



*extra*



birdbaths



trellises



metal gates

statues figures sculptures orbs



sundials



# art in your garden

wind chimes



rain gauges

Even if all the intricate details of your garden have been meticulously planned out – a thematic, colorful, and cohesive plant palette, rich soil conditioning, correct drainage and irrigation, hardscaping materials for pathways and patios – do not overlook possibly the most expressive medium of your personal taste ... garden art!

Just as specimen plant materials can create focal points of interest or block unwanted views, some forms of garden art can effectively serve similar purposes. Integrating the garden art pieces with complementary plantings to appropriately scale and enhance them while framing vignettes is also important for most garden art applications. Although a professional designer can assemble a masterful plan for your landscape, shopping for that perfect aesthetic piece truly requires personal input and preference.

Talented garden artisans can create forms from a vast scope of materials: bronze, copper, steel, glass, concrete, stone, wood, and more. Some pieces are simply ornamental such as statues, figures, sculptures and orbs, serving as beautiful design elements. For urban gardens without a view, a large unattractive blank wall can be an excellent space for a painted mural scene or subject of interest. While you can find many ornate garden art subjects at a favorite home and garden retail store, commissioning an artisan for that unique piece may be worth the extra expense for something distinctively special and definitively you. Other garden art subjects can add function as well as

beauty. For example, the water element in birdbaths and fountains can offer a soothing mood to any space as well as invite fluttering, feathered friends. Finely crafted metal gates and trellises with custom detail and style add elegance and grace to these utilitarian garden structures. Ornamental stepping stones in the shapes of animals or flowers can create a playful path to explore through a colorful, floral border. Wood or metal harmonically-tuned wind chimes are instrumental in dampening unwanted urban clamor. Rain gauges and sundials can also be as decorative as they are exacting in the garden.

If you have a professional landscape designer, contractor, or architect, be sure to mention you want to incorporate garden art pieces. The planning stage is the most important for proper placement of these pieces, especially if they require footings, foundations, plumbing for water, or conduits for electricity. Finally, the best way to enjoy your art in the garden, for as much time possible, is to use landscape lighting to effectively illuminate your subjects for evening enjoyment. Soft, low-voltage up lights, spotlights, down lights, or backlights can create that special garden magic while entertaining or embellishing a romantic evening.



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fountains