
MIXED GARDEN BORDER:

- include trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, grasses, herbs, bulbs
- all season interest: seed heads, hips, branches, flowers, scent

- scale is important, size of plant vs size bed
- border length should be 5x its width
- home border 3'x8'—in proportion, large 12'x100'
- beds deeper than 4', need path going thru to reach all plants
- narrow beds = lower plants

- allows for both horizontal and vertical interest
- space between plants should be less than space between plant groups
- made up of number different plants, arrange so branches of one flow over int other

- the individuality of shrub or tree is subordinate to the mass effect of the planting
- check silhouette of shrub border to see if visual movement over total mass
- predominance rounded forms, limited use extreme accents
- keep middle open when locating borders, trees, shrubs preserve sense of space

- PLANT ORDER- 1st-trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, bulbs
 - trees- 1st for shade, then specimen trees in dominant spot, for visual frame
 - evergreens to anchor corners, provide visual weight 1/3 evergreen/2/3 decid
 - delicate lacy trees best show up with easterly morning light
 - dark burgundy veined trees show up better with western light

 - shrubs for mass
 - perennials for color
 - annuals-quick/long-lasting color
 - bulbs for surprise

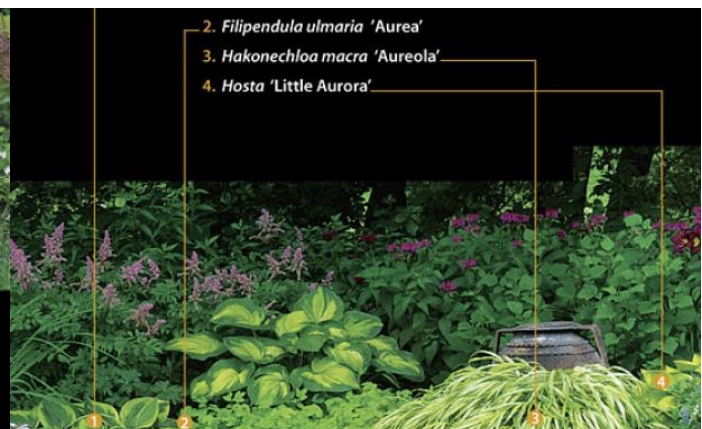
- fence/screen place for plants to stand out
- think of it as panels to plan out for each group of plants, each panel both alike and different...you might use a



spiky plant and mounded in each panel, but use different plants....

- design groups of vignettes with small group plants, tie with other vignettes by ground cover, repetition and similar shapes colors

- start with a featured foliage plant (shape, size, texture, etc), be sure it looks good through several seasons
 - add complementary/contrasting textures/forms
 - use 1, but no more than 2 plants with vertical interest
 - add block of color; annuals/perennials
 - use more fine textured than coarse textured
- repeat some plants throughout, but in unpredictable way
 - remember: depth, density, diversity, discipline
- use big foliage rounded nature with erect lines of irises/grasses
 - put coarse foliage near front with fine texture behind to make yard appear bigger
 - put dwarf groundcovers-large patches to tie everything together
- put specimen plants near entrances, pathways, statuary
 - use big pots and sticks as markers to visualize mature shrub specimens in spots
 - lay butcher paper down and mark where shrubs go, plant thru paper to hold down weeds
 - shrubs that are good minglers: weigela, deutzia, Golden Euonymous, purple and copper Ninebark, dark and lacy elderberry and blue-berried Viburnums, red twig dogwood **Arctic Fire™**, **Sunshine Blue®** Caryopteris (pair with globe thistle and blue salvia), carolina allspice,
- put some med/large airy, see through plants in front or middle of border to partially hide the view, put splashier plants behind for strong effect
- Japanese/Chinese anemone, foxglove, Russian sage, red hot poker, fennel, parsley, karl forester grass, mulleins, south american verbena, switch grass, gayfeathers, gaura, sweet rocket, yellow flag iris, borage officinalis
 - don't put at corners of bed, not weightier enough
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/gardening/9444552/Mary-Keens-fail-safe-summer-borders.html>
 - images from Fine Gardening Magazine





Repeat plants

Using the same plant throughout the border fosters a sense of continuity and visual harmony. This long border uses various cultivars of hostas, astilbes, and daylilies, left to right:

1. *Hosta* 'Salute' and *H.* 'Regal Splendor'
2. *Astilbe* 'Perkeo' and *A. X arendsii* 'Cotton Candy'
3. *Hemerocallis* 'Swirling Water' and *H.* 'Little Lassie'



