

HOW TO CREATE A FUNCTIONAL BACKYARD WORKSPACE



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One of the benefits of working from home that has also found its way into the office workplace is terrace workspaces. Many home workers and freelancers already enjoy working outside on the deck for a change of pace. The natural ambiance of nature sounds can provide a more tranquil backdrop for tedious online tasks where silence or even music could become a hinderance.

ENTER THE BACKYARD OFFICE

For many of us, remote work is here to stay. This means dedicated work-from-home areas are being re-examined and upscaled to fit a variety of scenarios to keep things interesting. While makeshift workstations at the dining table or couch got us through the past few years, 2022 is the year of the outdoor home office.

An outdoor workspace allows you to carve out a spot for work without taking up valuable indoor space. Setting up shop outdoors can increase concentration and productivity, as well as reduce stress and help us think more clearly.

6 WAYS TO SET UP A BACKYARD OFFICE

Create A Functional Work Zone: If your backyard allows, you could invest in a small building, expand the garage, or even re-purpose a shed to create a

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backyard workspace. If your backyard space is not big enough for that, map out an area for a shady table on your deck or in the garden that can double as a work or phone call zone without the need of digital assistance.

Factor In Functionality With Purpose: Look for quiet areas for conference calls and plan out the use of shady spots to minimize glare for online video meetings. Plan accordingly for the positioning of electrical outlets, and outdoor-rated extension cords to accommodate all of the electronics that may be used outside. Check Wi-Fi coverage and cell service in the yard and determine proximity founinterrupted signals.

Spruce Up Existing Landscaping: Just like your home office needs to be tidy, assess the backyard and do a basic clean up to eliminate distractions and clutter. Cut the grass to a healthy height, add a fresh layer



of mulch around your trees and flower beds. Add some potted plants to your deck environment to create a cozy place to focus on work and not projects that need to be done around the garden.

Use Plants To Conceal & Control Noise: Trees, shrubs and hedges offer cover from neighbors and deliver shade, camouflage distracting areas and control noise. Planters with flowers add visual interest and privacy as well. If you are using the deck, tall plants installed into raised beds can partition off your work area and provide some privacy.

Create The Right Professional Ambiance: Choose the right surfaces, exterior decor items, and worktops that fit your workstyle, yet blend with your indoor workspace. If your best option is the deck, consider adding a well planned addition tailored specifically for your work that could multitask for dining or other activities when not in use as an office.

Factor In A Well Planned Transition from your home office area to your backyard workspace. And intentional transition from indoor to outdoor will make the backyard workspace feel like an extension of the home office. Just like *terrace workspace* do in an high-rise city

environment, outdoor workspaces can connect nature to your workspace. From the inside, open blinds and curtains to the yard and outdoor work area. Use complementary indoor and outdoor décor in similar colors, materials and styles to create a cohesive transition that still feels like your home office style.

FLEXIBLE HOME WORKSPACES

Hybrid workspace design creates dynamic flexible of-fice work zones, you can create the same effect at home with flexible indoor/outdoor workspaces that collaborate to provide a variety of work options throughout the workday.

According to a new poll commissioned by the TurfMutt Foundation and conducted online by The Harris Poll, the *outdoor office trend* is here to stay, as many Americans are using their yards as makeshift offices for their jobs.

A relaxed environment can have a profound effect on your productivity. If you are setting up a dedicated home office zones, our Austin showroom *features* new and gently used office furniture that can provide modern design solutions for your home office and backyard workspace.

Original research from AllWork!; Content adapted from Emma Ascott. Photo by autonomous.ai

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