

The Use of Color in Landscape Design



Scott Parker, the owner of Parker Homescape, shared some advice for landscape design with Elegant Lifestyles. Be sure to keep the following in mind when preparing your yard for the summer months.

I find that one of the most spectacular and enjoyable aspects of the landscape profession is the coordination of color when planning a landscape design. Although one would think that by looking at a tag on a plant or tree, it would be easy to determine color, it can be a much more complex endeavor than that.

Light or lack of light: Depending on the plant or tree, some flowers or foliage will tinge a much lighter or darker shade when exposed to varying light conditions. Other plants may even turn an entirely different color. If you were to take the sun-loving Gold Thread Cypress which has a bright yellow/golden color and plant it in a

Home Improvement

location that gets part-sun/part-shade, it would probably flourish, but may turn completely green.

Soil: PH levels and other characteristics of soil can also affect the color of flowers and/or foliage. You might purchase a beautiful hydrangea with light pink flowers, only to find that they changed to a blue or white flower.

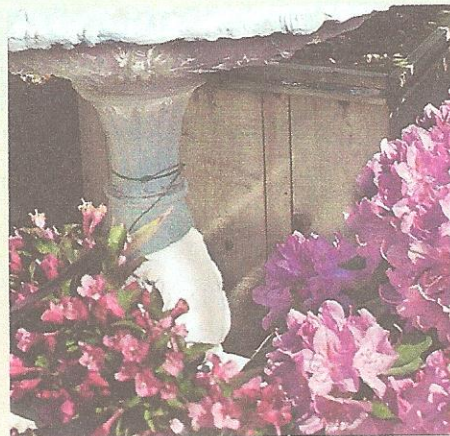
Grower: Depending on the region of the country where a plant or tree is cultivated, you may find that the same species may have an entirely different color of foliage or flower.

Make sure to consult a landscape professional to ensure that your vision and color scheme of the landscape of your dreams will indeed be translated from idea to reality.

Scott Parker is the owner of Parker Homescape, a design/build landscape firm that has been recognized as one of

the Top Landscape Design/Build Firms in the United States and has been recognized locally by Design NJ Magazine, New York Spaces Magazine, The Suburban News and many other prestigious publications.

For information on Parker Homescape, visit their design portfolio @ www.parkerhomescape.com or call 908-626-1100.



In addition to beautifying your lawn, try these quick tricks to give your home instant curb appeal:

- Scrape and spot-paint problem areas. This might be a temporary fix, but even a touch up is better than peeling paint.
- Add colour by planting some annuals in the front yard flowerbeds.
- Replace or paint rusty fixtures like the mailbox, railings, house number, and more.
- Tackle pesky weeds on interlock paths and driveway. Use hand sprays for targeted jobs, or larger jugs for a big surface area.
- Install lighting along your walkways and steps, or to spotlight the shape and architecture.



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