

# GARDENS & OUTDOOR LIVING

## Create an Outdoor Retreat

This year, transform your outdoor area into a family retreat with an "out-of-the-box" vision, careful planning and the appropriate tools. First, gather your family together for a brainstorming session and target what you want to do in your outdoor haven. Next, make a to-do list of the projects required to make your vision a reality. Finally, round up the tools and supplies you need and get to work! To help you, Woodcraft offers a few suggestions to make your work easier.

### Gathering Places

Decks, patios and porches, both open and enclosed, invite people to gather for a meal, share conversation or play games.

To start your building projects, use the Bosch 12" Dual Bevel Miter Saw for your crosscutting chores. The saw's patented Axial-Glide System expands horizontal cutting capacity to 14" and affords a compact work space that saves up to 12". Make quick work of building a deck or porch floor with the Kreg Deck Jig that creates a strong wood-to-wood bond with self-tapping screws that are hidden for a smooth, splinter-free surface. Compatible with composite deck boards, ACQ treated lumber, and native softwoods such as redwood, cedar and pressure-treated pine, the jig comes with Kreg Coarse Protec-Kote (anti-corrosion) deck screws that are sold separately and can also be used as simple face screws for a variety of outdoor projects. Add a Pinnacle Three-Piece Combination Square (blade, square head and center finder), a Woodcraft 6' tape measure and a selection of HIGHPOINT stainless steel exterior grade screws to your tool lineup for general measuring, marking and joinery.

### Comfortable Furniture

Whether you're on the deck or on the lawn, comfortable furniture will enhance your outdoor living experience. Woodcraft offers a wide selection of outdoor furniture plans, including Adirondack chairs, swings, garden benches, rockers, picnic tables and benches, arbors and much more.

For your furniture projects, use the Rockwell BladeRunner, a portable, multipurpose precision cutter that uses any T-shank

jigsaw blades to make straight, curved or controlled cuts, allowing you to use both hands to guide the material (wood, metal, ceramic tile, aluminum or plastic). The BladeRunner can be wall mounted, but easily detaches for use at your worksite and has a dust port for attachment to a shop vacuum for continuous cleanup. To hold workpieces together, Jorgenson offers its ISD3 Expandable Clamp in 6", 12", 18", 14" and 36" sizes. Two clamps can be joined to extend the clamping length by 6". Use the Festool CSX Lithium-Ion 10.8V Cordless Drill Driver Set for all your drilling and driving chores, especially in tight spaces, dark spots and corners.

### Activity Areas & Secluded Spots

Wooden playground equipment, game courts, garden benches, arbors, gates and trellises organize your outdoor living area for fast-paced play and quiet relaxation.

For cutting chores on these varied projects, use the Festool Trion PS 300 EQ Jigsaw, a 720-watt tool that cuts 43/4" wooden beams, 3/4" aluminum or 3/8" steel with ease. Electronic Multi-Material Speed Control provides the correct constant speed for the material you are sawing, which prevents overheating. If you need a second pair of hands for large or awkward tasks, the Rockwell JawStand can help. The easy-to-use work support stand is ideal for holding, clamping, and feeding large work or sheets of material.



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**Welcome to the Lawn, Garden and Outdoor Living feature. The businesses on the page can help you get your garden growing with products and quality services. Also be on the lookout for great summer activities to enhance the outdoor experience. Check out our garden tips.**

### GARDENING TERMS DEFINED

**PERENNIAL** Plants that grow back year after year from original roots or self seeding.

**ANNUAL** Plants that grow only for one season and need to be replanted from seeds or plants each season.

**TENDER PERENNIAL** Perennial plants that are not hardy in cold climates, where they may be grown as an annual.

**HYBRID** a variety produced by the crossing of two purebred parents.

**NON - HYBRID** Seed that has not been altered or crossed. You can take the seed from the non-hybrid and plant the next year. Also known as Open Pollinated seed.

**OPEN POLLINATED** These non-hybrid varieties will breed true parents for one generation to the next. However due to uncontrolled pollination by wind or insects, they can be more variable than hybrids.

**HEIRLOOM** Heirloom seed is open pollinated varieties from cultivars which have been grown and passed down for generations.

**NICK, CHIP OR SCARIFY SEED** When seeds have had a hard outer covering such as morning glory, it is always best to nick, chip or scarify the seed coat. This means you take a file, sandpaper or nick with a knife on one side of the seed coat of each seed. This will allow for quicker and more successful germination.

**SOIL PH** The pH scale runs for 0-14. The mid point is 7.0 or neutral. The lower numbers are acidic, so you would need to add lime to reach a more desirable level. The higher numbers are alkaline; you would need to add sulfur to reach a more desirable level.

Information provided by: Vesey Seeds

## Cavanaugh & Son Excavating LTD

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or 902-897-3185  
Visit [www.colchester.ca/bike-week](http://www.colchester.ca/bike-week)  
For a full list of events during Bike Week.