

## Step 2

# Design

**Carefully consider the home's context and occupants' lifestyle to maximise the environmental, aesthetic and wellbeing benefits of the garden.**

### **Key considerations:**

- Indoor/outdoor relationship
- Maximising shade and cooling
- Appearance and 'kerb appeal'
- Biodiversity

### **This section includes:**

- A design checklist
- Lists of popular small, medium and large trees
- 8 different character garden designs and corresponding examples

For additional tree and plant options please see the separate list available at [plan.sa.gov.au](http://plan.sa.gov.au)







# Design checklist

**Carefully consider the home's context and occupants' lifestyle to maximise the environmental, aesthetic and wellbeing benefits.**

## Carefully manage stormwater run-off

Ensure the dwelling's footing systems are appropriately protected. Consider the local context, soil type and climate for selecting plants.

- ☐ Use paving to create a perimeter (extending at approximately 1m from the foundation edge) so that rain and surface water will runoff and away from the building into the adjacent garden.
- ☐ Manage drainage within your property by directing runoff away from the house and avoid waterlogging garden areas within clay soils.
- ☐ Additional sumps, trench grates and drainage solutions may be required.
- ☐ Landscaping and drainage should be constructed in accordance with the guidance and requirements of your engineer's soil report and site drainage plan particular to your site.
- ☐ Be careful not to direct stormwater towards your neighbours' footings.

### For further information:

- House Footings and the tree effect ([see page 34 and 35](#))
- [Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide, CSIRO](#)

## Consider the local context, soil type and climate when selecting plants

- ☐ What is your garden's soil type? Is it sandy, clay, silty or a good loam mix? A soil test will be required prior to the design and construction of your home to inform you of the physical and chemical composition of the soil.
- ☐ Is the soil in your garden suitable for plants to grow? Too much sand and it will drain well but not hold on to nutrients, too much clay will not drain well and too much silt will make it prone to erosion. It may need to be conditioned with gypsum and/or organic matter, or removed and replaced with good quality garden soil for your trees and plants to thrive.
- ☐ Are you located near the beach? Do you get frosts and extreme cold? Is your house exposed to strong winds? Choose plants that are suitable for the climatic conditions of your area.
- ☐ Manage drainage within your property directing runoff away from house and avoid waterlogging garden areas within clay soils. Additional sumps, trench grates and drainage solutions may be required.

### For further information visit:

- [Australian Plants for Adelaide Gardens - Soils](#)
- [Hardy plants for the Adelaide Plains](#)
- [Botanic Gardens of South Australia Plant Selector](#)
- [Choosing the right plants for your garden, City of Burnside](#)
- [Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide, CSIRO](#)



## Maximise efficient solar access and shading to house and garden spaces

An integrated approach to planning your home and garden with optimal solar access and shade can contribute to greatly improving energy efficiency.

For example, shading the western facade of a dwelling with trees can drop total heating and cooling energy costs by between 5 and 10%<sup>7</sup>.

- ☐ Locate the living areas of your house and garden areas to the north and east where possible.
- ☐ In a north-facing garden, plant deciduous trees to provide shade from the hot sun and allow warming winter light into your house when the leaves fall.
- ☐ Create spaces to plant evergreen trees to provide shade to your walls, roof and hard pavements from the hot western sun.
- ☐ Plant trees, tall shrubs and integrate pergolas with deciduous vines to shade the hot western summer sun which will cool your house and entertaining areas and reduce air conditioning costs.

- ☐ Locate your vegetable and herb garden and fruit trees in north-facing sunny areas.
- ☐ Plant trees to shade your driveway, walls and pavements to reduce heat absorption and cool your house and environment.
- ☐ Grow vines and climbers on vertical surfaces such as fences and walls to provide shade and cooling.

### For further information visit:

- [Passive Design, Your Home](#)
- [What is Passive House? \(FAQs\), Australian Passive House Association](#)





## Consider water availability and irrigation when selecting plants

- ☐ Install an irrigation system to keep your garden watered with ease. Are you away from your property for extended periods of time? If so, consider installing an automated system.
- ☐ Include taps in your front and back garden for the easy watering of your garden during the hot months.
- ☐ Using native plants that are adapted to local conditions will reduce ongoing watering requirements.
- ☐ Prioritise drip and weeper irrigation to lower water usage.
- ☐ While native plants use less water, some exotic species will provide greater cooling benefits.
- ☐ It is important that soil receives enough water to enable maximum evaporation for best cooling benefits.

### For further information visit:

- [Water Sensitive SA Resources](#)
- [In your garden, SA Water](#)

## Maximise areas of permeable ground materials to achieve larger soil volumes and increase water infiltration

- ☐ **Driveways:** Keep areas of hard driveway pavements to the required trafficable areas. Use other materials outside of this zone for garden beds, tree planting and permeable surfaces (e.g. gravel) to allow runoff to infiltrate into the soil.
- ☐ **Garden paths:** Paths around plantings could be made of steppers, sleepers or pavers with gravel or mulch infill. This will allow rain to infiltrate into the soil.
- ☐ **Outdoor entertaining areas:** Whether these spaces are connected directly to the house or are located in the garden, gaps can be created in paving for water infiltration or materials such as gravel or aggregate can be used
- ☐ **Decking:** Decking offers a high quality addition to your garden which can span over tree root zones and allow water to infiltrate underneath.

### For further information visit:

- [Adelaide gardens: A planting guide, Green Adelaide](#)



## Design spaces and select plant species that are appropriate for your lifestyle and level of commitment to maintenance

- ☐ Utilise the template garden designs and planting palettes on the following pages that suit your budget, size of garden, climate and soil, space available, desired uses and the amount of time you will have to maintain the garden.
- ☐ An edible garden will require more time and maintenance to look after while a native garden will require less maintenance as the plants are suited to local conditions.
- ☐ Are you away from your property for extended periods of time for work or holidays? Consider installing an automated irrigation system to keep your garden healthy while you are away.
- ☐ Do you like to entertain? Create a shady and leafy space in your garden with plants and foliage around outdoor seating, table and furniture.
- ☐ Get your children or grandchildren involved to help with maintenance and learn the benefits of gardening.

### For further information visit:

- [Water Sensitive SA Resources](#)
- [In your garden, SA Water](#)

## Consider the sun's movements and work with the microclimate around your home when locating and selecting tree and plant species

- ☐ Plants must be selected on the availability of light and their level of exposure to winds and other climatic factors.
- ☐ In a north-facing garden, plant deciduous trees to provide shade from the hot sun and allow warming winter light into your house when the leaves fall.
- ☐ Plant trees, tall shrubs and integrate pergolas on the western side to cool your house and entertaining areas and reduce air conditioning costs.
- ☐ If garden beds are shaded by buildings, fences or other trees for long periods during the day then plant species that are tolerant to lower light conditions must be selected.
- ☐ Select tree species to maximise canopy coverage in the space available and cool your home and garden.

### For further information visit:

- [Botanic Gardens of South Australia Plant Selector](#)





## Include a variety of plants to provide habitat for wildlife and support biodiversity

- ❑ Consider the changing seasons and incorporate plants that flower at different times of the year to attract birds and butterflies to your garden and to maintain visual interest.
- ❑ Layer your plantings with taller vegetation positioned against fences and vertical surfaces with lower plants at the front. Birds and insects will nest within trees and shrubs where there is protection from predators and exposure.
- ❑ Use native plants that are adapted to local conditions to reduce ongoing watering requirements.
- ❑ Consider including one of the many small to medium native trees that can offer shade and amenity while also providing valuable habitat for birds, insects and animals.

### For further information visit:

- [Adelaide gardens: A planting guide, Green Adelaide](#)
- [Green Adelaide Resources](#)
- [Adelaide native plant nurseries](#)

## Utilise trees and plants to enhance privacy and views or screen undesirable views

- ❑ Hedging and shrubs planted to screen fencing and blank walls also prevents these surfaces from heating up during the day.
- ❑ Trees can be planted to prevent overlooking from neighbouring properties and street into your house or garden. This could be from the front, side or rear aspect.
- ❑ Create attractive window views looking onto garden areas and plantings.
- ❑ Create outdoor spaces for relaxation, socialising, entertaining and connecting with nature.

Local native plants are adapted to the Adelaide Region and after establishment, generally obtain their water needs from rainfall alone.

The use of indigenous plants will drought proof your garden, save water and support local wildlife.





## Choose appropriate trees and ensure that footing systems are adequately protected

- ❑ Avoid selecting trees and plants that are known to have aggressive, or highly invasive roots.
- ❑ Choose the right plant for the right space. When planting in a confined space, like an atrium or side setback, check the mature height/size, the soil conditions, sunlight intensity and shade to ensure your plants thrive.
- ❑ Seek advice from a structural engineer and/or arborist about whether a tree root barrier is recommended for an existing or new tree.

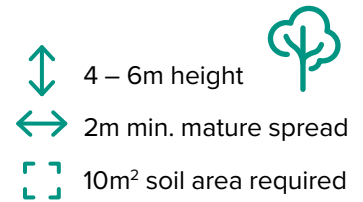
Tree root barriers are usually synthetic sheet or screen material placed vertically underground to stop, limit, or control the growth of roots. It may be placed across a small portion of the ground or along the boundary of a property if required. It may either be permeable or non-permeable, non-permeable tree root barriers also stop water from passing through, and may also effect proper drainage of the property. It is important to note that research has shown that tree root barriers do not provide long term protection and should not be relied upon in lieu of appropriate footing design.





# 10 small trees

## Australian Natives



### Cottonwood

**Hibiscus tiliaceus rubra** | H: 4-6m W: 4m

Hardy tropical tree with a broad low crown, large heart-shaped leaves and bright sunny yellow flowers.

Tolerates full sun, to partial shade and most soil types, including clay and salt.



### Pink Blueberry Ash

**Elaeocarpus reticulatus 'Prima Donna'** | H: 6m W: 4m

This evergreen, slender tree with dense foliage is an excellent choice for screens between properties. In late spring masses of bluish coloured flowers cover the tree, followed by bright blue fruits.



### Silver Banksia

**Banksia marginata** | H: 5m W: 3m

An Australian native evergreen tree with a dense growth habit.

The large, yellow, cylinder shaped flowers are a stunning feature from spring to autumn and attract natives birds and insects.

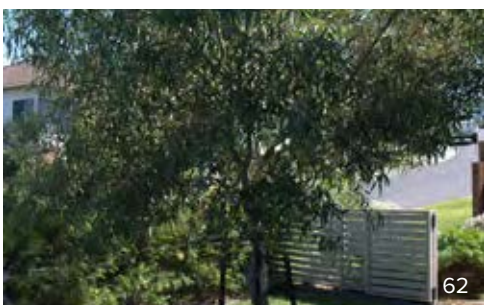


### Willow Peppermint

**Agonis flexuosa 'After Dark'** | H: 3-6m W: 3m

An Australian native evergreen tree with a weeping habit and very dark purple foliage.

Prefers well drained soil in a sunny position and tolerates coastal conditions well.



### Dwarf SA Blue Gum

**Eucalyptus leucoxydon 'Euky Dwarf'** | H: 5-6m W: 3-5m

A popular dwarf form of Eucalypt with a single trunk, smooth bark that sheds in flakes and pink, red or cream flowers from late autumn to early summer.

**The trees in this guide are non invasive.**

However, please take care when locating trees to minimise interference of roots with underground services.

## Exotic



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### Lemon

**Citrus limon 'Eureka' | H: 4-6m W: 4-6m**

Evergreen, round to oval shaped tree. Traditional lemon variety which can produce fruit year round.

Prefers a rich, well draining, clay soil in a sunny position.



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### Crepe Myrtle

**Lagerstroemia indica | H: 5-6m W: 4-5m**

A deciduous, vase shaped, deciduous tree. Choice of white, pink and purple blooms that appear in late summer.

Year round interest with autumn colour, bright showy flowers and smooth, mottled bark.



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### Magnolia 'Little Gem'

**Magnolia grandiflora | H: 4-8m W: 2-5m**

An evergreen magnolia with an oval form. The dark glossy leaves have attractive bronze undersides and the large, fragrant, creamy white flowers are prolific in summer.

Needs to be protected from hot northerly winds.



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### Chinese Redbud

**Cercis chinensis | H: 5m W: 5m**

Deciduous tree with a vase shaped canopy of attractive heart-shaped green leaves. Groups of pink-purple flowers form in abundant groups in spring.

Suited to most soil types and will tolerate heavy soils and hot, dry periods.



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### Ornamental Plum

**Prunus cerasifera | H: 6m W: 2-6m**

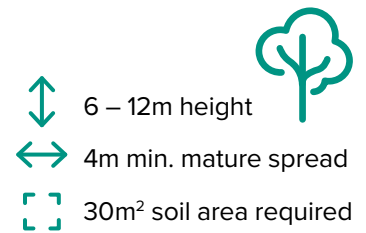
Hardy and adaptable deciduous tree with attractive autumn foliage and showy spring blossoms.

Popular cultivars include the 'Oakville Crimson Spire', a good choice when lateral space is restricted, and the 'Nigra' which has a broader, rounded canopy.



# 10 medium trees

## Australian Natives



### Willow Myrtle

**Agonis flexuosa** | H: 6-10m W: 5-10m

An Australian native attractive tree with a weeping habit.

Clusters of small white flowers grow on the branches in between the leaves in spring and summer.



### Wilga

**Geijera parviflora** | H: 9m W: 8m

Hardy Australian native, evergreen tree tolerant to a wide range of soil and climate regions. Well-drained soils will result in taller and longer lived examples. Best grown in full sun. Pruning when young is recommended to achieve a neat shape as it matures.



### Native Frangipani

**Hymenosporum flavum** | H: 6-8m W: 5-6m

A rainforest tree, native to Queensland and NSW with large glossy leaves and highly fragrant cream and yellow flowers.

Prefers a well drained, nutritious soil and full sun for optimal growth and flowering, but will tolerate most soil types and part-shade.



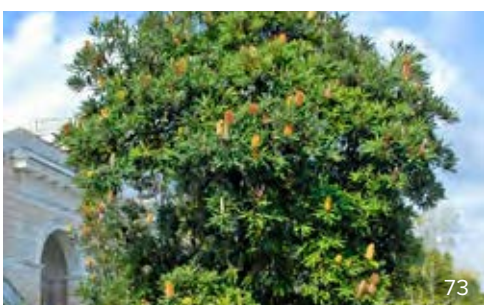
### Tuckeroo

**Cupaniopsis anacardioides** | H: 8m W: 7m

An Australian native feature tree with evergreen foliage.

Its rounded form and consistent shape makes it suitable for a range of styles of garden and home.

Hardy and suitable to all soil types, even clay.



### Old Man Banksia

**Banksia serrata** | H: 10m W: 5m

A distinctive, bird attractive tree with cork-like bark and a rounded, gnarly form. It produces silvery grey flower spikes and cones.

This tree likes a well-drained sandy soil making it a good selection for coastal conditions.

**The trees in this guide are non invasive.**

However, please take care when locating trees to minimise interference of roots with underground services.

## Exotic



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### Loquat

**Eriobotrya japonica | H: 7-10m W: 6m**

Evergreen tree with a rounded crown, short trunk and dark leathery leaves. White flowers appear in late autumn and winter followed by the yellow-orange sweet fruit in early spring.

Prefers a position in full sun, protected from strong winds.



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### Chinese Pistachio

**Pistacia chinensis | H: 8m W: 6m**

A highly ornamental deciduous tree suitable for a wide range of climate and soil regions. Vibrant autumn colour in shades of orange, yellow and red.

Some trimming may be required if located under powerlines



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### Ornamental Pear

**Pyrus calleryana species | H: 9m W: 7m**

A popular tree due to its wide shady canopy, vibrant autumn colour and white spring blossoms. Small fruits follow the flowers that attract birds and wildlife.

Prefers rich, well drained soil and watering during heat waves.



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### Maidenhair Tree

**Ginkgo biloba | H: 12m W: 5m**

Very slow growing and long-lived deciduous tree with an upright and elegant habit. A fantastic feature tree.

Can grow in almost any position, but prefers moist, deep, fertile soil and full sun to part-shade.



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### Golden Rain Tree

**Koelreuteria paniculatum | H: 6m W: 4m**

Elegant, deciduous tree with a slightly weeping, round form once mature. The serrated green foliage turns bronze to gold in autumn.

Will grow best in full sun, relatively drought-tolerant and will perform well in most soil types.



# 10 large trees

## Australian Natives



↑ ↓ > 12m height  
↔ 8m min. mature spread  
[ ] 60m<sup>2</sup> soil area required



### Pink Gum

**Eucalyptus fasciculosa** | H: <15m W: <12m

A large eucalypt with an open canopy and single trunk. It has prolonged flowering periods throughout the year.

Indigenous to the Adelaide region.

May only be stocked at nurseries specialising in natives.



### Blackwood

**Acacia melanoxylon** | H: <20m W: <10m

An attractive feature or shade tree, native to South Australia.

Long lived and does not shed limbs as frequently as some eucalypts and other acacias. Attracts birds, native butterflies and insects.

Requires 3.5m clearance from sewer mains and connections.



### Apple Myrtle

**Angophora costata** | H: 10-20m W: 6-12m

An upright, fast growing tree native to Queensland and NSW.

Attractive smooth pink new growth bark and clusters of white gum blossoms.

Requires 3.5m clearance from sewer mains and connections.



### Peppermint Box

**Eucalyptus odorata** | H: <20m W: <15m

An SA native shade and shelter tree with an open and spreading form.

Attracts nectar eating birds and insects for food and habitat.



### Coast Banksia

**Banksia integrifolia** | H: <20m W: <10m

A large banksia native to eastern Australia and highly tolerant of full coastal conditions.

It is hardy and fast growing. Requires 2m clearance from sewer mains and connections.

**The trees in this guide are non invasive.**

However, please take care when locating trees to minimise interference of roots with underground services.

## Exotic



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### Norway Maple

**Acer platanoides | H: <20m W: <10m**

An upright, deciduous tree with a broad, round crown. Leaves change from green to vibrant orange-yellow before dropping in winter.

Prefers soil rich in organic materials, though will grow in most soil conditions, even compacted soils.



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### Holm Oak

**Quercus ilex | H: 20m W: 15m**

This evergreen, Mediterranean oak will thrive in Adelaide's dry climate. The dense canopy is formed of leathery dark-green leaves. Can be trimmed to constrict size.

Prefers rich and moist fertile soil. Salt and drought tolerant once established.



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### Cimmarron Ash

**Fraxinus pennsylvanica | H: 13m W: 8m**

A robust deciduous tree with neat upright branch structure and attractive autumn foliage.

Performs best in a sunny position in moist, well-drained soil. Can tolerate high wind and low levels of drought once established.



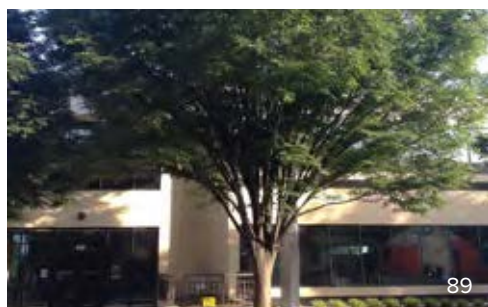
88

### Chinese Elm

**Ulmus parvifolia 'Todd' | H: <15m W: 11m**

An upright semi-deciduous tree with a pendular spreading habit and bright green serrated leaves.

Provides great broad summer shade and tolerates most soil types in a sunny position.



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### Japanese Elm

**Zelkova serrata | H: 14m W: 10m**

A fast growing deciduous tree with a uniform vase-shaped canopy. The dark green leaves turn to an array of colours ranging from soft yellows to orange and rusty reds in autumn.

Prefers well drained soil in full sun.



# Different garden character designs



## Native Formal

The Native Formal garden provides a selection of Australian plants which have a neat and compact form and respond well to pruning.

This palette can be applied to common/shared spaces for low maintenance, often water-wise gardens with high visual appeal and biodiversity benefits.



## Entertainer

The Entertainer garden offers a range of plant species, both Australian native and non-native, for those with a busy lifestyle who require a low maintenance garden, yet would like to enjoy a highly visual effect for entertaining.

Glossy green foliage, cascading plants and climbers offer options for high impact greening in small backyard spaces.



## Coastal

The Coastal garden is made up of a variety of salt-tolerant plants, best suited to homes close to the beach.

These plant species prefer well-drained sandy soils and can handle a level of salt spray and windy conditions. The plant selection is composed of predominately native species.



## Habitat

The Habitat garden focuses on species which will attract birds and butterflies. The arrangement suggests ways to provide good protection, water sources and food for a welcoming home for local creatures. Many of the plant species listed for this garden are local to South Australia and seek to attract local fauna back to garden spaces.



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## Edible

The Edible garden character provides a range of edible planting choices suited to Adelaide's climate.

Exotic fruiting trees, perennial shrubs and herbs can be selected to create a functional, sustainable and beautiful garden. Native bushfood plants are also listed, these have been harvested by Kurna people on Kurna Country for thousands of years.



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## Native Cottage

The Native Cottage palette is a selection of plants from Australia which are arranged in an informal garden style, giving the feel of a cottage-like garden. Cottage gardens typically have a layered and textured appearance with varying foliage and floral points of interest.



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## Shade

The Shade garden provides species which will offer a more lush, rain forest feel, yet are compatible with Adelaide's hot, dry climate.

This garden character works well in small, shady zones like a southern facing courtyard, side setback or front terrace.



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## Mediterranean

Inspired by the coastal areas surrounding the Mediterranean sea, including Spain, Italy and Croatia, the Mediterranean garden character has a casual elegance.

This garden type is suited to the temperate Adelaide climate with a range of exotic and native water-wise plants. Fruiting and fragrant trees and shrubs are paired with succulents and softer understorey for layered colour, texture and structure.



# Garden 1: Native formal

## Shared Front Garden + Common Driveway

The **Native formal** garden character is a good choice for a garden space shared or viewed by multiple dwelling occupants or neighbours due its low maintenance yet neat appearance, providing visual kerb appeal.

This is an example of a sunny, west-facing shared front garden with a 3m setback and common driveway for a residential flat building (see PLAN example on page 67).

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Placing a medium tree to shade dwelling from afternoon sun
- 2 1m soft landscaping area between common driveway and boundary and dwellings
- 3 Maximising permeable/porous surface materials
- 4 Maximising soft landscaping in the front garden
- 5 Using trees and plants to enhance views and privacy.



## Large shrubs



Lilly Pilly - *Syzygium australe* 'Winter Lights'



Purple Hop Bush - *Dodonaea viscosa purpurea*

## Grasses/strappy leaf



Native Flax - *Dianella caerulea* 'Cassa Blue'



Morning Iris - *Orthrosanthus multiflorus*

## Small shrubs



Coastal Rosemary - *Westringia fruticosa*



Lilly Pilly - *Syzygium australe* 'Tiny Trev'



River Wattle - *Acacia cognata* 'Bower Beauty'

## Small tree



Pink Blueberry Ash - *Elaeocarpus reticulatus* 'Prima Donna'

## Medium tree



Tuckeroo - *Cupaniopsis anacardioides*

## Climbers

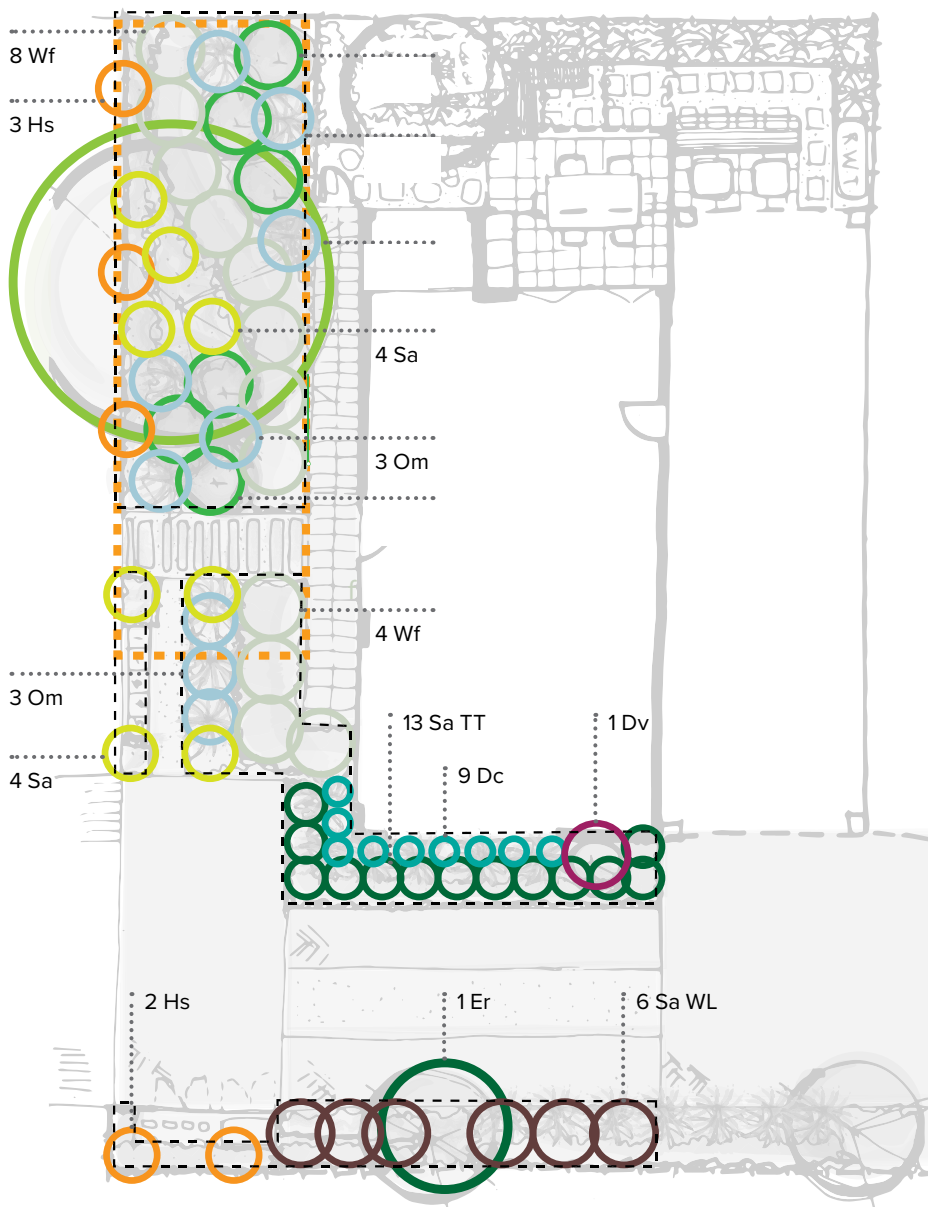


Guinea Flower - *Hibbertia scandens*

## Ground covers



Fan Flower - *Scaevola aemula*





## Garden 2: Entertainer

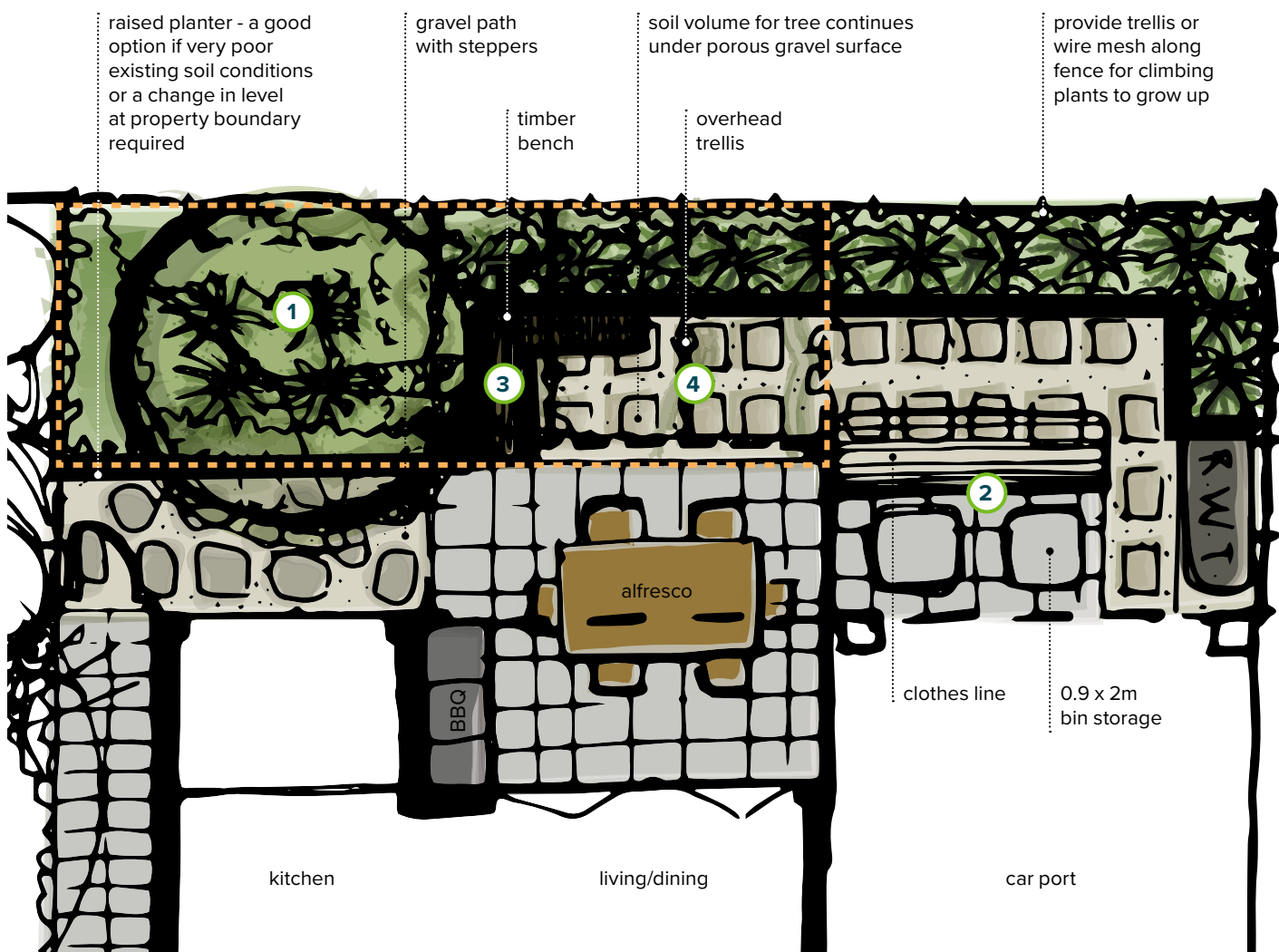
### Back garden

Applying the **Entertainer** garden character can create a big visual impact in a small space.

This is an example of a north-facing back garden 3 x 8m in size (see PLAN example on page 67).

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Placing a small tree to provide shade to the garden from western afternoon sun
- 2 Consolidating bin storage, rainwater tank and clothesline area to create separation from alfresco/entertaining area and maximise soft landscaping
- 3 Incorporating a raised planter to provide quality soil, provide seating and address potential level changes between adjoining properties
- 4 Using pergola structure and trellised plants to create additional shade and amenity to a small outdoor entertaining space



### Small trees



Crepe Myrtle -  
*Lagerstroemia indica*

### Large shrubs



Sweet Viburnum -  
*Viburnum odoratissimum*  
'Green Emerald'

### Small shrubs



Xanadu - *Philadendron*

### Grasses/strappy leaf



Native Flax - *Dianella*  
'Silver Streak'

### Groundcovers



Prostrate Swamp Oak -  
*Casuarina glauca* 'Cousin It'



Silver Nickel Vine -  
*Dichondra argentea*  
'Silver Falls'

### Climbers



Star Jasmine -  
*Trachelospermum*  
*jasminoides*

### Alternative planting options:

#### Small trees

- Magnolia grandiflora  
'Little Gem'

#### Large shrubs

- Acmena smithii 'Firescreen'

#### Small shrubs

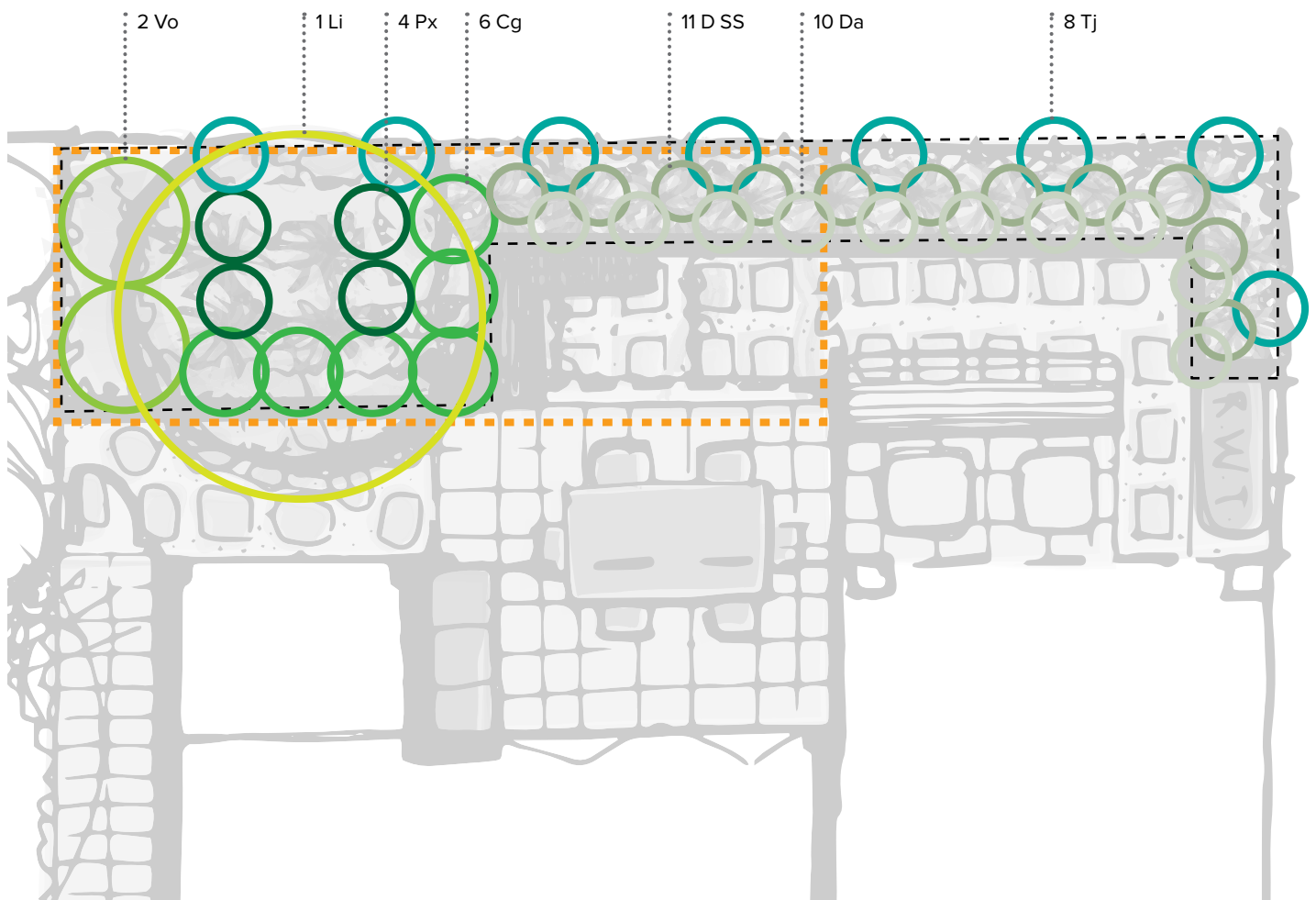
- Sedum 'Autumn Joy'

#### Grasses and strappy leaves

- Liriope muscari 'Isabella'

#### Climbers

- Pandorea pandorana





# Garden 3: Entertainer

## Front garden

This is an example of a very small, south-facing garden 3.5 x 3.5m in size.

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Accommodating a small tree with adequate soil area in a tight space by ensuring there is good quality soil under porous paving for the entry path
- 2 Considering the microclimate and solar access of the garden when selecting tree and plant species

### Grasses / strappy leaf



Renga Renga Lily -  
*Arthropodium cirratum*



Liriope - *Liriope muscari* 'Isabella'

### Small shrubs



Sweet Box -  
*Sarcococca confusa*

### Small trees



Chinese Redbud -  
*Cercis chinensis*



Flowering Plum -  
*Prunus cerasifera*  
'Oakville Crimson Spire'



Coral Bells or  
Alumroot -  
*Heuchera* sp.

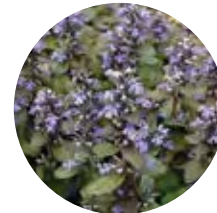


Mona Lavender -  
*Plectranthus* 'Plepalila'

### Ground covers



Kidney Weed -  
*Dichondra repens*

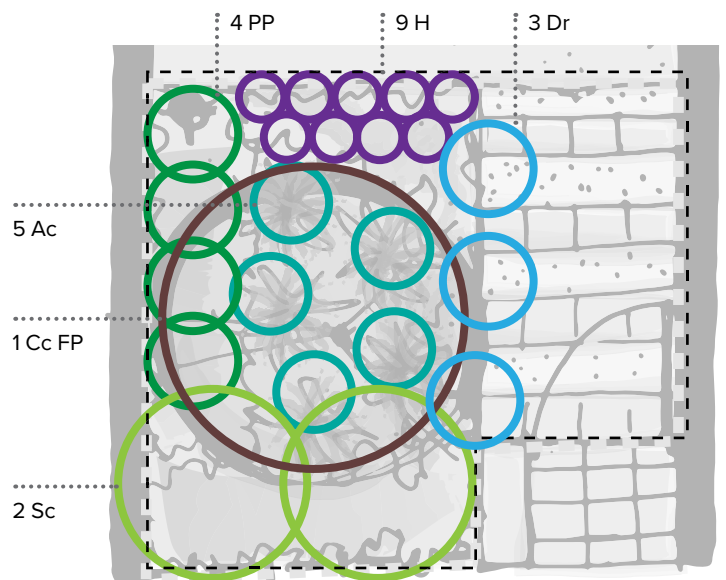
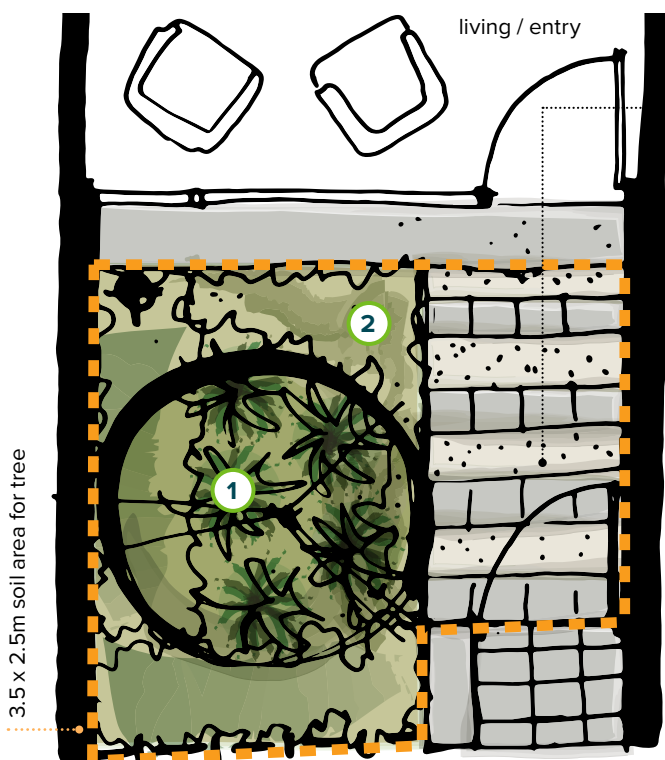


Carpet Bugle - *Ajuga reptans* 'Caitlin's Giant'

### Climbers



Star Jasmine -  
*Trachelospermum jasminoides*



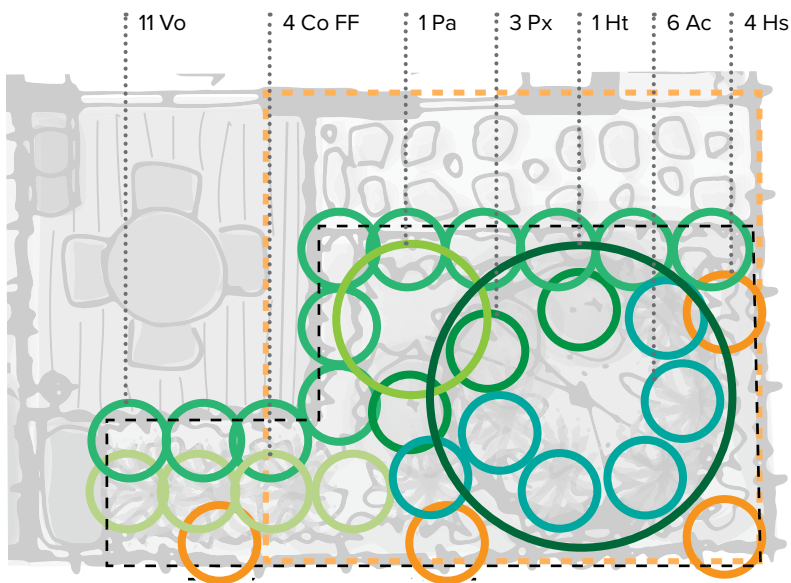
# Garden 4: Shade

## Back garden

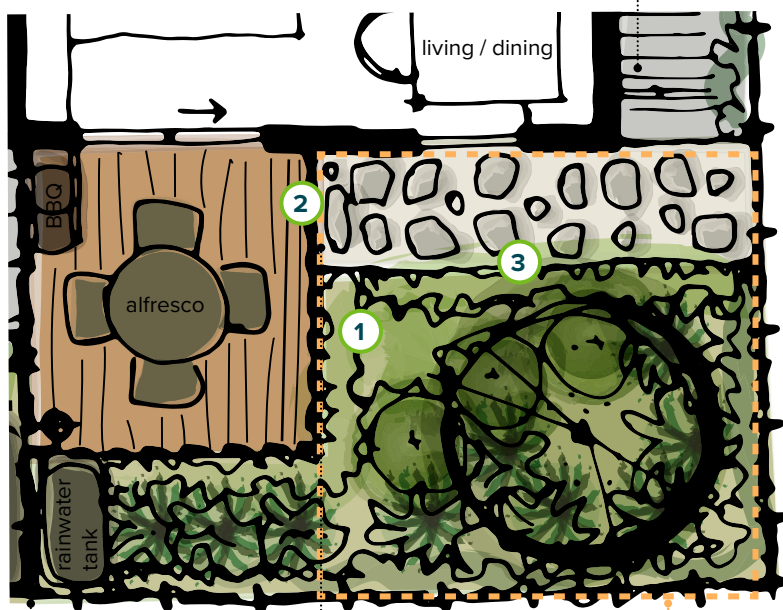
This is an example of a small, south-facing back garden, shaded by the house 3 x 5m in size.

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Considering the microclimate and solar access of the garden when selecting tree and plant species
- 2 Using decking and gravel over a tree soil area instead of non-permeable paving to improve water infiltration to trees
- 3 Placing trees and plants to enhance views from internal and external living spaces.



0.9m wide side setback



provide trellis or wire mesh to fence for climbing plants

soil volume for tree continues under decking and porous gravel path with steppers

3 x 3.5m soil area for tree

## Small trees



Cottonwood -  
*Hibiscus tiliaceus rubra*



Pink Blueberry Ash -  
*Elaeocarpus reticulatus*  
'Prima Donna'

## Grasses/strappy leaf



Renga Renga Lily -  
*Arthropodium cirratum*



Japanese Sedge - *Carex oshimensis* 'Feather Falls'

## Small shrubs



Xanadu - *Philadendron*



Guinea Flower -  
*Hibbertia scandens*

## Groundcovers



Sweet Violet -  
*Viola odorata*



Silver Spurflower -  
*Plectranthus argentatus*



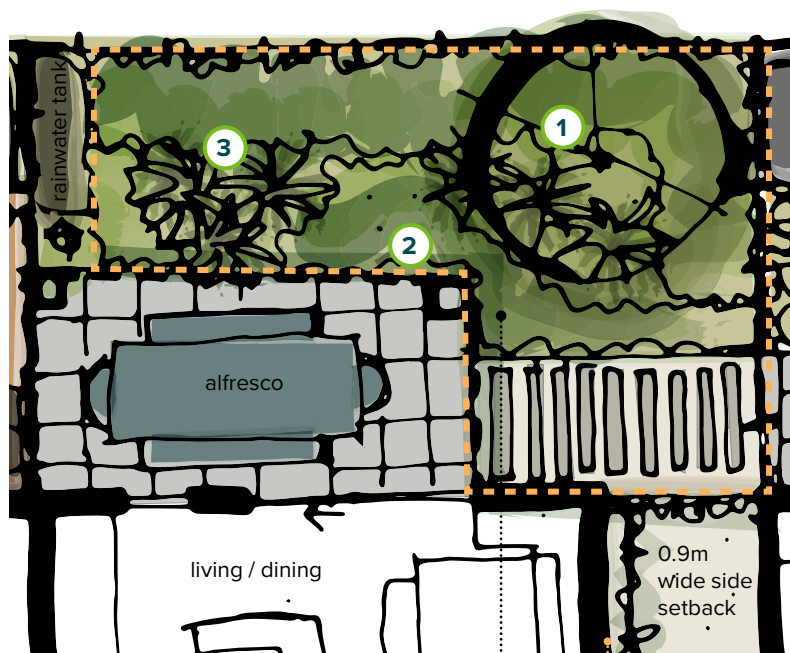
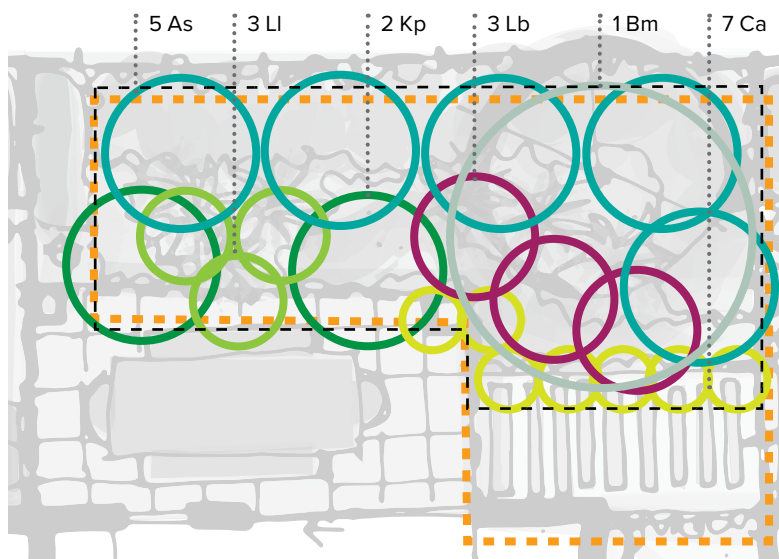
# Garden 5: Coastal

## Back garden

This is an example of a small, sunny, north-facing garden 3 x 6 m in size.

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Locating trees to maximise shade to internal and external living spaces
- 2 Coordinating of tree placement and covered alfresco area with adequate soil volume provision
- 3 Designing with the local context, climate and soil type in mind (coastal conditions) through appropriate species selection



soil volume for tree wraps around alfresco area verandah and continues under porous gravel path with steppers

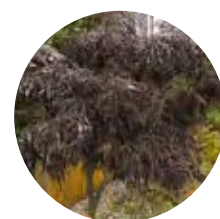
1.5 x 5.5m soil area for tree



## Small trees



Silver Banksia - *Banksia marginata*



Willow Peppermint - *Agonis flexuosa* 'After Dark'

## Large shrubs



Woolly Bush - *Adenanthos sericeus*



Coastal Rosemary - *Westringia* 'Wynnyabbie Gem'

## Small shrubs



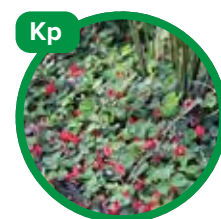
Cushion Bush - *Leucophyta brownii*

## Grasses/strappy leaf



Mat Rush - *Lomandra longifolia* 'Tanika'

## Groundcovers



Running Postman - *Kennedia prostrata*



Yellow Buttons or Common Everlasting - *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*

# Garden 6: Native Cottage

## Back garden

This is an example of a small, east-facing garden, shaded from the afternoon sun, 3 x 6m in size.

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Creating attractive views out of windows looking onto garden areas and plantings
- 2 Using a variety of plant species to enhance biodiversity
- 3 Creating a small outdoor seating area nestled into the garden for connecting with nature

### Groundcovers



Australian Bugle -  
*Ajuga australis*



Kidney Weed -  
*Dichondra repens*

### Large shrubs



Coffee Bush - *Breynia*  
'Ironstone Range'



Tea Tree - *Leptospermum*  
'Mesmer Eyes'

### Small shrubs



Pimelia Daisy-bush -  
*Olearia pimeleoides*



Dwarf Waxflower -  
*Crowea exalata* 'Low Dome'

### Small trees

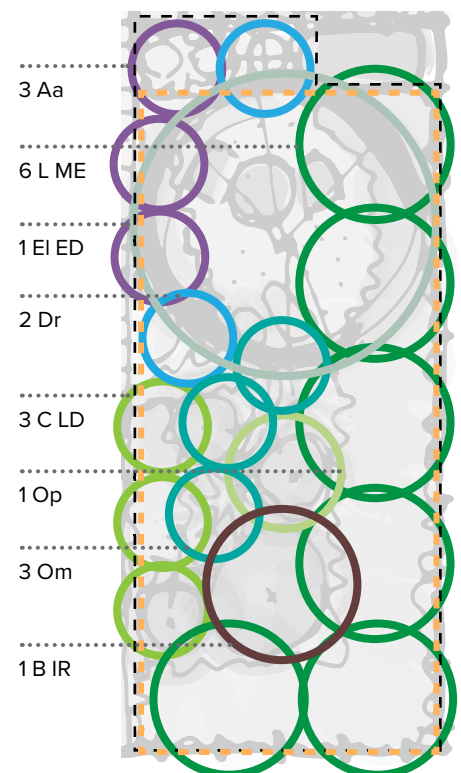
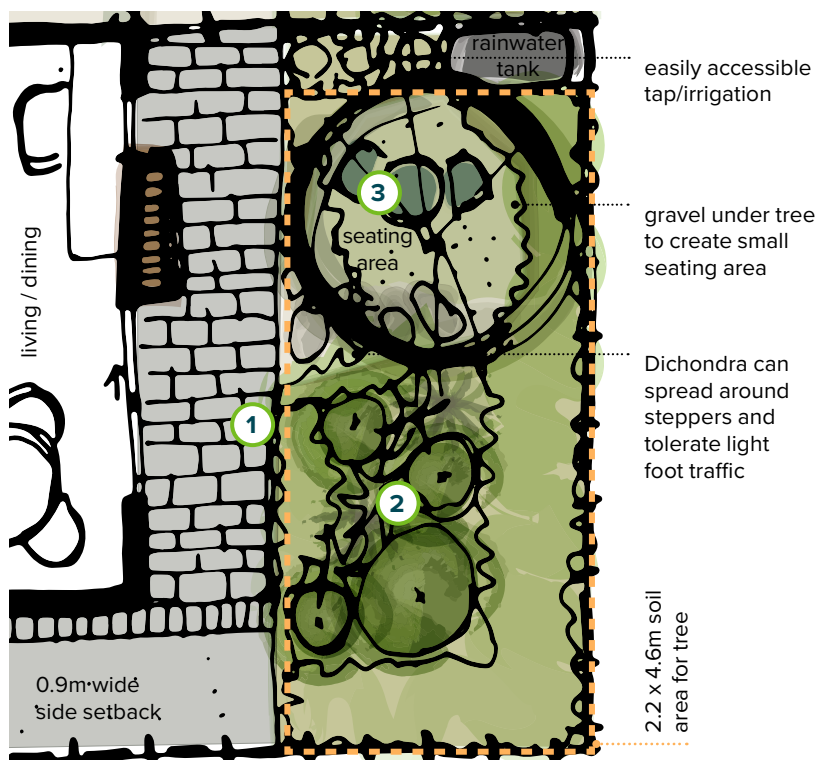


Dwarf SA Blue Gum -  
*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*  
'Eucky Dwarf'

### Grasses/strappy leaf



Morning Iris -  
*Orthrosanthus multiflorus*





# Garden 7: Habitat

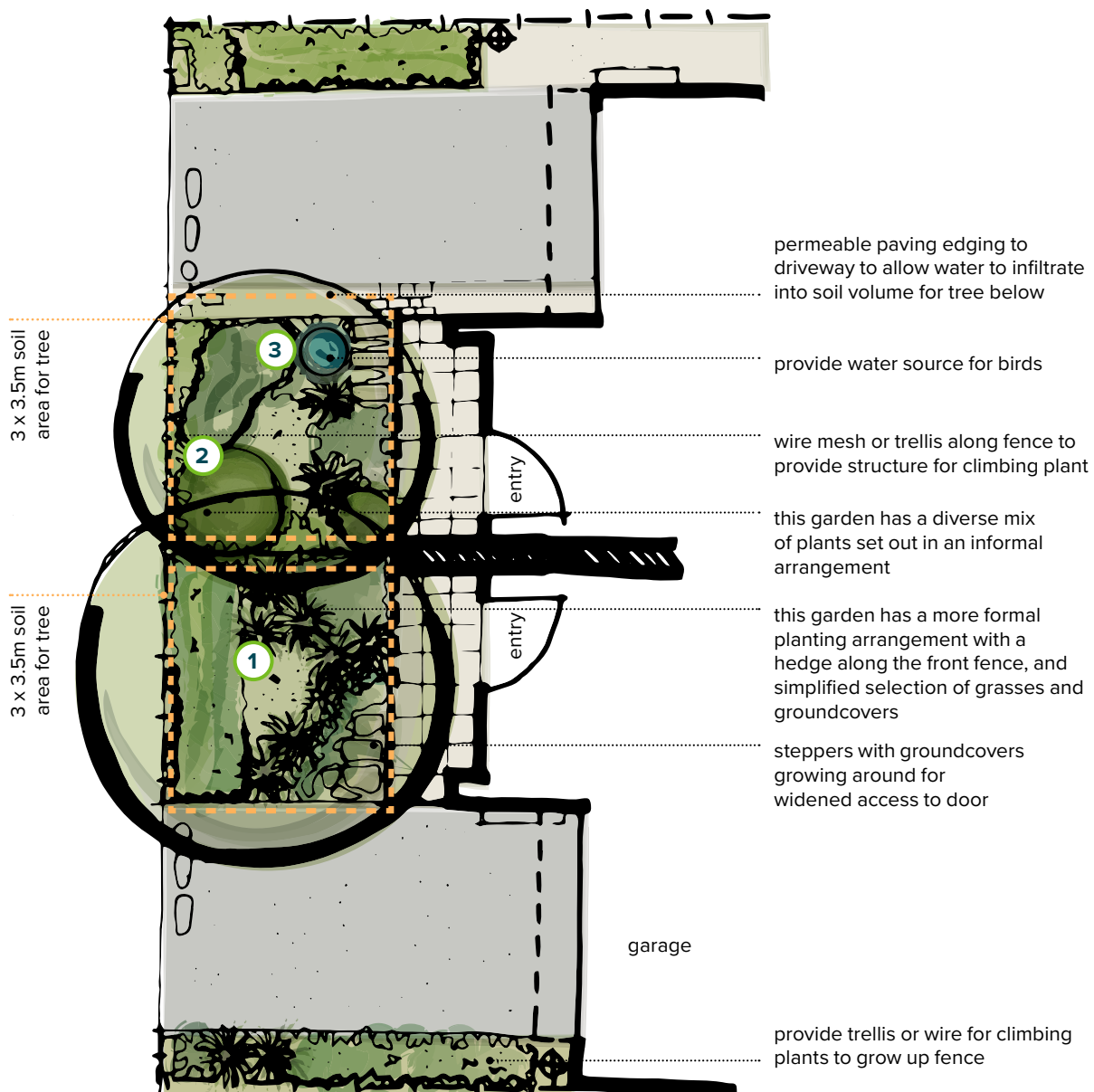
## Front garden

This example uses SA native species within the Habitat garden character. Selecting local indigenous species will help attract and provide shelter for local small mammals, birds and butterflies.

This is an example of two, west-facing front gardens 5 x 7m in size.

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Locating trees to shade dwellings from hot afternoon sun
- 2 Including a variety of plants to provide habitat and food sources for wildlife and support biodiversity
- 3 When providing water sources for birds also make sure there are sticks or pebbles for insects to move freely



### Small trees



Dwarf SA Blue Gum - *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* 'Eucky Dwarf'



Silver Banksia - *Banksia marginata*

### Grasses/strappy leaf



Morning Iris - *Orthrosantus multiflorus*



Spreading Fax Lily - *Dianella revoluta*



Kangaroo Grass - *Themeda triandra* 'Mingo'

### Large shrubs



Sticky Hop Bush - *Dodonaea viscosa*



Twiggy Daisy-bush - *Oleria ramulosa*



Native Geranium - *Pelargonium australe*



Lavender Grevillea - *Grevillea lavandulacea*



Native Fuchsia - *Correa reflexa*

### Small shrubs

### Climbers



Purple Coral Pea - *Hardenbergia violacea*

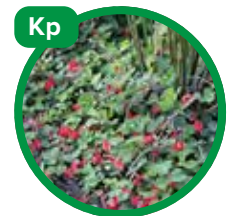


Sweet Apple Berry - *Billardiera cymosa*

### Groundcovers



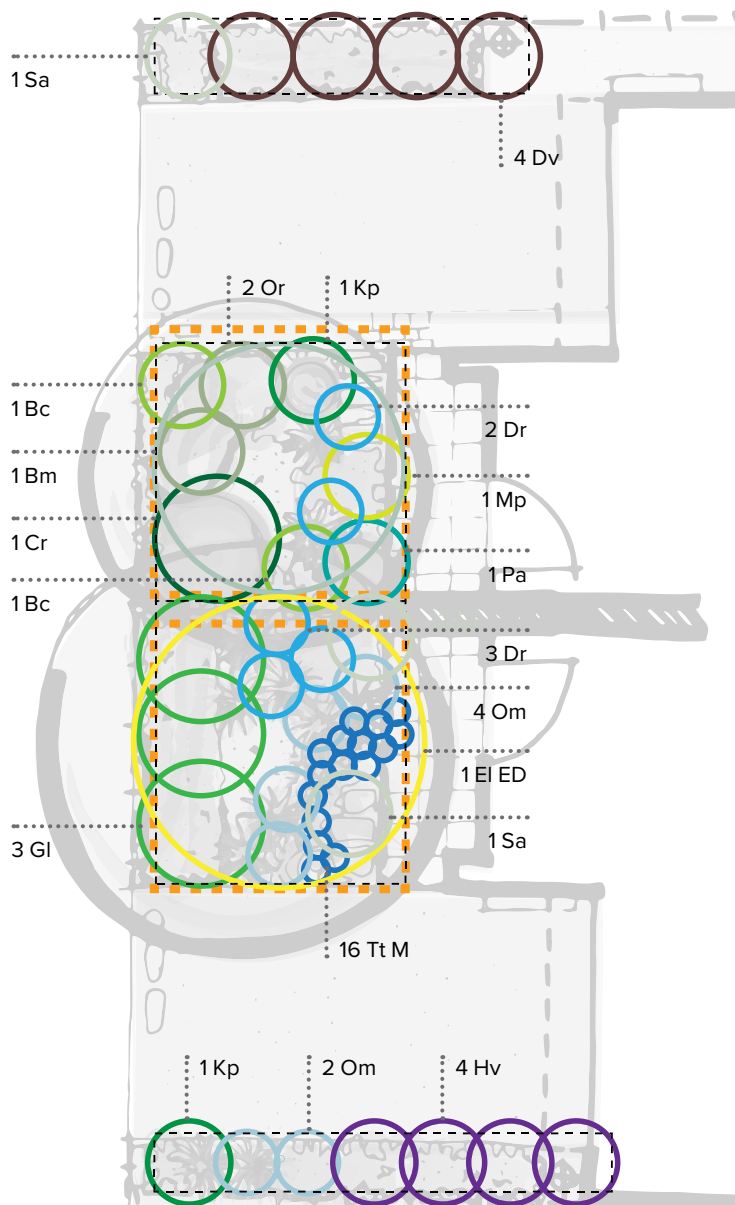
Fan Flower - *Scaevola albida*



Running Postman - *Kennedia prostrata*



Creeping Boobialla - *Myoporum parvifolium*





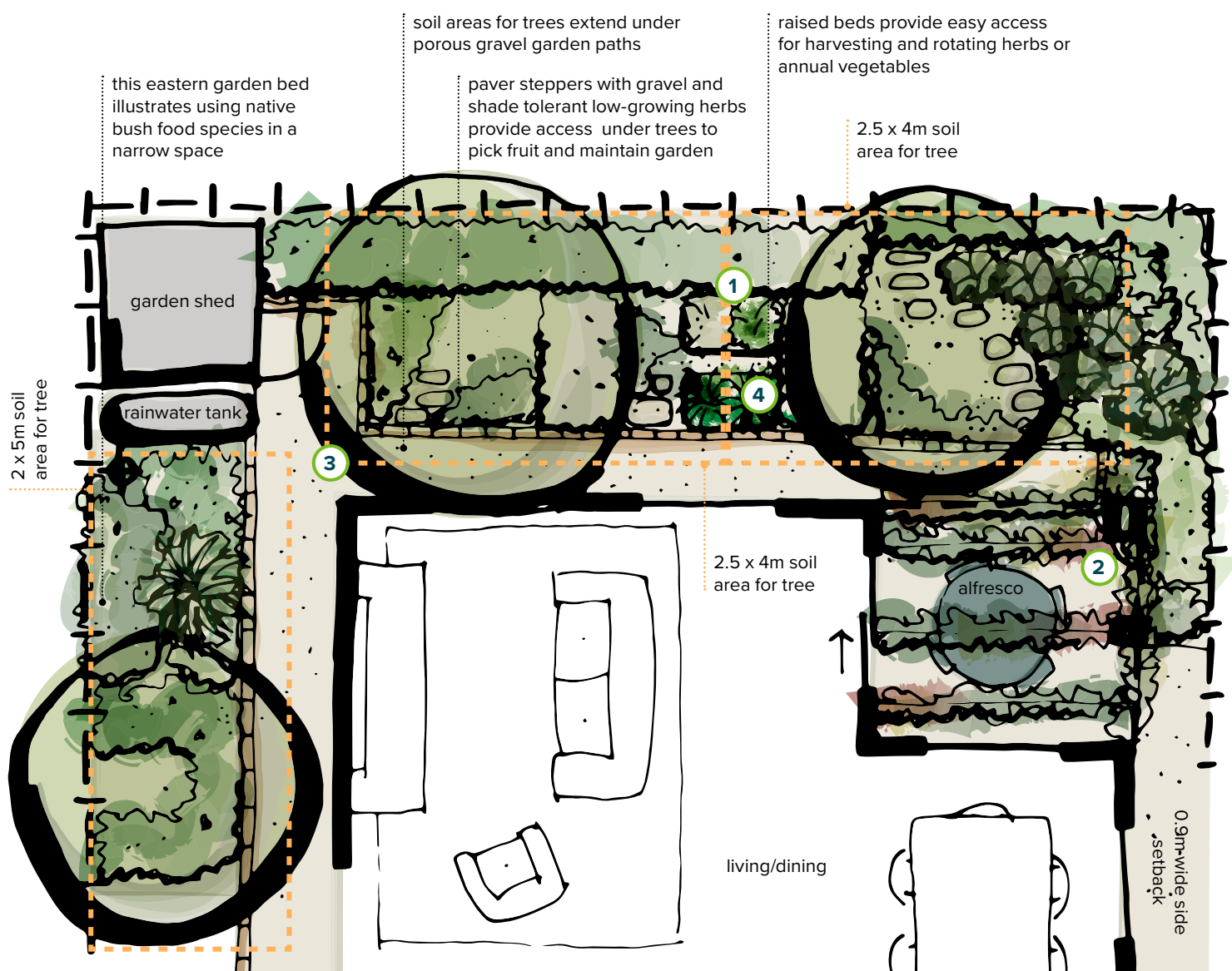
# Garden 8: Edible

## Back garden

This is an example of a sunny north-facing back garden 3 x 11m in size (see PLAN example on page 63).

It illustrates key considerations including:

- 1 Locating vegetable and herb gardens and fruit trees in north facing sunny areas
- 2 Integrating pergolas with climbing plants to shade the hot western summer sun to cool your house
- 3 Using porous materials (e.g. gravel and paving steppers) for garden paths into and around planting areas to maximise water infiltration into the soil
- 4 Incorporate additional raised beds for more continuous harvesting of seasonal veggies and easier maintenance of plants.



## Small shrubs



Rosemary -  
*Rosmarinus officinalis*



Lavender -  
*Lavandula dentata*

## Small trees



Lemon - *Citrus limon*  
'Eureka'



Apricot - *Prunus armeniaca*

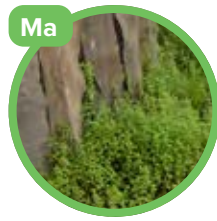


Quandong - *Santalum acuminatum*

## Groundcovers



Muntries - *Kunzea pomifera*



Native Rivermint -  
*Mentha australis*

## Climbers



Black Passionfruit -  
*Passiflora edulis*



Nodding Saltbush -  
*Einadia nutans*

## Grasses/strappy leaf



Native Lemongrass -  
*Cymbopogon ambiguus*



### Continued planting list:

#### Small Shrubs

- So** Salvia officinalis (Sage)
- Rr** Rheum rhabarbarum (Rhubarb)
- Cs** Cynara scolymus (Globe artichoke)
- Tv** Thymus vulgaris (Thyme)
- Vv** Vitis vinifera (Grape vine)



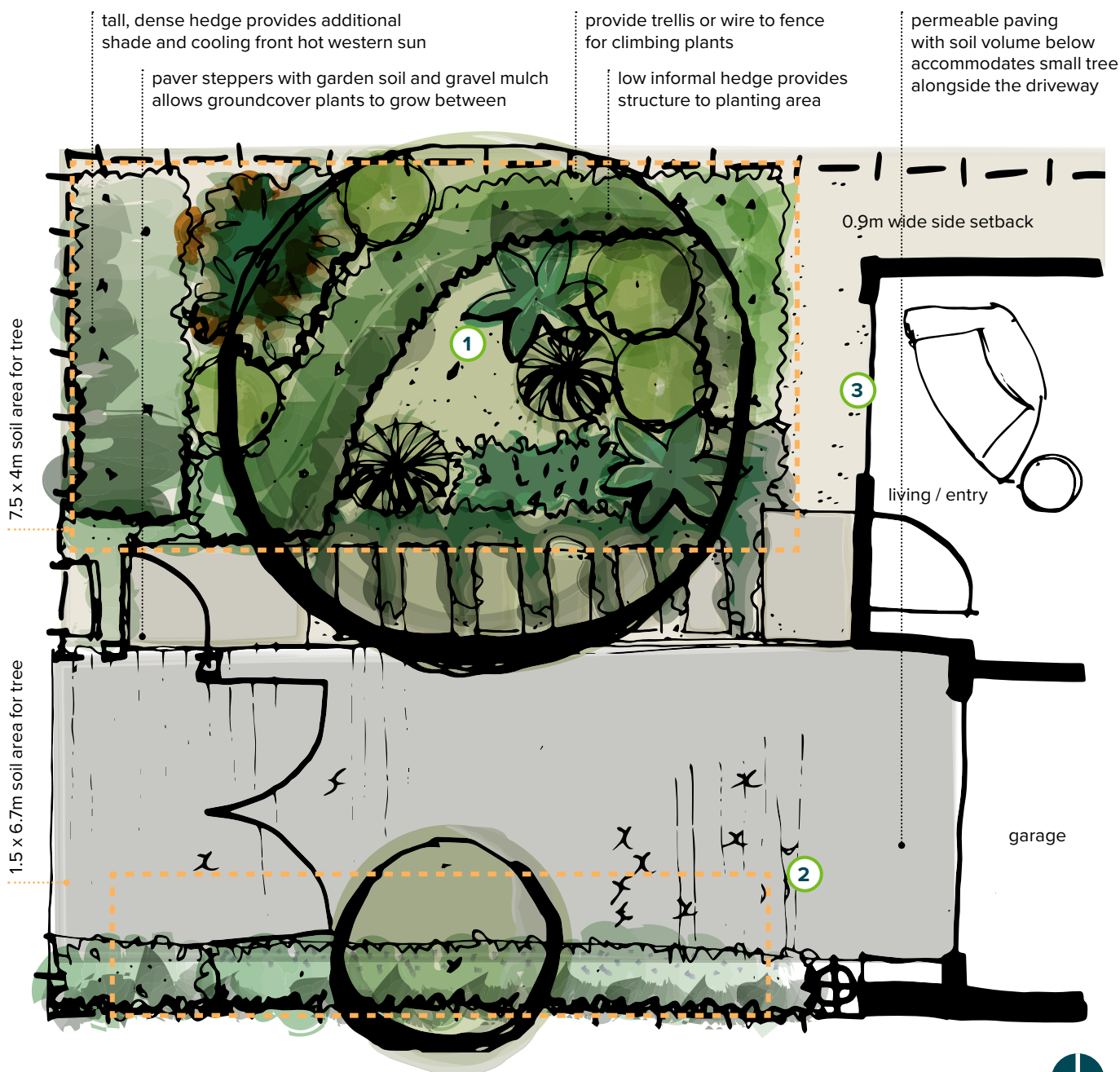
# Garden 9: Mediterranean

## Front garden

This is an example of a large, western-facing sunny front garden 8 x 8.5m in size (see PLAN example on page 43).

It illustrates key considerations including:

- ① Accommodating a medium sized tree with adequate soil area to shade the house and garden from hot western sun
- ② Using permeable driveway surface materials where possible to accommodate extra tree planting along driveways for amenity and shade
- ③ Creating attractive views out of windows looking onto garden areas and plantings and from the street



### Medium trees



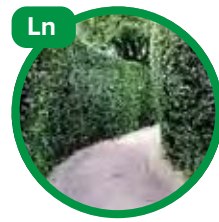
Carob - *Ceratonia siliqua*

### Small trees



Crepe Myrtle - *Lagerstroemia indica*

### Large shrubs



Bay Tree - *Laurus nobilis*

### Grasses/strappy



Wild Iris - *Dietes grandiflora*

### Groundcovers



Blue Chalksticks - *Senecio mandraliscae*

### Small shrubs



Common Sunshine Conebush - *Leucadendron salignum*



Common Myrtle - *Myrtus communis* 'Compacta'



Mediterranean Spurge - *Euphorbia characias* ssp. wulfenii

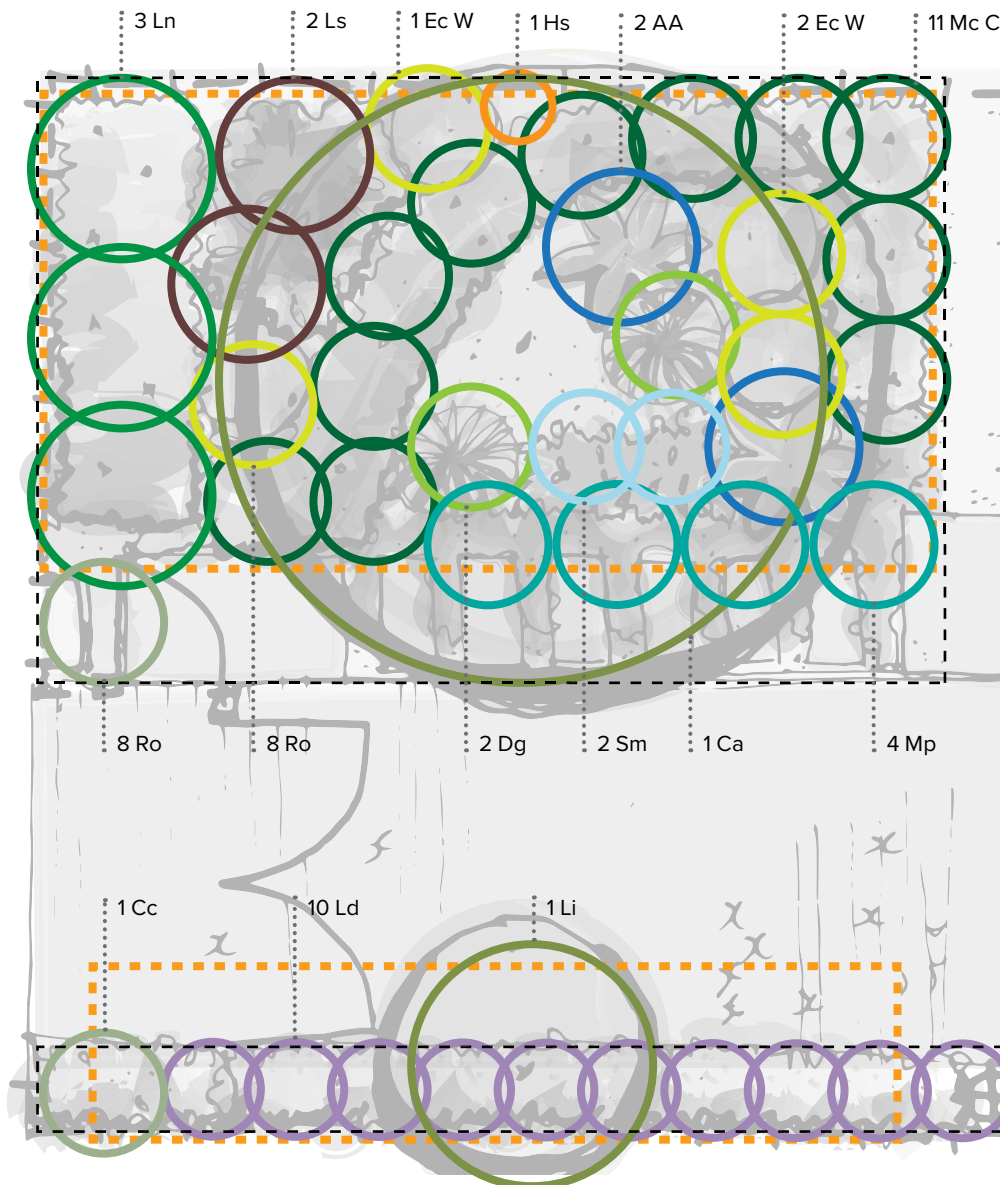


Foxtail Agave - *Aloe attenuata*

### Climbers



Guinea Flower - *Hibbertia scandens*



### Continued planting list:

#### Small Shrubs

**Ld** Lavender dentata

#### Groundcovers

**Cc** Convolvulus cneorum

**Mp** Myoporum parvifolium

#### Alternative

Replace planting under medium tree with shade tolerant lawn for flexible area for pets and kids



# Under an existing tree

Soft landscaping under larger trees requires careful consideration. Select species that are tolerant of reduced light conditions and are shallow rooted so as not to compete with the existing tree roots. Shade loving native groundcovers are usually a good choice. A selection of plants are provided for different conditions.



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## Small shrubs



Native Fuschia -  
*Correa sp.*



Silver Spurflower -  
*Plectranthus argentatus*

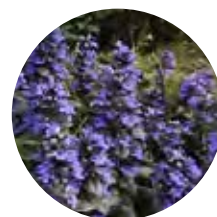
## Groundcovers



Fan Flower -  
*Scaevola aemula*



Australian Bugle -  
*Ajuga australis*



Carpet Bugle -  
*Ajuga reptans*

## Grasses/strappy leaf



Kaffir Lily -  
*Clivia minata*



Renga Renga Lily -  
*Arthropodium cirratum*



Tasman flax-lily -  
*Dianella tasmanica*



Liriope - *Liriope muscari*



Mountain Flax -  
*Phormium cookianum*

## Climbers



Guinea Flower -  
*Hibbertia scandens*



Star Jasmine -  
*Trachelospermum jasminoides*



# Side setbacks

## 0.9m – 2m

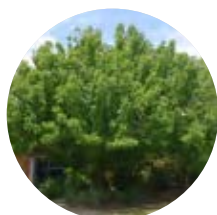
Side setbacks offer further opportunities for planting to shade and cool houses, provide attractive views from living spaces and increase biodiversity.

See below for a selection of narrow trees, tall shrubs and climbers to suit varying widths of side setbacks and conditions.

### Small trees



Flowering Plum - *Prunus cerasifera*  
'Oakville Crimson Spire'



Ornamental Pear - *Pyrus calleryana*  
'Capital'



Crepe Myrtle - *Lagerstroemia indica*



Lilly Pilly - *Syzygium australe* 'Pinnacle' or 'Straight and Narrow'



Bottlebrush - *Callistemon viminalis*  
'Slim'

### Climbers



Guinea Flower - *Hibbertia scandens*



Apple Berry - *Billardiera scandens*



Wonga Wonga Vine - *Pandorea pandorana*



Purple Coral Pea - *Hardenbergia violacea*



Crimson Glory Vine - *Vitis coignetiae*

