
DOMINANCE/EMPHASIS:

emphasize one element/group of elements by size, color, texture, shape, focal point



- dominant feature draws eye, steadies it, giving rest (focal point), + which eyes continually return
- eye looks for dominance and subordination in landscape
- good design has 1 dominant space (deck, lawn, etc) with variety spatial sizes
 - use generous size deck for eating, resting, etc.

- surround focal point/feature tree with subdued elements, needs contrast
- 1 single strong feature gets attention, beware 2 many strong features, because eyes bounce around between competing elements!!!!
- place dominant features where eye naturally drawn, like deepest part of a curve or through a visual opening
- The space where design lines form a visual frame is another good location, as is an area you want to draw attention to – your front door for example.

- weeping standards such as Young's weeping birch or Walker's weeping *Caragana*, strong architectural form, use as single specimens,
- vertical accents like columnar aspens or tall reed grasses, repeated a couple of times or used in small groups.
- In choosing features it should be remembered that spiky evergreens stepping stones of glaring materials, stodgy bolsters of shrubs, too many ornaments, are distracting and depressing.

- Warm vibrant colors like bright yellow or lime green will really draw the eye so should be used with some restraint , cooler, less intense colors can be used more generously.