

First Impressions Words by Tom Bannister

If you ask me, first impressions are very important. When a person visits my home, I hope they notice the hanging baskets that I have carefully placed outside my front door or the Wisteria that I'm currently nurturing up the front of my house. These are the first things that I want my visitors to be welcomed by. As a garden designer, my job is to create spaces which perfectly combine both function and form. This symbiotic relationship creates a balance between the way we use and the overall aesthetic of our property. This considered approach will add value and the famous 'Wow!' factor to your property.

A garden can be a window into your tastes, a reflection of the property style and most importantly, a natural extension to the home itself. Garden design should not be treated in isolation: the most successful examples consider how clients use the interior and exterior space equally throughout the year.



So, how do you go about achieving a lasting impression? Our properties need to feel comfortable in their surroundings and there are many ways to do this. One way could be installing mature trees or hedging. A beautiful new hedge instantly creates a sense of security and privacy surrounding, while improving the curb side appeal. Planting en-masse is one key element to provide the 'Wow!' factor while keeping the beds low maintenance. Planting one variety of grass in giant swathes can offer maximum impact, minimal maintenance gardening yet provide a year around show. When planting large swathes of one plant, it offers a backdrop for the so-called 'prettier' perennial plants to do their thing. Once settled into the right spot, the perennials will give you a show, year after year.

And ultimately, investing in a garden benefits us in many ways. As well as providing a sense of security and privacy, a beautiful garden improves our wellbeing. Get the combination of elements right for your personal space, and ultimately, you will gain unlimited enjoyment and added value to your property.

Tom Bannister, is design and construction manager with Landstruction (landstruction.com; bighedgeco.com; 01244 880 422)

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