

# PLANNING A LANDSCAPE RENOVATION

*With endless options for plants and materials, it's only natural to become a bit overwhelmed with all the work that goes into planning a landscaping project.*

The landscape design experts at Hively can help simplify the process by offering some proven ideas to plan a successful landscape renovation.



## 1 Determine your goal

Are you looking for an edible garden? Do you need privacy from neighbors? Would you prefer to enjoy a butterfly garden? Is your newly planned outdoor living area for entertaining and grilling? Narrow down what it is you are looking for, then it is much easier to decide how to get there.



## 2 Set a budget

Each project is unique with a budget based on overall project scale and desired outcome- natural stone, steps and walls all add to the cost. Your budget helps focus your project and guide materials selections to keep project costs from spiraling out of control. Make sure your contractor is following state Home Improvement Contract law to avoid ugly surprises.

## 3 Find inspiration

One of the best parts of a landscape renovation is envisioning how your space could potentially look. Browse photos of completed projects that are similar to your vision and pick out a few items you like about that design to potentially incorporate into your own. Our website has several different photo galleries designed for you to gather inspiration, including [gardens](#), [decks, patios and shade structures](#), [entrances and walks](#), [water features](#), [fences and walls](#), [pools and spas](#), [lighting](#), and [before and after photos](#).



## 4 Get a scale drawing

While it may seem cheaper to perform this step yourself, if it is not properly executed, it will end up costing you more in the long run. The benefits of hiring a professional landscape designer to plan your new landscape easily make any costs involved worthwhile. A designer will not only help you plan a great looking landscape today, but they'll have the knowledge and expertise to know what it will look like 10, 20, or even 30 years down the road as well. If your project is too expensive to do all at once, or if you have other projects planned for the future, they can help break your landscape renovation into phases to help with costs and timing. Any potential problem areas such as permits, drainage, and other items an untrained eye might not catch will be covered by an experienced landscape designer.

## 5 Dive in

If you're up for tackling the project yourself and the timing is right, it's now time to dive right in and get to work. If you prefer to leave the [landscape or hardscape](#) to the experts, give Hively a call at 717-292-5696 and we'd be happy to help!

