MirrorOFFERS



Now £34.99 plus £4.95 p&p

Style hedges and lawn edges with ease with these 3.6V cordless trimming shears by Garden Gear. Powered by a lithium-ion battery, the amazing hedge and edge trimming shears provides complete cordless freedom. The compact design is incredibly lightweight at just 0.8kg and comes with two interchangeable blades that provide up to 40 minutes of continuous operation on a full charge. The grass shear blade with an 80mm cutting width will make easy work of lawn edges, while the trimming blade will cut hedges, shrubs and bushes up to 8mm in diameter.

Comes complete with installed lithium-ion battery, charger and two blade guards for safety. These shears also come with an extension handle to help get to those harder-to-reach branches when using the hedge trimmer and helps to avoid bending and stooping when using the grass. shears.

G2378 Trimming Shears with Extension Handle



PUSH LAWN MOWER Now £44.99 plus £4.95 p&p

Ideal for the smaller garden, the fixed blades cut grass without ripping it to give a scissor-like finish, and the built-in rear roller will leave professional-looking stripes on your lawn.

It is so easy to use thanks to the large wheels, comfort grip and lightweight design. Plus, this eco-friendly mower has no potentially dangerous trailing wires, no noisy motor, and no hidden extra costs as it doesn't use petrol or electricity.

It has a generous 17-litre collection bag, 30cm cutting width and adjustable cutting height between 12mm-45mm. Measures I, 57 x W44 x H125cm.

D8460 Push Lawn Mower

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Gardening cub



A step in the right direction for veg

My garden is sloped. Will I be able to grow veggies? Gillian, Margate, Kent DAVID: You can, but your crops might not grow evenly and soil might slide down the slope. Terracing can offer a solution. Use planks to retain soil in a series of steps. The soil will be damper at the bottom of the slope though.



Gunning for spuds to pop in your pan When should I start harvesting my potatoes?

Phil, Edinburgh **DAVID:** Potatoes have different harvest times so always harvest after they

are done flowering. With maincrop, wait for the foliage to turn yellow, leave it a week or so and then harvest tubers using a fork or shovel.

TIP of the week

Using the same planting hole, pop early Dutch honeysuckle 'Belgica', which flowers May to June, alongside late Dutch honevsuckle 'Serotina', which flowers July to late September. for nearly six months' cover.

GET IN TOUCH

For loads more hints and tips on gardening visit oney.com or follow me on Facebook at @DavidDomonevTV or on Twitter @daviddomoney

Up your kerbside appeal with the best baskets, containers, window boxes and hedges that will make your home even sweeter

irst impressions last, so you will want your front garden to be top class. Front gardens are often our entry point from the world

to the comfort of our homes. But they also beautify what is sometimes seen as public space and allow passers-by to enjoy them too.

So let's take a peek at how to revamp your front garden for an outdoor space that's dressed to impress and makes you feel your best.

FRONT AND CENTRE

Most front gardens account for only a small portion of our total plot – yours might even be a window box or porch pot. But they all add up.

A street of well-tended front gardens is a sight to behold.

Nearly one in four front gardens is paved to make way for parking and bin storage – that's three times as many compared with 10 years ago.

But plants play an important part in reducing urban temperatures and risk of flooding.

So more plants mean less need for costly water management practices. Instead, you can fill compact green

spaces to the brim with plants and

Investing a little on the outside benefits indoors greatly too

they will return the favour with gifts to your home.

They can encourage wildlife and act as a brilliant border to put you in a relaxed state of mind before even stepping through your front door.

Border hedges simultaneously provide shelter for birds and nectar flowers for bees – plus privacy and a barrier to sound, litter and dust.

Plants can also improve air quality and insulate buildings, reducing the cost of central heating by up to 30 per cent by stabilising air circulation around the home.

So investing a little on the outside of your home could benefit your indoor environment greatly.

NATURE'S WELCOME

As the first statement of your humble abode, it's a good idea to balance functionality alongside ornamental enjoyment. If you're keen to keep the practicalities of a paved driveway in place, plant around it.

I've seen driveways crosshatched with segments of grass using Pavestone's GrassPark paving, but you can also do it with low-lying growers such as 'Bluesvlva' forget-me-nots. If vou've got bins or bike storage, how



about disguising them with climbers. Or put in a small bin store to cover them up. Then you can put plants on top of it.

Small changes like this go a long way to introducing a diverse range of wildlife to help a garden's ecosystem. Planting berry-rich shrubs, hedging plants like hawthorn, pyracantha and pollinator-attracting lavender will

Goodbye

Whether it's a tiny seed turning into a giant sunflower, or people coming together to make a difference to their neighbourhood, gardening is about transformation.

Cultivation Street's annual competition prides itself on encouraging gardeners to pause and celebrate the effect they are having by greening up grey spaces.

Suzan Wilson knows that feeling after being involved in the IncludeMe2 community garden in Glasgow. Members meet up to five times a week, having turned a rough patch of ground into a mini oasis in the heart of the busy city. She said: "A number of our volunteers are

bees are invited in.

mirror.co.uk





adults with additional support needs and disabilities, and they play a huge part in our project. "They work extremely hard while at the same time learning

new life skills and, above all. making new friends. "Seniors from the local sheltered housing also enjoy

lending a hand. "With volunteers ranging from four to 92 years of age, interesting new friendships are formed, and spending time with lots of

help create a wildlife-friendly space, reduction, improving cognitive greater good, revitalise your doorstep that visitors see more of it en route to so beneficial hedgehogs, birds and function and self-esteem. **GREEN AND GLEEFUL**

SUNDAY 30.06.2019 SUNDAY MIRROR 61

features@sundaymirror.co.uk

with DAVID DOMONEY

HEAD TURNERS Hanging baskets and pots to make passers-by swoon

> ardy Verbena bonariensis is winner of the RHS Award of Garden Merit and is one of the longest flowering perennials.

purple flowers in clusters throughout summer.

Supplied as giant UK-grown 7cm liameter power-modules, to plant directly in the garden for results in weeks. Delivery within 14 days.

for £9.99 or order six for £19.98 and get a further three free.

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interruptions of the outside world

As well as supporting us mentally,

By separating your home from the there be than planting for cleaner air?

Plants convert and store small through a foliage-rich barrier, you amounts of carbon, particularly Once you've got a space worthy of a

diversity with some perennial plants. your front door. As these grow in the same place

plants too. What better purpose could disturbance to aid carbon capture .

SPACE SAVVY

protect your personal space. Studies long-lived woody species like Aucuba second look, maximise impact by Magnolia denudata. have shown this helps towards stress japonica. For a garden supporting the snaking the garden path around so

The lilac Syringa 'Pink Perfume' can our physical wellbeing profits from each year, they minimise soil be planted in your garden at heights to encourage interaction, alongside other aromatic ornamentals.

Include taller greenery such as the delicately blushed pink petals of

Planting on the side of your house can look striking - especially if you are keen to conceal ugly cladding, pipework or dirty bricks.

Climbing roses, honeysuckle, and asmine will also work to keep your house shaded in summer and warm in the winter.

Of course, window boxes and hanging baskets pack a punch of colour and are easy to establish so are a wise investment.

Pot up seasonal favourites like geraniums, chrysanthemums or bansies and display them at nose neight so that your guests will get the full effect.

Just don't forget to water them thoroughly because such small containers dry out very quickly.

A little attention towards your front gardening goals will go a long way and there's so much to be gained from upping your front garden focus.



Buy three Verbena bonariensis

To order by debit/credit card call

Office, Manchester, M16 9HY or visit

GADG



and make summer evenings even more delightful with a fire pit.

This Blooma Anabar steel firepit rom B&Q won't break the bank at just £23. It is perfect for a smaller patio or decked area and makes an attractive feature in itself. I found it via diy.com

different age groups is helping towards combating loneliness." We would like you to take lots of photos to support your Cultivation Street entry. Photos also allow you to reflect and feel inspired. Images of summer gardens in

full bloom can motivate vou though the winter, when planning for the growing year ahead. If you and your community have

been busy transforming your surroundings, enter the Cultivation Street competition, sponsored by Calliope, by visiting cultivationstreet.com. There are some incredible prizes on offer.



HUGS Suzan, back row, with IncludeMe2 members



