

# BACKYARD BLITZ

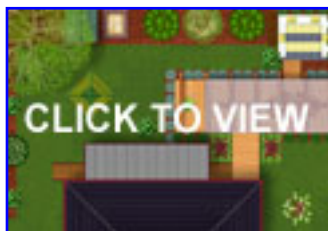
## Battle of the Backyards 3

### Jamie and Scott's Garden



### Jamie's design

After discussion with the owners about what they would like, Jamie designed a nice big deck with shade cloth as protection from western sun. As there would be a change of level from the deck to the garden Jamie planned an outdoor lounge room surrounded by plants. There needed to be screen planting along the back boundary and the cubby house moved under a tree to separate the kids areas from the entertainment area.



## Adapting these plans to your garden

Make a detailed scale drawing of your backyard (eg 1:100) showing the location of the house and major features then incorporate the desired elements from our makeover. As your garden will be a different size you will need to estimate the amounts of materials you will require.

**Note:** On your plan show the locations of any services (water pipes, sewerage, power, phone, etc) so you can avoid damaging them during the makeover.

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**Permits and approval:** check with your local council regarding regulations about earthworks and drainage. If you are changing existing levels or installing drainage ensure no water run-off is directed toward neighbouring properties. Any water entering the storm water system must be free from debris and sediment.

## Garden elements

### Outdoor deck with shade cloth screen

Scottie laid out the position for the 3m wide deck and pergola and dug holes with an auger for the posts about 600x400x400mm deep. He ensured the holes were in the correct position by using string lines and a tape measure and applying the 3,4, 5 rule.

**Blitz Tipz:** The 3,4,5 rule enables you to create a right angle triangle and ensure your structures are properly aligned. From one corner of your proposed structure, measure 3m along one side and mark on the ground. In a direction perpendicular to this along the other side of the structure measure 4m along and mark. You now have 2 sides

of a triangle which are probably close to a right angle. To check this measure between the 2 points and if this distance is 5m you have a right angled triangle.

The entire deck was constructed using treated pine posts, bearers, joists and decking boards. Treated pine posts (H4, 90x90mm) installed vertically in-ground in quick setting concrete to support bearers (H3, 190x45mm) nailed and then bolted in place with cup-head galvanised bolts (10x150mm). Joists (H3, 90x45mm) skew-nailed perpendicular to the top of the bearers to support decking boards.

The pergola over the top of the deck is supported by treated pine posts (H4, 90x90mm) installed vertically in concrete footings. Beams (240x45mm) nailed and bolted in place between the posts.

Silver sheen shade cloth screens to block out over 80% of the uv rays were attached to the pergola frame by screwing into the timber.



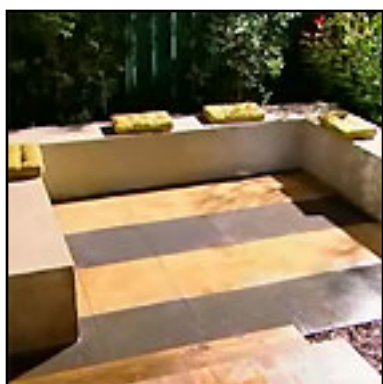
**Bench seating:** Jamie marked out the area to be paved and road base was laid to about 100mm deep and compacted with a vibrating plate compactor. About 30mm deep paving sand was then screeded to an even surface. We then started laying the pavers along the longest straight edge of the area using a string line to keep them in position. All edges were haunched around the perimeter to lock the pavers in position and prevent the bedding sand from washing away.

Jamie used aerated concrete Hebel blocks to create a formal seating area on three sides of the paved area. The first course of Hebel block was laid on a 4:1 mortar bed. This helps to establish an even first course, which subsequently makes it easier to keep further courses level. Hebel adhesive was then be used to lay the other courses to a height of about 400mm. Hebel blocks need to be sealed with a

surface treatment to prevent them from absorbing moisture and deteriorating. Jamie bagged the blocks with a mortar mix (6:1 bickies sand:cement), using a large sponge to apply the mix to the blockwork. After the bagging was dry, the surface was painted.

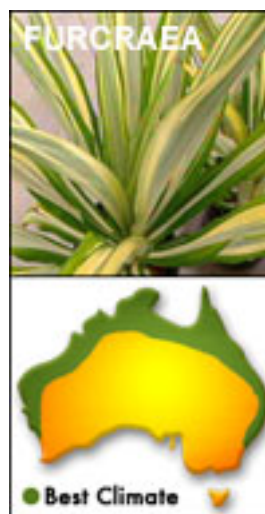
Scottie constructed some plant stands of 90x90mm H4 treated pine. Jamie planted lilly pillies which will eventually cover the timber frame and make the planter pots appear to be resting on the plant below.

**Garden:** To create a hedge, lilly pillies can be planted at 1200mm centres but Jamie suggested another way to get a hedge effect in a large area is to plant a row of larger trees at different distances from the fence. When viewed from the house this would give the appearance of a hedge.



## Plants

Pittosporum (Pittosporum 'Silver Sheen'), photinia (Photinia 'Red Robin'), lilly pilly (Syzygium australe 'Narrowleaf'), lilly pilly (Syzygium australe 'Hunchy'), purple leaf plum (Prunus cerasifera 'Nigra'), flowering ash (Fraxinus griffithii), furcraea (Furcraea foetida 'Mediopicta'), champaca (Michelia champaca), coast rosemary (Westringia fruticosa), chinese tallow tree (Sapium sebiferum), lomandra (Lomandra 'Tanika'), snow pear (Pyrus nivalis), cordyline (Cordyline 'Red Sensation')



## Product details

- Most of the plants we used are readily available at, or can be ordered from, nurseries. Nurseries can also advise on similar varieties suited to your area. You may need to contact specialist nurseries for some plants. Your local nursery should be able to provide you with contacts.
- Most other materials are available from large hardware stores or building or landscape suppliers.
- All tools used are commonly available for hire, including the mini loader and the nail gun.
- Pots came from Decorator Terracotta Pty Ltd, 301 Mona Vale Road, Terrey Hills. NSW 2084; phone (02) 9450 1873
- The silver shadecloth screens came from Sydney Shade Covers; phone (02) 9755 4144 or visit [www.sydneymshadecovers.com.au](http://www.sydneymshadecovers.com.au)

## Cost

We used mature plants in this makeover to create an instant effect for television. As a result our total cost for plants and materials in Jamie and Scotties's garden was \$15,704. The use of smaller plants would have reduced the cost to \$11,578.

## Accommodation

Quay West Apartments  
98 Gloucester St, The Rocks Sydney NSW 2000  
Phone: (02) 9240 6000  
Email: [reservations@qwss.mirvac.com.au](mailto:reservations@qwss.mirvac.com.au)  
Toll Free (within Australia) 1800 805 031  
Web: [www.mirvachotels.com.au](http://www.mirvachotels.com.au)

## Facial & manicures

Our beautician, hairdresser and pamper specialist:  
Kerrie from hair at home, please call Kerrie on 1300 132 533 or web: [www.hairathome.com.au](http://www.hairathome.com.au)

## Massage

Our massage therapist is Rejuvenators  
Chris Day 0413 499 365  
Web: [www.rejuvenators.com](http://www.rejuvenators.com) to make an appointment, please contact Kim on phone: 0421 067 909

## Acknowledgements

### Jamie and Scottie's garden design by:

Jamie Durie  
Patio Landscape Architects  
Phone: (02) 9026 7400  
Web: [www.patio.com.au](http://www.patio.com.au)

Construction by the Backyard Blitz team (all gardens are gifts from Backyard Blitz).

For more Step by Step Constructions click here

