

GARDEN

and



LANDSCAPE

EVERGREENS

By Charles Fiore

Window boxes that are gay with flowers in summer can be made just as cheery during winter by planting them with little evergreens. The small specimens of the various evergreens are being appreciated more each year as material for porch and window boxes, and surely a window box of these interesting plants would be something new and different.

When selecting plants for a window box take into consideration the type of house for which the box is intended. Tall, slender Arborvitae will look well with a house that runs to vertical lines. Pines and Hemlocks suggest the horizontal. Spruce trees

are pyramidal in shape and carry the eye upward.

There is a variation of color, too, that should be kept in mind. Pines are a much lighter green than the firs and hemlocks. Arborvitae are dull green, with a tendency to turn somewhat rusty before spring arrives. Those who live in the northern states will most likely turn to spruces for they remain a good green color and do not turn brown. These three are recommended—Norway spruce, white spruce and Black Hill spruce.

The number of trees needed for a window box will depend somewhat upon the effect you wish to gain. For a massed effect plant Arborvitae, but if you wish the individual

plants to stand out, white spruce and Black Hill spruce are excellent. Norway spruce, the favorite Christmas tree is particularly pleasing in a porch box or vase.

For a five foot box an attractive grouping consists of Pyramidal Arborvitae at each end, filling between with Mugho pines. A lacy green curtain of some of the hardier strains of English Ivy will finish the front of the box beautifully. However, whether you are able to use them depends entirely upon the severity of winter in your locality.

One of the happiest uses to which boxed or potted evergreens can be put is to carry out the idea of a "living Christmas tree." Norway spruce is most often used for this purpose and is attractive as a single specimen in tub or box. Grow your own Christmas tree—then after the holiday season is over it can decorate the porch or entrance until spring, when it may be moved to the garden.

we call animation. The playing child, the household pets, all help to round out the joys of the garden and green-sward.

Appropriation. Surely the various features and areas must be in keeping not only with one another, but must blend with their surroundings. For instance, rustic work does not seem appropriate in an otherwise formal setting, but may fit in well with a "woods surrounded" and generally informal homestead.

Light and Shade. How little we appreciate the value, as an immediate factor, in the landscape effect, that the sunshine filtering through and the play of the shadows give us.

Shrubs are used among other things, for the making of vistas, building borders, for screening unsightly views, for banking effects and for the corner angles. Changes in direction of vistas, promenades, etc., are also effected largely with shrub groupings.

Trees are planted for shade, but as elements in the garden picture they are used to create the sky line, backings for borders, the general framing of the picture, they are planted as specimens for their individual value, and in large estates, farms, ranches, and orchards, trees are employed as wind-breaks.

The General Elements in the landscape picture may be said to be the sky and atmosphere, the lawn, the plantings, the vistas and the garden accessories such as benches, pergolas, lattices and pools.

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Qualities of the
Garden Picture

By J. R. Foote

Simplicity. Do not clutter up the home grounds with everything that appeals as being individually beautiful, in features, accessories, varieties of bloom.

Interest. The design must be so laid out that your interest will be kept up as you saunter from one to another, you must be lured on, led from place to place.

Symmetry or balance. Two corresponding areas or corners or features need not be exactly alike, but there must be a similarity of style, equality of value and nothing that is disconcerting to the eye.

Congruity. For instance, a serpentine walk or drive must not parallel a straight stone wall.

Continuity. This essential would prohibit the planting of a formal hedge part way across the lot line or perhaps even part way around the lot and then abruptly stopping, carrying on the rest of the way with some informal groupings.

Grandeur. This quality appears in the patriarch tree, the massive boulder, walls on a large scale or in the distant hills toward which the vista may lead the eye.

Association. This quality may be of value only to the dwellers in the home grounds. An old snag of a tree may be the center of happy memories to those who have lived out their lives in this home. The outdoor living room may still house memories of happy occasions, memories of childish laughter, of weddings, of family gatherings, of much that life has meant.

Seasons of the Year. Each season brings into the landscape its own peculiar charms, making each one a lavish contribution to the life and beauty of the garden.

Animation. The chatter of the birds, the swish of the squirrel, the tinkle of the brook, the splash of the fish, the rustling of the leaves and the pool's reflections and shifting shadows, all contribute to the quality

J. R. FOOTE

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