Sierra Madre Freener Jards

Modern Lawn Replacement Plans for your Front Yard



SPANISH

LANDSCAPE DESIGN PLAN

Big bold symmetries of cactus and colorful succulents create unbeatable water savings. Their soft colors and unique angular forms contrast with a broad patio or silver ground cover lawn. For more water savings, add a large shade tree & swap sunhungry yuccas and Dasilirion's for agaves.



DROUGHT TOLERANCE

Exceptional. Due to inland heat succulents will require regular drip irrigation and/or part shade. Xeric potential for larger plants

SEASONAL CARE

Cut back acacias after blooming finishes (summer). Likewise cut back euphorbia bloom stalks to ground after flowering, leaving new growth.

SOIL REQUIREMENTS

Plant into mounds of rock, gravel or broken concrete with soil on top for happy cactus. Or at minimum mulch with DG or gravel.

WATER SMART FEATURE

ROCK GARDEN large fastdraining rock beds ensure ideal conditions for cactus & great infiltration of rainwater.

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SILVER While dymondia can be trickier to establish, Ruschia (dwarf carpet of stars) has a lumpier texture underfoot.

SILVER GROUND COVERS Mostly come from South Africa, with spreading habits and low water needs that can hold up to light-moderate foot traffic. The newer ground cover Dwarf Carpet of Stars (*Ruschia nana*) offers thorough coverage with an undulating look. Silver carpet Dymondia is nearly flat with occasional yellow blooms. Yearly additions of half sand/half compost improve it's coverage & lifespan.

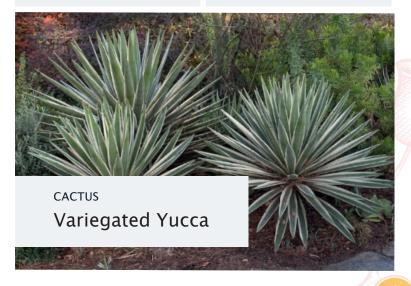
Silver Succulents

A colorful ensemble of fatty leaves saddles up to the sharp angles and variegated foliage of big cacti & acacias. The smaller creeping succulents create color at your feet. A heat friendly fruit tree (Pomegranate or Fig) adds juiciness to the ensemble.



Desert Spoon

ACACIA CULTRIFORMIS
'Knifeleaf'



Spanish Layout I

LAWN FRFF





SOIL NEEDS

Minimal fertility needs. Light azomite, crabshell &/or compost applications beneficial for depleted or acidic soils.

Fast-draining soil required (most rocky & sloped sites) exempt. Mulch with decorative rock, decomposed granite or gravel. Annual spring weeding required to maintain.

SHADE SUBSTITUTES

Sub Dasilirion & Yucca with Agave attenuata & variegated Agave Americana. Use Jade Plant for Coyote Brush and Blue Sedum instead of Blue Chalksticks. Figs are part shade tolerant and make great hedges (unlike pomegranate).

ROCK GARDEN Orange line indicate raised rock garden bed area. Approximately 10" higher than patio/ground cover area elevation.

TOTAL YARD SIZE 1,620 sq.ft. 54 ft across by 30 ft deep (not including pomegranate planter)

HARDSCAPE 320 sq.ft. (two 10x16 patios) of compacted Decomposed Granite (DG) or 3/8"-5/8" Gravel 'California Gold'. 50'x3' stucco wall + previously existing walkways

| PLANT LEGEND | | | | |
|--------------|-----|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Symbol | Qty | Common | Botanical | |
| | 9 | Aeonium | Aeonium pericardium 'Kiwi' | |
| * | 6 | Aloe Vera | Aloe barbadensis | |
| | 25 | Blue Chalk Sticks | Senecio mandraliscae | |
| Air . | 4 | Coyote Brush | Baccharis pilularis | |
| 0 | 6 | Cyclops Aeonium | aeonium atropurpureum | |
| | 4 | Desert Spoon | Dasilirion wheeleri | |
| | 5 | Echeveria | Echeveria 'Perle Von Nurnberg' | |
| * | 4 | Firecracker Bush | Galvezia Speciosa | |
| 0 | 9 | Hens and Chicks | Sempervivum ciliosum | |
| * | 5 | Mediterranean Spurge | Euphorbia characias | |
| ** | 9 | Paddle Plant | Kalanchoe thrysifolia | |
| | 10 | Pineapple Guava | Feijoa sellowiana | |
| 0 | 1 | Pomegranate Tree | Punica granatum | |
| * | 6 | Variegated Yucca | Yucca aloifolia | |
| * | 2 | Knifeleaf Acacia | Acacia cultriformis | |

SHADE TREES

Want something bigger than an Acacia? Try California Pepper, Shademaster Honey Locust or Catalina Ironwood for grander form. And enjoy up to 30°F of natural cooling from their shade.

TIP

Seed gravel with California golden poppies (available in a range of colors via American Meadows). Sow in the fall for a glorious spring show.

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Spanish Layout II

320 SQ.FT. SILVER CARPET GROUNDCOVER



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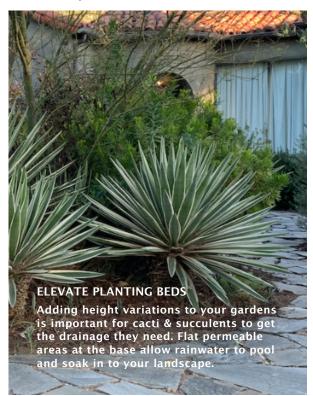
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Rock Gardens + Drainage Mounds

By building gardens atop rock mounds topped with soil you can grow cactus in almost any conditions. Ruth Bancroft did it in a climate that ranges from 10–115°F by making hers out of massive lava rocks.

You can use her method at home by putting 2-4" of crushed lava rock in the bottom of your planting holes where larger grading projects aren't an option.

Strategically place permeable level areas at the base of any raised beds you do build to allow for generous rainwater capture.





Where to build Rain Gardens

Creating these drainage berms near property edges or sidewalks helps keep run off water on your landscape (instead of going into gutters).

Creating patios or pathways in sunken areas allows you to mound up beds as you dig them. Plus the extra privacy created by the grade changes creates comfort and romance. Be sure to finish their surfaces with permeable materials.

BREAK UP SOIL

To aerate: stab the ground every few inches with a shovel or pitchfork.

LAYOUT DRAINAGE MATERIAL

Create a line / mound of drainage material (rocks, gravel or even broken concrete) anywhere from 5-20' long by 0.5-4' wide.

MOUND DIRT ON TOP

Pile dirt on top of drainage material to at least 8" thick (but up to 12–16). Use the soil you dig out of the flat seating or walkway areas beside (reserve topsoil for the end). Water and allow dirt to settle before finishing with enough topsoil to reach a sufficiently plantable depth.

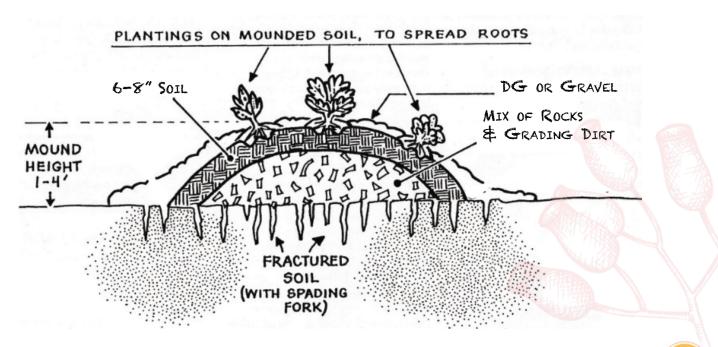
PERMEABLE PATHS/PATIOS

A term used to describe any type of hardscaping material that allows water to infiltrate through.

Gravel and loose-lain flagstone are the most traditional and affordable options. DG is great. Many pavers are now designed this way too!

SURFACE MULCH

Finish the surface of your garden with decomposed granite, gravel or leafpost (a thin soil topper made from chopped up leaves).



SILVER CARPET **GROUNDCOVER**

Dymondia margaretae is sold in flats. Grows fine with drip irrigation and tolerates part shade.



Plant the Difference

Plants have a big impact on our climate. Making the difference between a desert and an oasis. Thankfully there's a multitude of beautiful ones that thrive on less water!



POMEGRANATE TREE

Gorgeous fall color and fresh, low-water fruit. Pomegranate juice presses make quick work of their generous harvests.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



KNIFELEAF ACACIA

Soil-improving Australian native with not-too-sharp leaves (despite name). Try Blue acacia (podiflora) or Willow wattle (iteaphylla) for the same benefits but a different look.



SUCCULENTS

Gorgeous rainbows of color are showiest in extremes (light frost or drought). Part shade inland makes life easier for many varieties.



CALIFORNIA WILD GARDENS

How to Shop Nurseries

Always start with your biggest plants first! It's easiest to work backwards in the garden. Few nurseries will have everything, so be prepared to check all your favorite spots. And maybe find a new one that specializes in natives & drought tolerants too.

How to Order Online

To shop individual plants online try Plants Express, Annie's Annuals or High Country Gardens.

To order bulk visit **Calwildgardens.com/greeneryards** and enter the total square footage of the garden or lawn area you wish to purchase. Free Shipping to Sierra Madre on weekday delivery date of your choosing.



SHOP PLANT BUNDLES & LAWN ONLINE

Calwildgardens.com

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