

### BRAINSTORMING WORKSHEET: OUTDOOR ROOMS AND KITCHENS

Outdoor room areas create useable spaces for family and guests in your landscape, and can be the most used element on your property. Developing a good, finished project that both reflects your style and adapts itself to your home's exterior environment is what we're after. Take a few minutes and give some serious thought to each of these elements below, checking items that are most critical to you, and making notes for your designer.

Aside from pools, there are six basic rooms that we develop: Living Rooms, Dens, Verandas, Play Areas, Kitchens, and Dining Areas. In most of these rooms, your furniture needs will develop the spaces, much like interior space planning defines how your home's rooms function (a big room with very little furniture looks too big, and that same room with too much furniture might look too small). In our design process, we want to define what each room is, what type and quantity of furniture is in the room to meet your needs, and consider how to light and accessorize the space.

**Living Room:** This room requires the most comfortable furniture (something that you'd sit in for hours). The situation of the furniture is all about PEOPLE. Furniture should face inward in order to facilitate conversation. A low drink table can be a part of this arrangement, but doesn't need to dominate the space. For your particular entertainment needs, define the number of pieces to facilitate the number of people you would like for this space:

- |  |         |   |         |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Chairs | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Day or Hanging Bed | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Love Seats    | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hammock/Swing      | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couches       | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Drink Tables       | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sectionals    | # _____ |   |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:        |         |   |         |

**Den:** This room may also have some very comfortable furniture in it, but is defined and arranged not around people as much as it is oriented toward a FEATURE. A fire-place, fire-pit, TV, fountain or water feature—these are all elements that the seating may orient to. Sometimes, furniture in these rooms can be as simple as a masonry seat wall (which can eliminate clutter, make maintenance easier and maximize the number of people who can use the space). At other times, you may want to spend hours in this space, and comfortable furniture will be required. As above, check the furniture needs that would most suit your needs:

- |  |         |   |         |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Chairs | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Day or Hanging Bed | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Love Seats    | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hammock/Swing      | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couches       | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Drink Tables       | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sectionals    | # _____ |   |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:        |         |   |         |

**Veranda, Porch, Lanai, Cabana, Gazebo:** A lake, pond, river, ocean, sunrise, sunset, city skyline or mountain view—these are all features that this room may orient to. These first four room types are elements that are traditionally attached to the primary living structure, and the gazebo is a free-standing structure which functions in the same way. These are all generally designed around a “borrowed landscape”—a view that holds people’s attention for long periods of time, and require furniture and spacing that allows for maximum view with maximum comfort. Furniture is oriented in this room to the view, and does not necessarily need to face inward as in the living room. Quantities needed:

- |  |         |   |         |
|--|---------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Chairs | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Day or Hanging Bed | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Love Seats    | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hammock/Swing      | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couches       | # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Drink Tables       | # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sectionals    | # _____ |   |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:        |         |   |         |

**Play / Recreation Room:** This room can be as simple as a panel of turf for kids and pets to play on, or it can be very well defined. Here are a few suggestions for consideration (check all areas you are interested in):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sport Courts (including basketball, volleyball, badminton, tennis (or any combination thereof) | <input type="checkbox"/> Playgrounds                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Putting and Chipping Greens (including sand traps or water hazards)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandboxes                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bocce and Shuffleboard Courts  | <input type="checkbox"/> Zip-lines                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:   | <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Walls                |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Labyrinths and Walking Trails |

Define how you would like to use the space and how many people you would like to use it and that will push the design process forward:

**Kitchen:** This area and the dining room are all about food—one thing we all both need and love! The outdoor kitchen can be the most interesting place to cook if set up well, and also the easiest to clean. It can also produce some of the tastiest food for the family, and be the most interesting culinary experience zone on your property. Of course, it could be just a spot for your grill, but consider the following and check if desired:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grill-counter (drop-in grill)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Grated Charcoal Pit                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Side Burners  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flattop Grill (think Japanese Steakhouse style) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Green Egg (or other highly-tuned insulated charcoal grilling device)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Pizza Oven (usually wood-fired)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Smoker and Stew-pot Arrangements (usually associated with fire-pits for Brunswick, Gumbo or other stews—although a large side burner can handle the job on smaller stew pots) |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:  |  |

The grill counter (usually of leathered granite, but can be made of other materials), can become the prep, serving, and clean-up zone, so the following are some features we've integrated into these areas:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Warming Drawer           | <input type="checkbox"/> Trash Bin                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Half Height Refrigerator | <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet Doors with Shelves and Turntables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sink                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pullout Drawers                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher               |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   |  |

Lastly, the pantry is all about FRESH! A raised garden for herbs or a kitchen garden can finish off the space (these can be close or far from the prep area).

**Dining Room:** There are two basic ways we typically arrange eating surfaces: The first is to integrate a low or high bar counter (36" or 42" ht.) to the outdoor cook station. We need to know the number of people for this bar: # \_\_\_\_\_

The second way is to use a traditional outdoor table, and again, the number of people for that table and the shape desired is critical for space planning. # \_\_\_\_\_ people.

Shade is generally an issue on most sites, and we can explore how that will be created as we develop the space.

**Flooring:** Finally, the floor of most of these outdoor rooms will play a huge role in making them look appropriate for the site. Materials include (check your preferences):

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Brick Pavers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Textured or Stained Concrete | <input type="checkbox"/> Stone        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pea Gravel                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone Pavers           |                                       |