Complementary / Contrasting Color Designs

Opposite colors (complementary) or widely spaced (contrasting) on color wheel

Harmonizing or Adjacent Colors

Adjacent series of colors (hues) on the color wheel often provide harmonious combinations for designs

Tints, Tones, Shades Within a Hue

Particularly important along with textures in tropical landscapes where greens tend to dominate
**Monochromatic Effects**

- Bright colors draw the eye, bring plants to the foreground
- Darker colors ( blues, purples, violets, deep greens) provide illusion of depth

**Changing 3-Dimensionality With Color**

Creating Space Illusion: Horizontal Lines

Creating Space Illusion: Vertical Lines
**Textural Considerations: Coarse**

Coarse textured plants grab your attention = focal points

**Textural Considerations: Fine**

- Fine textures can be used to soften harsh lines & highlight coarser textured plants by contrast

**Form (habit)**

*Natural shapes*  *Altered states*

**Repetition of Plants or Hardscape**

Repeated use of a design element can provide a unifying theme
**Balance**

Can be symmetrical or asymmetrical

**Scale**

Strategies differ when designing on a grand scale

**Formal versus Informal**

Micro-scale allows greater implementation of individual elements such as textural contrasts

- **Formal:** Texas Capital Grounds
- **Informal:** Texas Cottage Garden
- **Formal:** Structured Water Garden
- **Informal:** Naturalistic Pond
**Naturalizing**

Naturalistic plantings ≠ native plants

**Transition Landscapes**

From the cultivated into the wild

**Woodland / Shade Gardens**

**Wind Breaks / Shelter Belts**
Soil / Dune / Slope / Bank Erosion Prevention

Dune Reclamation

Estuary / Coastal Restoration

Tropical Oasis / Coastal Resorts
Seasonal Displays

Seasonal Accents / Focal Points / Specimen Plants

Formal Sheared Hedges

Screening / Backgrounds
Knot Garden / Parterres

Specialty Designs / Logos

Cold season flowering annuals
Cold season vegetative annuals

Topiaries

Containers Gardens
Arbors / Pergolas

Green Roofs

What do you notice first about this building, even in the dead of winter?

Living Walls

Images courtesy of Dr. David Byrne
Living Walls
Offer transition from exterior to interiorscapes and incorporation as living art

Rain Gardens / Swales / Detention Ponds / Biofiltration
Constructed Wetlands

Wildlife Attractants

Pollinator Plants
Edible Landscapes / Urban Agriculture / Farm to Table / Home Orchards

Framing Views (Outdoors)

Framing Views (Inside Out)

Reflections (Mirror Imaging)
Night Lighting

Does This Serve A Design Purpose?

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