



Natural Order

Many times, the most important moves are the subtlest. That applies to a scenic backyard devised by Hoerr Schaudt to accompany a desert-modern-inspired house by Jill Lewis Architecture at the base of the Chino Canyon cliffs near Palm Springs, California. The brief called for a landscape guided by the site's natural conditions and boulder-strewn terrain, prompting associate principal John Hreno to organize outdoor areas with a measured approach informed by Japanese garden principles.

Rather than impose an overtly decorative scheme, he established clearly defined zones using concrete pavers, positioning a grill and monolithic dining area beside a jet-black marbled tile pool. To make sure his clients got the most out of the entertaining areas, he sited them close to the home's kitchen, ensuring a natural flow between inside and out. The setup allows the backyard to support a full day of use, from meals and swimming to evening gatherings. "Everything was arranged based on function over form," Hreno says. "If it doesn't work, who cares what it looks like?"

Japanese design principles inspired Hoerr Schaudt to place a monolithic dining table and grill alongside a marbled tile pool at a home near Palm Springs, California.



Wrap dining chair by
HENRIK PEDERSEN for
GLOSTER; gloster.com



Andrée dining table by
HANNES PEER for
MINOTTI; minotti.com



Tawa rechargeable
table lamp by
SEAN LAVIN for VISUAL
COMFORT & CO.;
visualcomfort.com



Montegrano
dinner plate by
LEANNE FORD
for IL BUCO VITA;
ilbucovita.com



The Signature Rockwell
grill by DAVID ROCKWELL
for TRUE; true-caliber.com