

Balancing Hardscape & Softscape For Your Outdoor Space

Softscape

Softscape comprises the living elements in landscaping, which could be permanent or temporary as they change with the seasons.



Key elements of softscape



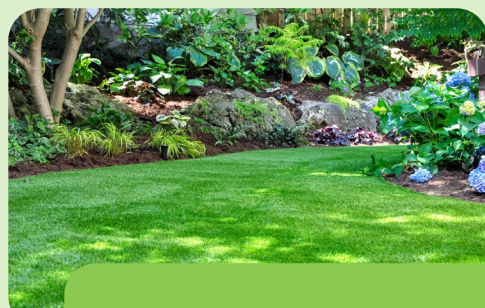
Trees



Vines and ivies



Flowers and flowerbeds



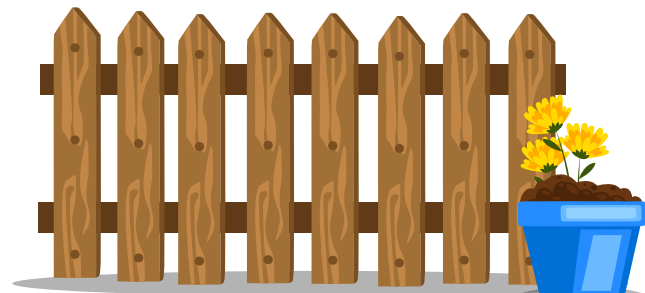
Grass lawns



Shrubbery and bushes

Hardscape

Hardscape refers to inanimate, manmade features. These elements typically provide structure and serve specific purposes, such as a path, fence or focal point.



Key elements of hardscape



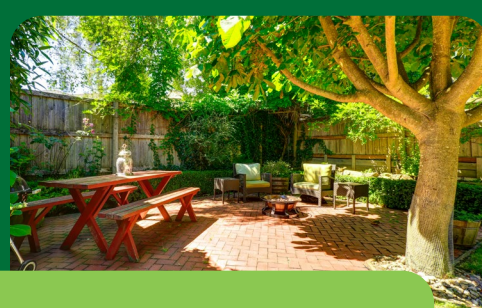
Gazebos and trellises



Retaining walls



Decorative driveway



Patios



Fountains and statues

Ways to Balance Softscape & Hardscape

- Devise a plan or overall aesthetic for the space at the onset.
- Enhance a brick patio with garden pots in complementary styles.
- Highlight a water feature designed to incorporate plant life.
- Line both sides of a long driveway with oak trees to form a shady canopy.
- Position flowerbeds in elevated soil and encircle them with a brick border.
- Trail vines along the sides and top of a gazebo or pergola.
- Use retaining walls to create a supported terrace for plant beds or landscaping.
- Utilize hardscape elements capable of serving multiple purposes, such as a storage bench.