

# HOW TO CREATE A CUT GARDEN

YEARNING TO MAKE YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS?  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT ABBY CLOUGH LAWLESS  
SHOWS US HOW IN FOUR SIMPLE STEPS



Cut gardens are usually set aside for one thing: bringing flowers into your home. They change every year and offer a place to grow and harvest. By setting aside a garden for cuts, you have a place to put that funky flower you couldn't resist at the garden center.



To keep your garden in check, you're going to need to set up some boundaries. Planting beds and pathways give the garden a clear structure. Plant in small squares to form a base, and put larger plants in longer rows.



Laying rows of bricks in the soil not only defines the beds, but also allows the gardener to tend the plants without compacting the soil. You can seed or plant the whole block in a few minutes and let there be lovely chaos when the plants grow.



Select plants that create great flowers. Dahlias are available in the most beautiful colors, and they bloom non-stop from August to November. Also, plant berries and vegetables that you cannot find at local markets.

**ALSO:** If you have grand ambitions for your cut garden, you may need to call in a pro for its construction. Clough Lawless often works with Tom Johann, president of Wainscott Industrial Solutions, to build the pathways, boxes, and fences in her designs. Recently, the two collaborated on the architectural elements for a home garden in Amagansett, New York, and the project, Johann says, "went off without a hitch," leaving the homeowners' with a gorgeous cut garden.