

# takin' it OUTSIDE...

As a Canadian, and an avid BBQ'er, my back yard is just as important to me as my kitchen. A well-thought out exterior design will give you years of enjoyment. For your next outdoor project, put it to paper first with these important tips.



## MAKE YOUR BACKYARD A DESTINATION

Budget for your yard like you do your interior, include the accessories that make it comfortable, like furniture and lighting. We tend to forget about the soft stuff for outside.

## BE ECO-CONSCIOUS

Use less expensive pressure-treated lumber for structure. Incorporate environmentally-friendly materials like concrete, which is sustainable.

## THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

Run your fence boards horizontally for a contemporary feel, add whimsical statues, or hang outdoor artwork. Remember, less is more, bigger is better – don't over crowd your yard with "small stuff".

## INVEST IN PERENNIALS

and plant in rich, new soil rather than purchasing new plants every year. Chosen well, some grasses, bushes and trees can provide lovely texture and colour all-year round..



## BRING ON THE LIGHT

Lanterns, candles, floor lamps. Layer your light with solar powered step lights, path lights, overhead chandeliers and the latest in illuminated furniture, shown here from Home Infatuation.

## BUY THE BEST OUTDOOR FURNITURE YOU CAN

Consider it as an investment. Take into consideration the style, don't purchase modern furniture for a victorian home and garden.

## HAVE A SPACE FOR STORAGE

– very important to store your furniture and cushions somewhere safe for the winter to be used over and over again

## BRING ON THE HEAT!

Overhead or tower heaters, fireplaces, fire pits, are all great ways to extend our time outdoors during the summer/fall season. Please be safe, check our city's fire codes before you build your fire pit at: [http://www.edmonton.ca/for\\_residents/emergency\\_services/fire-pits-safety.aspx](http://www.edmonton.ca/for_residents/emergency_services/fire-pits-safety.aspx)

## FREE STANDING BBQ OR AN ENTIRE KITCHEN

If you love entertaining outside, you'll definitely want to expand to a full outdoor kitchen. Plan this space as you would your inside kitchen and you will have many years of complete enjoyment. Definitely hire a professional designer to help you with this very important investment in outdoor living.

## LAST BUT NOT LEAST – ACCESSORIES!

They can take your back yard from hum-drum to spectacular. Shown here are some gorgeous accessories from Global Views. Area rugs, pillows, drapes, sculptures, vases, dishes are all part of the final touches that make your outside space pure luxury.



Whatever your personal style, upgrading your outdoors is an investment that makes sense. If you find that you need more help with your design, give us a call at (780) 489-4412.



C. Marie Hebson is the principal designer at **interiorsBYDESIGN inc.**, a full service design studio based out of Edmonton, Alberta. No stranger to design, Marie has a degree in both graphic design and interior decorating.

"My goal is to enhance my clients spaces in ways they never thought possible. We always get it magazine perfect."

I have an uncanny intuition for trendsetting and the ability to generate creative ideas. Having both a graphic and interior design education means I can deliver interiors that are effective in both 3 and 2D. It is high end, extra sensory design.

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