

Planning a garden is well worth the effort

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Careful planning pays off when it comes to gardens.

Planning a garden may sound counter-intuitive because nature rarely operates according to what we want. But a guiding hand can help the natural world to be its best and give you a backyard oasis of colour, calm and contentment.

Thinking long-term

When it comes to your dream garden, “Planning is key to getting to the goal,” says landscape and interior design professional Chantale Charette, owner of Ottawa-based [Studio 853 Design](#). That’s especially so when doing a project in phases according to Charette. Working in stages over a couple of years or more means you can break the project down into affordable chunks.

However, warns Charette, family, friends and others are going to be offering advice in the process, whether you want it or not. “These ideas may be great ones although they may not correspond to your exact needs and may not all mesh well together. The plan is a tool that will help strategize and get to a finished product that you know will work and have the results that you wanted.”

Having a firm plan also means that all contractors are on the same page when giving you quotes, making it easier for you to choose which one to go with. Just as importantly, a plan can help rein in impulse buying. That’s important because while there’s always room in a garden for an unexpected purchase, you don’t want to wind up with a mere hotchpotch in the back forty... View full Article at [All Things Home](#)