

# Outdoor Room Design Challenge

This activity will be a group assignment. There will be a group presentation at the end of the challenge. All members must participate in the design as well as the presentation.

## Team Assignments:

- Each team will be assigned one of the following 5 customers. Using the house plan number, search Dream Home Source for a picture of your customer's home.
- As a team, read through the client descriptions and needs of the customer. Make observations using the online photos available.
- You and your team of designer need to develop an outdoor space or room for the client based on the client description you have been assigned.
- You must prepare a visual and a presentation to present to the client (you will really be presenting to the class).
- Each group must draw the house plan to scale on a large piece of paper and show the property lines, hardscapes, and use areas.
  - Home measurements and other needed information can be found online at Dream Home Source when you look up your plan number.
  - Lot size, property lines and outdoor measurements must be decided on as a group. As a group, decide what size yard you need to make your design ideas come to life.
- You will also need to create a story board to help your clients visualize your ideas. A story board is like poster with pictures of the main ideas, but this must also include a drawing to show the layout of the design.
  - If you are going to install a picnic table, you need to have a picture of the picnic table, if you are going to install a vegetable garden; you need to make sure you have adequate sun, etc.
  - You have creative liberty on your visual, but you need to do a super job, because this could sell your design to your client. I would search for "landscape design story board" online for examples BEFORE you get started.
- Your team will need to create a "sales pitch" to win over your customers. You will present your design ideas, story board, and overall landscape plan to the class (as if they were the customers).
  - You need to PREPARE your sales pitch and be ready for your presentation.
  - Each group member needs to know what to say and when, an outline would be a great idea for each group to prepare for this!!!

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## Grading

### Team Grading:

This project is a major grade, 85% will be a product grade, everyone in the group will earn the same, and the other 15% of your grade will be an individual grade which will represent your personal effort to your design team. This will be measured by the teacher and each group member will give a team member evaluation (see evaluation sheet on following page).

### Product Grading

Completeness of Project	15
Does it have ceiling, walls, and floors	10
Does it meet the client's needs and wants	15
Is it appropriate for the house and lot	5
Does your visual show the design aspects	10
Does your presentation sell the design to the client	10
Are the design elements in the appropriate use area	10
Do you have a drawing of the use areas	10
Your design team evaluation for effort and participation	15

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## Timeline and Due Date

Date	Item	Who's Responsible	✓ when Complete
Day 1 Date _____	Read all information and become familiar with the project	Entire Design Team	
Day 2 Date _____	Using the client information and the house plan, make a design plan and start making decisions, including what your visual aid should look like and delegate your tasks	Entire Design Team	
Day 3 Date _____	Make a list of hardscape materials to be created and gather pictures for visual	Team Member Name	
Day 3 Date _____	Create the house plan, drawn to scale	Team Member Name	
Day 3 Date _____	Create a detailed drawing of the proposed outdoor landscape plan	Team Member Name	
Day 4 Date _____	Visual Aid	Entire Design Team	
Day 4 Date _____	Presentation Outline	Entire Design Team	
Day 5 Date _____	Practice Presentation with Group using visual aid	Entire Design Team	
Day 6 Date _____	Presentation	Entire Design Team	

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## Peer Performance Evaluation

Evaluator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Being Evaluated: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: Circle one score for each of the items below that best matches this person's performance.*

<b>1</b>	<b>Ability to get things done.</b>
+	They always get things done on time and by when it needs to be done (or make appropriate arrangements).
✓	They get most things done on time, but sometimes they fell behind when it could have been avoided.
-	They repeatedly missed a deadline or needed extra time.
<b>2</b>	<b>Dependability.</b>
+	They are dependable - if asked to do something, they always get it done without a second request.
✓	They are usually dependable; occasionally they needed a reminder, but it was rare.
-	Repeated reminders were needed throughout this experience.
<b>3</b>	<b>Effort</b>
+	This person's effort was always exceptional on every project.
✓	This person usually had a strong effort on most projects.
-	This person's effort was below what was needed for this group to function at its best.
<b>4</b>	<b>Work Ethic.</b>
+	They were always on task and always kept busy.
✓	They did what they needed to do but weren't always productive.
-	They were repeatedly unproductive with their time, impacting their ability to do their job.
<b>5</b>	<b>Respect for Others.</b>
+	They were always respectful of everyone in the group.
✓	They were usually respectful of everyone in the group.
-	They upset or offended someone in the group on multiple occasions.
<b>6</b>	<b>Perfection of Work</b>
+	They are a perfectionist when it comes to their work without compromising their ability to finish on time.
✓	The work of this person was acceptable, but it was not perfect.
-	Other people in the group had to correct or improve the work by this person before submitting it.
<b>7</b>	<b>Impact on Your Grade</b>
+	Having this person in your group probably improved your overall grade.
✓	Having this person in your group probably did not change your overall grade.
-	Having this person in your group probably reduced your overall grade.
<b>8</b>	<b>Overall Performance</b>
+	This person was perfect in every way as a group member.
✓	This person made mistakes but was mostly beneficial to your group.
-	This person made it harder for your group to achieve its goal.

*Record any additional comments in the space below if needed.*

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# Outdoor Room Design Challenge – Customer #1

## House Plan: DHSW62461

### House Specs:

- 3 bedroom split floor plan
- 2 bath
- Flex space next to foyer
- 2 car garage
- Storage in garage with access to outside

### Description of Site:

The Washington residence is located in the garden district of Lufkin, Texas (zone 8), an industrial East Texas town of 35,000 people. The home is bordered on two sides by other residences and at the rear by a small fishing lake. The home is centrally located on the property. The soil is a rich, acidic sandy loam.

### Client Information:

- Homeowners: Ben and Sarah Washington
- Children: none
- Pets: 1 large cat, 1 medium size dog (Beagle)
- Allergies: none known

### Client Interview:

Ben and Sarah are in their late 30s and don't plan on having children. They enjoy entertaining business associates outdoors, but need a more impressive area for large business parties where they would serve a dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Washington spend time in the mornings drinking coffee, reading the newspaper, and playing with Brutus, their Beagle. Since Ben's knee injury during a mountain biking accident, they have been planning to install a hot tub for therapeutic (and recreation) reasons.

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## Outdoor Room Design Challenge – Customer #2

### House Plan: DHSW45327

#### House Specs:

- 3 bedroom split floor plan
- 2 bath
- Open floor plan
- 2 car garage
- Kitchen opens into the living and dining rooms

#### Description of Site:

The Boyd residence is located in Austin, the Texas Hill Country. They have a smaller lot, because of the high population of houses in their subdivision and property costs. The lot is on a busy street and lots of people drive by the home. The subdivision has a strict Home Owners' Association with rules about maintaining your lawn frequently and such. The soil has a shallow layer of sandy loam with lots of white rock naturally occurring in the soil.

#### Client Information:

- Homeowners: Michael and Karen Boyd
- Children: Chad 6, Cassandra 9
- Pets: 1 toy poodle name Bon-Bon
- Allergies: Cassandra is allergic to Bees and Wasps

#### Client Interview:

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd are in their mid 30s, they work m-F 8 to 5 jobs in a nearby office building. They spend a lot of time outside in the backyard with their family playing and grilling, so they would like an outdoor eating area and large play area for their dog and children. The whole family is really into baseball and are huge fans of the Round Rock Express (minor league baseball team in neighboring city).

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# Outdoor Room Design Challenge – Customer #3

## House Plan: DHSW01792

### House Specs:

- 2 bedroom with a study, possible 3<sup>rd</sup> bedroom
- 2 bath
- Large Eat in Kitchen
- 2 car garage
- Kitchen opens into the living and dining rooms

### Description of Site:

The Foster Residence is located in Conroe, Texas just 20 minutes North of Houston, Texas. The area is a quiet area mostly of retired aged couples or individuals. She is on a very secluded street and on the lot on the Cul-de-sac, so her backyard is larger than her front yard. She has silty clay loam sand throughout her lot.

### Client Information:

- Homeowner: Mary Foster
- Children: grown and out of the house
- Pets: 1 Chihuahua named Ruby
- Allergies: none

### Client Interview:

Mary Foster is a 67 year old lady in excellent health. Her husband died a few years back, but her children and grandchildren visit about 4-5 times a year. She doesn't do a whole lot of entertaining, unless the family comes to visit for holidays. She LOVES gardening and bird watching and prefers to have a compost pile to create her own fertilizer for her garden. Mary just recently moved into the home and hasn't made any improvements to the yard. Mary insists on having privacy in her backyard, especially from the neighbors on the right who have made a negative first impression.

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# Outdoor Room Design Challenge – Customer #4

## House Plan: DHSW45596

### House Specs:

- 3 bedroom
- 2 bath
- 2 car garage
- Great Room and a Family Room

### Description of Site:

The Connor property is a Canal front property in Galveston, Texas. This means the property of the home backs up and has access to a Canal to Galveston Bay and the Gulf. The soil is sandy, but has had several amendments to improve it to more like a Sandy Loam. The lot is large and does not flood.

### Client Information:

- Homeowner: Daniel and Rachel Connor
- Children: Jason 16, Lisa 14
- Pets: none
- Allergies: none

### Client Interview:

The Connor family is a really active athletic family. They would like their home and yard to show that aspect of their personality. The family is going to be buying a boat this Summer and needs to add a boat dock to the back of their lot to the canal. They would also like to have a pool installed. Both children are on the basketball team at the local high school and need a small area to practice. Mrs. Connor likes her family to eat fresh and healthy food, so she would like a small garden of veggies and herbs, plus lots of flowers, because her favorite hobby is plants!

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# Outdoor Room Design Challenge – Customer #5

## House Plan: DHSW69293

### House Specs:

- 3 bedroom
- 2 ½ bath
- 2 car garage
- Family Room, Media/Study Room, and BBQ Porch on the back of the house

### Description of Site:

The Baum home is located in Highland Park, Texas, which is a suburb of Dallas. The home is on a very large lot in a gated community with large oak and pecan trees. The neighborhood is actually known for a mammoth tree that is approximately 75 feet wide by 75 feet tall and over 140 years old. The lot has excellent loamy soil for growing, as the property was historically a corn farm. The community has a strong sense of togetherness and has several events throughout the year.

### Client Information:

- Homeowner: Erik and Abigail Baum
- Children: Kurt 12, Cora 9, Gabriel 6
- Pets: 3 dogs, Zeus a chocolate labradoodle, Fritz a German Sheppard, and Reveille a Border Collie
- Allergies: none

### Client Interview:

The Baums are from German descent and love their heritage and that can be seen in the German-Texas interior décor of their home. Erik is a business professional that works about 20 minutes from home. Abigail is a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at the elementary school just down the road. Erik and Abigail met at Texas A&M University while working towards their degrees. Erik proposed under the Century tree, which is fitting for Aggies and Baum means “tree”. Erik and Kurt are huge Dallas Cowboys fans; while the ladies of the house prefer tea parties and playing with the dogs. The Baums recently purchased this home and have done nothing to the exterior landscape since they moved in. They would like to have a large play area for their children and pets, a play house for tea parties for the girls and a large entertainment area for outdoor parties. They entertain frequently and would like to have a really nice area for their four-legged family members to be comfortably kept away from the guests.

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