
BALANCE & MASS:

- can offer both momentum and stability – perceived equilibrium in a garden
- a comfortable distribution of visual components
- stability and repose of garden
- think of designing yard from center out
- when elements on each side of an real/imaginary axis are equal
- determine a central reference point from which to draw axis, (back door, tree, etc)
- house usually one end of axis
- sense of mass enhanced by fine texture and dark colors-density
- yew hedges great bones in garden
- ask, “Is this picture balanced? “Where is its mass? How can I give it repose?
- when looking at the scene, figure out where does the weight of the image lie?
- good balance when equal portions of open space vs planted space
- can also balance vertical axis
- in all cases: elements balanced most both hold equal importance in eyes



• 3 types balance:

- SYMMETRICAL
 - repeated images along a central axis
 - gives a formal, orderly feel
- ASYMMETRICAL
 - informal, more natural, lively
 - large mass of cool colors balances a small mass hot colors
 - masses of plants that appear to be same in visual weight rather than total mass
- RADIAL
 - when design balances out from a space (circle, oval)
 - creates central focal point
 - good for fountains, pools,

