

6 OUTDOOR SPACE

Go big on planting in a small courtyard garden

BEST FOR A modest, overlooked space in need of some lushness.

DESIGN KNOW-HOW Fast-growing bamboo or ornamental grass is ideal for hiding unattractive boundaries – as they are tall, they also shield the space from onlookers. Building in beds will make the most of the footprint, giving a much more concentrated shot of greenery than freestanding planters.

ANY DRAWBACKS? If you want a garden to entertain in, this approach isn't for you – there's little room for groups to gather when such a large amount of the space is taken up by built-in beds. It'll also demand regular upkeep throughout the year.

LITTLE BLACK BOOK Use the Society of Garden Designers to find a local person to design your space.

GARDEN PROJECT

This verdant garden is by designer Antonia Schofield.

The clients are passionate plant collectors and requested a lush, secluded space jam-packed with unusual foliage,' says Schofield. 'The flower colour scheme for the planting was restricted to hot oranges, reds and purples to enhance the jungle-like feel.'

Expect to pay approx £10,000 for a similar scheme.