



BRING THE INDOORS OUT

CREATE YOUR OWN BACKYARD SANCTUARY

GROUND COVER

Maximize fun in the sun and minimize exposure with the Bikini Sun Shade.

The Bikini Sun Shade by Janus et Cie; starting at \$2104, available through Interior Designers & Architects.



CHERYL CHENAULT

SPRING AND SUMMER MEAN OUTDOOR LIVING. And the great outdoors is as close as your own backyard. Whether you're working with an intimate terrace or acres of property, the basic ingredients of any open-air sanctuary are fire, water, food, family and friends. Start with these ideas as you consider function, efficiency, and aesthetics to connect your time outside with your life inside.

Join today's trend among stay-at-home homeowners by creating an outdoor living room with all the comfort of indoors. Select elements that complement your personal preferences for entertainment, play and relaxation. Create an outdoor living experience to delight your senses and enhance

your time at home through the integration of your favorite indoor features.

During the planning phase, educate yourself about important design decisions by consulting a professional designer, architect or landscape designer to devise a scheme to meet your needs and interests. As you clarify your thoughts consider how you entertain, the ages of your family and friends, and the number of people you typically invite to your gatherings. If your parties are geared toward socializing, sporting events, games, or a round of croquet, give thought to how much space you need. Don't forget to create a budget: Know in advance how much you want to spend. As for ideas, take time to peruse outdoor lifestyle magazines for inspirational photos and appealing features.

Our love affair with nature is endless. Start now and make your outside space as inviting as any room in your home. By adding outdoor living areas, you increase your home's value and provide your family and friends with years of enjoyment.

6 GREAT FINDS

THE TREND IS TO ADD ELEGANCE TO OUTDOOR LIVING



1 SIMPLE SERVINGS

Elegant, flowing lines distinguish the Barre 4 piece place setting handcrafted by American potters. Visually appealing and durable, these layered place settings complement any décor.

\$140 per set, available through Juniper Hill Furniture.



3 CLEARLY REFRESHING

Practical and breathtaking, the Addison Pitcher features a steep, sloping lip, flowing rim and graceful body. Comfortable in the hand with an easy, non-spill pour, this pitcher can be engraved making a memorable gift.

The Addison Pitcher is made of fine clear, lead-free glass. \$135; available through Juniper Hill Furniture.



6 BABY GREENS

Inspired by summer, these stylized primrose floral napkins weave yellow, green, raspberry, tangerine and red violet into the ideal palette for any festive outdoor gathering.

Primrose Napkins are an exclusive design for Simon Pearce; \$88 for four, 100% cotton, available through Juniper Hill Furniture.



4 PERFECT UNION

A large serving platter, a large salad bowl and individual salad and garnish bowls make up this handmade, ovenproof and dishwasher safe ceramic creation by Oregon artist, Nina Walz. When you're not eating your salad in style, display these pieces as works of art!

Salad set available at Gesture; \$900.



2 MODERN MOMENT

Light up your windy evenings with the Nantucket Lantern. This artful accessory brings charming ambiance to any outdoor gathering.

The Nantucket Lantern from Simon Pearce is made of clear lead-free glass with a forged iron base; \$265, available through Juniper Hill Furniture.



5 FUNCTIONAL FORM

The clever integration of seating and planting turns simple form into functional art. The Horizon Bench made of reinforced steel and 5mm of hand layered fiberglass comes in a choice of fade resistant, marine grade paints or the signature metal fusion which develops patina with time.

IAP's Horizon Bench; available through Architects and Designers.

RENO HOME

ANGLE OF REPOSE

The Quinta teak/khaki fixed chaise; \$1778 and Quinta teak/khaki grand lounge armchair; \$1668 from Janus et Cie, available through Interior Designers and Architects.



TIPS FROM CHERYL

- **Outdoor rooms** have gained popularity over the years. Design your own place. Include a kitchen, dining, and living areas for maximum enjoyment.
- **Curl up by an outdoor fireplace** or firepit to extend the amount of time you can use your outdoor room this year. Consider an overhead (built in) gas heater for small spaces.
- **A water feature inspires relaxation** and provides a pleasing focal point. Let the stress from your day be carried away by the sound of bubbling water.
- **Quality outdoor speakers** allow you to enjoy your favorite music on your courtyard, patio, or pergola. These are designed to withstand different types of weather and come in colors to blend with any décor.
- **An outdoor area rug** underneath a dining table or chaise lounges is a stylish way to add color and definition to an outdoor area.
- **Enhance the outdoor ambiance** with a festive luminaire, torch, lantern, or outdoor light fixtures. Create a setting that can alternately promote relaxation or deliver a festive party mood.
- **Use outdoor fabrics and plush trims** that resist fading. Vibrant colors create visual excitement while soft colors create a tranquil retreat. You also can use these inside for those sunny areas to protect furniture.
- **Extend your entertaining with an outdoor kitchen.** Stone countertops, stainless steel appliances, and weather-resistant refrigerators are popular items.
- **Host special outdoor gatherings with a pizza oven.** Let everyone create their own gourmet pizza.
- **Seating and lounge areas can be minimal or luxurious** depending upon your style and budget. Incorporate those elements that reflect your joie de vivre.

Cheryl Chenault is owner of Cheryl Chenault Interiors, Inc. 

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