

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

How to build a rock garden:

Rock gardens are an excellent option to add some different textures to your garden, or to decorate smaller spaces in need of landscaping. Rock gardens can look very different depending on the gardener's creativity level and what they decide to plant in the garden.

Choosing where to put your rock garden:

Rock gardens can fill small spaces, or they can be sprawling depending on the space you have available. If you're opting for a smaller space to fill, design the rock garden as a simple, round bed and fill it with select rocks, and place it somewhere like a corner nook where it won't be in the way when you mow the yard.

What you'll need to build a rock garden:

Although building a rock garden is pretty simple, it will take several hours of time and will require some tools. To build a rock garden, you'll need a shovel, a towel, a wheelbarrow, soil, plants and, of course, stones of varying sizes that fit the space you plan to create.

Steps to building the rock garden:

First, you will need to clear the area of grass or whatever organic material is growing there. Then, lay a circle perimeter of rocks as your base. Use the largest rocks for this bottom layer. Fill the area inside with sandy soil, which will provide good drainage for whatever plants will be growing in the garden. Once you have added the soil,



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walk over the soil to compact it.

Then, plan the second course of stones. This will most likely be identical to the first course, just smaller, such as a circle within a circle or rocks. You can also add a line of rocks through the center if you want to split the bed into a design other than a plain circle. You will use some of the lighter, easier stones for this second course. When picking the stones to use here, try to pick the prettier ones since these will be more visible.

Then, the fun part begins. Next you will select the plants that will go into your rock garden. These selections can vary depending on what you want your color scheme to be. Pick a color that works well with the color of stones you used, since stones can vary with color depending on their type. You also will need to select plants that thrive in well-drained soil, and that they have similar sunlight requirements to grow that the rock garden area allows for. Make



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sure you vary the heights and textures of the plants and flowers to truly create a beautiful rock garden. Once you are done planting, you can add smaller rocks around the plants to make it look as though the plants are growing through the rocks.



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