



ADVENTURE GARDENS

How to create the perfect pet garden



MEET HENRY

I'M HENRY AGG, A PROFESSIONAL GARDEN DESIGNER AND HORTICULTURIST, AND I'VE PARTNERED WITH CARNILOVE DOG AND CAT FOOD, TO BRING YOU THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO ENHANCING YOUR GARDEN THIS SUMMER, MAKING IT THE PERFECT ADVENTURE SPACE FOR YOUR CAT OR DOG.

THE SECRET TO CREATING A PET ADVENTURE GARDEN IS TO DESIGN A SPACE THAT BOTH HUMANS AND PETS CAN ENJOY ALL YEAR ROUND. WE'VE DESIGNED A GARDEN THAT WILL AWAKEN THE SENSES OF CATS AND DOGS AND ALLOW THEM TO CHANNEL THEIR WILD SIDE AT HOME.

IN THIS GUIDE, I WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE DO'S AND DON'TS, EASY TIPS, AND ENRICHING ACTIVITIES THAT CAN HELP TURN YOUR GARDEN INTO AN EXCITING, RELAXING, AND ENJOYABLE SPACE FOR BOTH YOU AND YOUR PET...

HENRY AGG



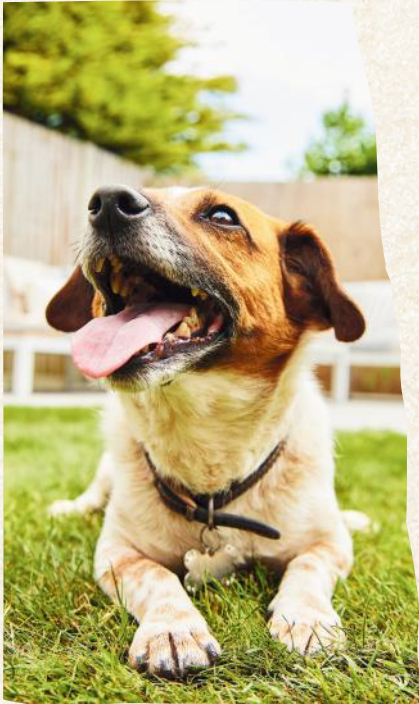


MEET DASHER, HENRY'S DOG

SECURITY

IT'S IMPORTANT TO CREATE A SAFE HAVEN FOR YOUR PETS, THIS IS THE PRIORITY. THE FIRST QUESTION TO ASK YOURSELF IS, IS MY GARDEN SAFE AND SECURE? INSTALLING SECURE BOUNDARIES AND HEDGE LINES TO STOP YOUR PETS FROM LEAVING AND POTENTIALLY RUNNING INTO ROADS, ESPECIALLY IN BUILT-UP AREAS WILL ENSURE THEIR SAFETY.

YOU SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER HAZARDS LIKE DEEP PONDS AND LAKES, WHICH SHOULD BE FENCED OFF TO PREVENT DROWNING AND TO AVOID DOGS OR CATS DRINKING FROM EXTERNAL WATER SOURCES THAT COULD BE CONTAMINATED BY CHEMICALS OR WATERBORNE DISEASE.



IN THIS NEWLY DESIGNED GARDEN, WE'VE ENSURED NO HAZARDS AND THE BOUNDARIES ARE SECURE. WE'VE DESIGNED THE GARDEN TO SATISFY THE NEEDS OF OUR PETS BUT ALSO TO CREATE A BEAUTIFUL, TRANQUIL SPACE FOR US.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO CREATE A PRACTICAL, FUNCTIONAL, AND AESTHETICALLY PLEASING SPACE. IF YOU GO TOO FAR DOWN THE PET-ONLY ROUTE IT CAN START TO LOOK LIKE AN ASSAULT COURSE FOR ANIMALS VS A BEAUTIFUL SPACE TO ENTERTAIN AND RELAX WITH FAMILY AND LOVED ONES.

WATER FEATURE



AT THE HEART AND CENTER OF THE GARDEN IS THE WATER FEATURE. THIS ISN'T A DRINKING FOUNTAIN, IT SETS THE MOOD AND FEEL OF THE GARDEN AND SERVES AS THE MAIN FOCAL POINT. THE SOUND OF WATER IS PROVEN TO BE BOTH CALMING FOR PETS AND HUMANS, IT INSTANTLY RELAXES YOU AND CREATES A BEAUTIFUL ATMOSPHERE.

THE WATER TABLE IS ALSO USED BY PASSING BIRDS AS A BIRD BATH, AGAIN, ANOTHER SENSORY ELEMENT AS BOTH CATS AND DOGS LOVE TO WATCH THE BIRDS.

PLANTING





THE PLANTING HAS ALL BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED NON-TOXIC TO PETS, THE PLANTS CHOSEN WON'T HARM ANY PETS IF CONSUMED.

HOWEVER, DOGS AND CATS SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM EATING PLANTS. EVEN IF SAFE FOR CONSUMPTION THEY COULD CAUSE DIGESTIVE ISSUES.

THE PLANTS WE'VE CHOSEN ARE ALSO TOUGH SO THEY WILL COPE WITH DOGS AND CATS RUNNING THROUGH THEM AND MANY WITHIN THE PLAN ARE RESISTANT TO DOG/CAT URINE E.G. OSMANTHUS BURKWOODII AND MANY DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHRUB ROSES.

THE PLANTING PROVIDES A SENSORY ELEMENT, HERBS LIKE ROSEMARY, AND WOODLAND SAGE ARE FRAGRANT, THE FLUFFY LEAVES OF THE STACHYS ARE IRRESISTIBLE TO DOGS AS THEY SNIFF THEM AND THE SWAYING GRASSES PROVIDE MOVEMENT AND VISUAL INTEREST.

PETS LIKE TO BE STIMULATED, SO CHOOSING FLOWY PLANTS THAT MOVE IN THE WIND LIKE GRASSES IS A GREAT OPTION FOR A PET-FRIENDLY PLANTING SCHEME. YOU CAN ALSO PLANT LARGE GRASSES IN DRIFTS WHICH CATS LOVE TO MEANDER THROUGH, CREATING A SENSE OF JOURNEY AND ADVENTURE FOR THEM.



THE MULTI-STEMMED OSMANTHUS WILL PROVIDE HEIGHT AND STRUCTURES FOR ADVENTUROUS CATS TO CLIMB AND FIND SHELTER, TREES CAN BE A GREAT ADDITION TO ANY PET-FRIENDLY PLANTING SCHEME AS THEY PROVIDE SHADE AND A NATURAL CLIMBING FRAME FOR ADVENTUROUS PETS, THE BARK IS ALSO A STIMULANT FOR TOUCH AND FEEL.



THE LAWN WE'VE CHOSEN IS A STRONG MIX OF PERENNIAL RYE GRASS WHICH IS EXTREMELY HARD-WEARING AND PROBABLY YOUR BEST OPTION IF YOU GO FOR A NATURAL VS ARTIFICIAL LAWN (WHICH I WOULD RECOMMEND DUE TO THE TOXINS IN ARTIFICIAL TURF).



SO WITH PLANTING YOU SHOULD ALWAYS THINK ABOUT THE TOXICITY ELEMENT IF CONSUMED, RESILIENCE TO PET DAMAGE FROM PLAY AND URINE, AND SENSORY ELEMENTS WITH MOVEMENT / VISUAL, SMELL, TOUCH, AND SOUND I.E. THE SOUND OF SWAYING GRASSES.

FOR THIS GARDEN, WE'VE CREATED CONTAINER DISPLAYS FEATURING SOME OF THE INGREDIENTS FOUND AND PROMOTED IN CARNILOVE'S RANGE OF PRODUCTS, THEY ARE WILD STRAWBERRIES, ROSEMARY, THYME, AND ROSES FOR THEIR HIPS!



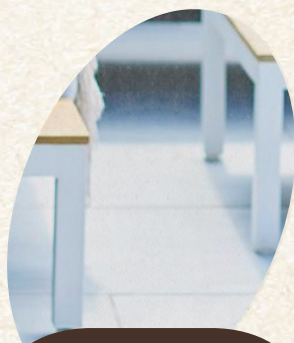
HARD LANDSCAPING

THE NEXT, AND ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT, ELEMENTS TO CONSIDER IS THE HARD LANDSCAPING. THIS CAN PLAY A BIG PART IN HOW YOUR PETS ENJOY AND USE THE GARDEN. IN THIS GARDEN, WE'VE SELECTED A PREMIUM PORCELAIN PAVING STONE AS IT'S SLIP-RESISTANT, EASY TO CLEAN, LOW MAINTENANCE AND SCRATCH-RESISTANT.

A KEY BENEFIT IS ITS RESISTANCE TO HEAT VS OTHER PAVING PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET. IN THE HEIGHT OF SUMMER, IT WON'T CONDUCT HEAT AS INTENSELY AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BURN OR CAUSE DISCOMFORT TO YOUR PETS' PAWS. FOR THOSE REASONS, THIS IS MY #1 RECOMMENDATION FOR PATIOS AND TERRACES IN A PET-FRIENDLY GARDEN.



LARGE GRAVEL



PORCELAIN PAVERS



LOOPING PATH



IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO MIX UP THE MATERIALS SO YOUR PETS CAN EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT TEXTURES DURING THEIR ADVENTURES AROUND THE GARDEN.

WE'VE CREATED A SENSE OF JOURNEY WITH A LOOPING PATH USING PORCELAIN STEPPING STONES AND VERY LARGE GRAVEL WHICH IS EASY FOR THEM TO WALK ON, SMOOTH, AND NOT A CHOKING HAZARD FOR YOUR PETS. THE OTHER REASON FOR CHOOSING LARGE STONES IS BECAUSE THEY CAN'T EASILY BE MOVED, SO PETS ARE LESS LIKELY TO USE YOUR GRAVELED AREAS AS A BIG LITTER TRAY. THEY ARE FANTASTIC FOR DRAINAGE TOO!

USING WOODEN SLEEPERS AND OTHER TEXTURES WILL ALSO PROVIDE VARIETY IN TERMS OF SURFACE AND STIMULATE YOUR AND YOUR PET'S SENSE OF TOUCH. WE'VE EDGED THE GRAVELED PATHS WITH PORCELAIN PAVERS WHICH CATS LOVE TO WALK ON TOO.

MIXING HARD LANDSCAPING CREATES INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE GARDEN.

PET ACTIVITIES



AFTER YOU'VE CONSIDERED THE SECURITY, PLANTING, AND HARD LANDSCAPING CHOICES IT'S IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER INTEGRATING SPECIFIC FEATURES THAT WILL BRING THE FUN AND PRACTICAL BENEFITS FOR YOUR PETS.

MY #1 AREA TO START IS ENSURING THERE IS ADEQUATE SHADE AND SHELTER FOR YOUR PETS. YOU CAN DO THIS BY CREATING A SPACE UNDER A TREE CANOPY LIKE WE'VE DONE, OR YOU COULD BUY/BUILD SPECIFIC DOG/CAT HOUSES AND LOCATE THEM IN THE GARDEN.

ANOTHER GREAT OPTION IS TO BUY SEATING LIKE OUTSIDE SOFAS THAT ARE RAISED ENOUGH TO PROVIDE A NATURAL SHADE SHELTER UNDERNEATH. SHADE IS CRITICAL FOR BOTH PETS AND HUMANS TO ENJOY THE GARDEN IN THE HEIGHT OF SUMMER.



IN THIS GARDEN, WE'VE ALSO INSTALLED A DIY DOG WASH AREA FOR THE SMALL DOG THAT LIVES HERE USING A RECYCLED BELFAST SINK AND PALLET. IT'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE POPULAR TO HAVE SEPARATE PET WASH AREAS WITH BOTH COLD AND HOT TAPS SO THEY CAN BE HOSED DOWN WITH WARM WATER AFTER MUDDY WALKS! THE BELFAST SINK HAS A RUBBER MAT INSIDE TO PREVENT SLIPPING.



THE GARDEN ALSO FEATURES A SCRATCH POST TURNED TREE STAKE FOR CATS, SOMETIMES BEING A LITTLE CREATIVE YOU CAN CREATE PRACTICAL AND FUNCTIONAL MULTIPURPOSE FEATURES THAT SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE GARDEN BUT ALSO THE STIMULATION FOR PETS - THIS DIY SCRATCH POST/TREE STAKE IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF THIS.

CAT LADDERS MADE OUT OF SIMPLE TRELLIS OR SHOP-BOUGHT ONES ARE GREAT FOR DIRECTING AND HELPING YOUR CATS CLIMB INTO A TREE CANOPY, IT PROVIDE A SAFE PLACE FOR THEM TO ENTER AND RETURN WITHOUT ANY RISK OF FALLING FROM JUMPING UP / DOWN, IT ALSO BRINGS AN ELEMENT OF FUN INTO THE GARDEN.

IF YOUR PETS LIKE TO BRING OUT THEIR SPORTY SIDE, SETTING UP AGILITY COURSES OR JUMPS ON A PRACTICAL LAWN SPACE IS GREAT FUN FOR THEM.



ANOTHER GREAT IDEA IS TO HIDE CARNILOVE TREATS OR FAVORITE TOYS AROUND THE GARDEN FOR YOUR DOG OR CAT TO FIND. THESE SORTS OF GAMES ARE GREAT FOR BURNING ENERGY, PREVENTING BOREDOM, AND TEACHING SKILLS.

RECOMMENDED PLANTS

THERE ARE MANY OTHERS WE'D RECOMMEND INCLUDING:

- AJUGA
- ASTILBE
- CAMELIAS
- CATNIP AND CAT MINT (NEPETA)
- GRASSES
- HARDY GERANIUMS
- FORSYTHIA
- MAGNOLIA
- OSMANTHUS
- PEROVSKIA (RUSSIAN SAGE)
- PINEAPPLE SAGE
- ROSEMARY
- ROSES
- RUDBECKIA
- RYE GRASS
- STACHYS
- STRAWBERRIES
- THYME
- VIBURNUM
- ZINNIAS

TOXIC PLANTS TO AVOID

POISONOUS PLANTS YOU SHOULD AVOID INCLUDE:

- AZALEA AND RHODODENDRON
- CHRYSANTHEMUM
- ENGLISH YEW
- FOXGLOVES
- GIANT HOGWEED
- HYDRANGEA
- IVY
- LILIES
- OLEANDERS
- PEACE LILLY
- SPRING BULBS E.G. DAFFODILS
- TULIPS

WE HOPE THIS GUIDE INSPIRES YOU TO CREATE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE GARDEN AT HOME FOR YOUR PETS TO EXPLORE. THERE ARE MANY RELATIVELY SMALL ADJUSTMENTS YOU CAN MAKE TO ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING OUTSIDE TOGETHER AND CREATE THE PERFECT SAFE AND EXCITING SPACE FOR ADVENTURE.



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