

Thinking Vertical: Incorporating Trellises for the Perfect Outdoor Retreat

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Homeowners are spending more time outdoors, and that means they're also spending more time designing their outdoor spaces. According to research by the International Casual Furnishings Association, 90% of Americans agree their outdoor living space is more valuable than ever before, with 78% making outside upgrades during COVID-19.

Additionally, the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) survey notes that some of the most popular outdoor trends include designing spaces that do double duty, such as a vertical garden that also serves as a privacy fence.

Living walls and vertical gardens are an ideal solution for outdoor spaces with minimal square footage. These structures not only impart a sense of lushness to a space, but also introduce an unexpected element. For those who travel frequently or lack a green thumb, succulent walls are a great low-maintenance option.

Serving as an excellent space-saving option, trellises are available in a variety of materials, including wood, stainless steel and aluminum. A planter can be positioned below the trellis and flowering vines used to create the illusion of a wall, or several trellises can be placed around a seating area for a cozy nook. Vertical walls or trellises are also a clever way to create a feeling of privacy.

Achieving privacy within an outdoor space is important, especially if neighboring homes are in close proximity. Building a "false" privacy wall is a convenient and economical way to define an outdoor living area. You can create a portable partition using a large louvered screen or stainless steel trellis or opt for a more permanent structure such as a living wall featuring an assortment of plants and greenery. If you're not sure which



plants will work best, ask a local nursery or landscaper for recommendations. And, don't be afraid to mix materials such as wood, corrugated metal and faux concrete.

Feeney's trellises are perfect for displaying light to medium weight foliage and offer simple, elegant design details with exceptional versatility and easy installation. From minimizing UV exposure on walls to creating a relaxing entertainment area, Feeney trellises add an extra layer of design to fully round-out an outdoor living space.

Feeney trellises can elevate virtually project. Plus, they offer unparalleled durability with powder-coated aluminum support frames and brackets and 316-grade stainless steel cables and rods.

As outdoor living spaces continue to make the transition from basic backyards to inviting retreats, the design possibilities are truly endless. In addition to trellises, Feeney's diverse product offering also includes awnings, which can be incorporated to create stylish protections from the elements.

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