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Preparation: The Garden Design Questionnaire

These questions are designed to help you start thinking about how you currently use your existing garden and how you would like to use your new garden in the future. The answers will help you set some guidelines for many of the decisions you will make as you go through the design process. Be realistic while answering the questions, and be certain to get the input from everyone in your household who will use the new garden; pets too!

- With what style are you most comfortable (formal or informal, symmetrical or asymmetrical, straight or curvilinear lines or a combination of the two)?
- What is the primary use of your garden (viewing, working or playing)?
- What major change would you make to the space in your garden (larger, smaller, traffic flow)?
- What percentage of each day do you and your family spend in the garden or viewing the garden?
- How often do you like to work in the garden?
- How many people will be using the garden at the same time?
- How often do you entertain?
- How many people do you typically entertain at one time?
- What is the most elaborate party or entertainment event that you have ever staged?
- What is the most elaborate party or event that you can imagine yourself staging in your new wonderful garden?
- What is the single worst thing about your present garden?
- What would you change about each of the following:
 - o Irrigation and Drainage
 - o Hardscaping such as pools, flooring, fencing, arbors, pergolas etc.
 - o Soil and Bed Preparation
 - o Plants and Planting Elements
 - o Lighting System Elements
 - o Garden Care
- How hard are you, your family and pets on your garden (wear and tear)?
- How much money do you want to spend?
- If you had to pick a single luxury item for the new garden, what would it be?