

## OUTDOOR ESSENTIALS



### 25 FINELY FURNISHED

Well-chosen items of outdoor furniture will lure you out of the house and enhance the experience of being in the garden. Furniture must tick all the boxes, including comfort, functionality and good looks, says Christian Jenkins of Melbourne's Christian Jenkins Design. Keep the following points in mind when you shop:

- \*Whatever the look of your garden – whether cottage, contemporary or Asian – choose a style of furniture to complement it.
- \*Consider the relative proportions of both the space and the furniture: don't squeeze a modular sofa into a tiny courtyard.
- \*Think about your needs. If you like quiet, relaxing weekends, a couple of day beds would be perfect. Entertainers will want a big table and chairs.
- \*Use cushions as an easy way to inject fun, colour and comfort. >

1 Big Birdhouse polypropylene, porcelain and steel bird-feeder, \$125, Design Dispensary. 2 Dedon synthetic-fibre outdoor pendant light, from \$2950, Domo Collections. 3 Schumacher Trina Turkier Frame acrylic indoor/outdoor fabric in Driewood, \$165/m, Orient House. 4 Melamine salad plates, \$15, and side plate, \$9, both SunnyLife. 5 Loop New Guinea rosewood armchair upholstered in Riad acrylic fabric in Ebony, \$3700 (cushion not included), Robert Plumb. 6 Flos Architectural Jere aluminium-alloy outdoor floor light, \$1606, Euroluca. 7 Fresh UV-stabilised acrylic indoor/outdoor floor light, \$795, Beacon Commercial. 8 Weather-treated cotton outdoor scatter cushion in tea Cynaroides, from \$139, Clinton Friedman. For Where to Buy, see page 252.

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### 41 A LESSON IN LESS

"Less is more in the garden," says Paul Bangay. The key is to edit the space and not clutter the area with pieces you won't use.

"Only use a dining table if you are sure you are going to dine formally outside," says Bangay. "I prefer to have a selection of lower, casual armchairs grouped around a large coffee table, so you can dine there informally as well as relax and enjoy coffee and drinks around it."

While Bangay loves overscaled ornaments, he warns that pieces of furniture should never be oversized: "It's important the scale is correct and the furniture does not dominate the space," he says. "For me, the garden itself is the feature." >

Perchi Rossi painted metal wall feature, \$110, The Complete Garden. 2 Schumacher Trina Turk Amazing size acrylic indoor/outdoor fabric in Ocean, \$126/m, Orient House. 3 Shelta Fairlight octagonal market umbrella with UV-stabilised olefin shade, \$479, Rob Cousins. 4 Project marine-grade stainless-steel market table, \$570, Robert Plumb. 5 Gandia Blasco Taburete 356 moulded polyethylene stool, \$395, Parterre. 6 Print cotton gardening gloves, \$40/pair, Laura Ashley. 7 Royal Botania New England timber armchair, \$75, Parterre. 8 (From top) Esperence throw cushion in Summer Red/Taupe, \$45, Hayman throw cushion in Summer Red, \$45, Bryon throw cushion in Eggnog, \$45, and Avalon floor cushion in Summer Red, \$80, all poly-cotton with weather-repellent coating, all SunnyLife. For Where to Buy, see page 252.