herbs are a great way to add aroma and greenery. Vegetable gardening is more popular than ever, and it's easy to set out a few pot stands (try heirloom tomatoes and yellow peppers) to add color and bring fresh flavor to your meals.

Now that you have your plan drawn, start dressing up your "backyard room" with all of your favorite ideas. Add in the actual items in the same order in which you drew them into your plan. As you watch your new outdoor living space taking shape, you'll be inspired to invite your favorite people over to spend time together enjoying the great outdoors—right at home.