



NEWS - APRIL 2014

Autumn Gardening Ideas

Now that autumn is here it's a good time to start sprucing up our homes and preparing our gardens for the months ahead. It's important that we don't neglect our gardens in autumn, as the right care during this time can keep them healthy and flourishing all through winter too.

- Autumn is a great time to plant new seeds and cuttings in your garden. Find flowers and plants that you like, and plant them away from strong winds and harsh sun. Don't forget to water them regularly too.
- Many people don't realise that autumn is one of the best times of year for roses. There are plenty of beautiful colours to choose from, so head to your local nursery and pick your favourites.
- If there are any sick or struggling plants in your garden, get rid of them now because they are unlikely to survive through the cooler months.
- If your lawn is looking a little bare, try bringing it back to life by adding some lawn food.
- With ANZAC Day coming up, you might like to start a new tradition of planting poppies in your garden.
- Rake up fallen autumn leaves and place them in a compost bin. While the romance of fallen autumn leaves can look nice for a little while, if they build up over time they will kill grass and plants hidden underneath.
- Give your garden a general tidy and pack away toys or equipment that you don't think will get much use over the cooler months.
- Plan now for spring. Autumn and winter are a great time to start thinking about how you want your garden to look when spring comes around again, and it is normally easier to get landscapers in over this time, as they aren't so busy.

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BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Easter is Almost Here!

Easter will be taking place from Friday April 18 until Monday April 21 this year and people from all over Australia will be celebrating in a number of different ways.

Whilst a lot of Australian households look forward to consuming lots and lots of chocolate over the Easter period, the health-conscious among us are turning to new traditions to celebrate this time of year.

A popular idea for the kids is to replace chocolate Easter eggs with plastic eggs that can be filled with a small gift like jewellery or pieces of a puzzle. This way the eggs can still be hidden around the house for an Easter egg hunt and the kids still get a trinket to enjoy.

Another idea is to make Easter a craft event where kids can decorate eggs instead of eating them, and create Easter bunnies and/or Easter baskets. Check out the website Pinterest for plenty of clever Easter craft ideas.

Of course there's nothing wrong with continuing to celebrate Easter with some chocolate Easter eggs, and some good old-fashioned hot cross buns too – because what are holidays for if not indulging?

The most important aspect of Easter is that everyone has a great time celebrating with family and friends and that everyone has a safe and enjoyable break.

Happy Easter!



Choosing the Right White Paint.

If you think you've narrowed down your paint choices by picking "white" then think again! There's a plethora of options out there when it comes to white paint and whilst they might all seem similar, they can create drastically different colour effects in a room.

So how do you decide between colours like Antique White and Raw Cotton? The best advice is to start with a sample pot of paint to see what it looks like once it's on your walls.

White paint can look very different on your home's walls compared to what you might have seen in-store. Different levels of lighting and different furniture can bring out different shades of white, possibly making your chosen white look more blue, green or even red depending on the colour you've chosen.

As a general guide if you have a room that hasn't got a lot of natural light, a warmer white can help make the room more inviting. If you're painting a sunny room on the other hand, a cool white can help make it feel fresh and cool. It's important to take furniture and other room features into account though, as the wrong white can highlight or neutralise other elements in a room.

Again, the only way to know for sure is to test a paint sample in your home first, or you might like to call up a professional colour consultant to help you out.



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