



6 WAYS TO TRANSFORM YOUR GARDEN THIS WEEKEND





These days we all seem to be living a slower life – lots of time at home, relaxing alone with a good book, or enjoying games in the garden with family and friends.

If your garden is looking a little neglected and needs a freshen up here are 6 easy things you can do this weekend to whip it into shape!





1

Tidy up

Put away the kids toys and all the other ‘stuff’ that always seems to be left lying around outside.

Pull out all the weeds (where did they come from?! They weren’t there 5 minutes ago I’m sure!) and remove any dead plants. Any shrubs that are overgrown or a bit scraggly need a good haircut! Most plants do well if you cut them back hard, but if you’re unsure then a quick search on Google can reassure you. (If you’re unsure what a plant is, here is a [fantastic free app](#) that allows you to search a worldwide database with a simple photo).

Now that your garden beds are tidy it’s time to turn your attention to the lawn. Untidy lawn edges can really let your garden down so it’s time to give them a freshen up! Trim the lawn edges with an edger (mechanical or motorised) or a whipper snipper. If you don’t have edging between your lawn and garden beds you can use a spade to create a furrow between the lawn and the garden to help keep the grass out of the garden bed for a little longer.





2

Deal with that troublesome spot

If you have a difficult area where grass just refuses to grow consider converting it to a garden bed, or a path if it's a high traffic area. Firstly, remove any remnant grass and weeds. For a garden bed use a spade or mattock to loosen the compacted soil before adding some compost, and you're ready for new plants! For a simple path excavate to a depth of 10cm, spread and compact a 6cm layer of roadbase, and spread a 3-4cm layer of pebbles on top.



3

Freshen up with new plants

Take a trip to your local plant nursery and see what takes your fancy! You can mix up colours, textures and sizes, but don't forget to consider the conditions in your garden back home – do you need plants that are tolerant of full sun or full shade? Does your garden tend to get a little dry, do you have an area that's always moist? Check the labels on each plant to ensure it's suitable for where you want to put it.





4

Mulch

It's amazing what a difference mulch can make to a garden! Choose either a long-lasting coarse mulch such as hardwood chip, or a fine mulch such as Eucy Mulch which breaks down and contributes nutrients to the soil sooner. Lay the mulch 7-10cm deep to help reduce weeds and be careful to ensure the mulch doesn't lie against the trunks or stems of trees and plants.

5

Clean up

To really freshen up your space give all surfaces a thorough clean. Wash down your paving and decking with a pressure washer and [re-oil the deck](#). Wipe down your outdoor furniture and pop any cushion covers in the washing machine. Stand in your garden and turn around and look at your house – do the walls need a wash too? Don't forget those windows so you get a clear view out to your beautiful fresh garden!

[Always check manufacturers' instructions for any special directions when cleaning any surface]





6

Finishing touches

Make your fresh outdoor space welcoming with some outdoor cushions, some string lights (try [these ones from Bunnings](#)), and a tray of your favourite drinks! [Here are some ideas](#) for a garden party cocktail!



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