

Home & Garden

Interior Design · Landscaping

SECTION M

Viewable gardens are works of heart. It's tour season; share the love!

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GARDENERS CAN'T help but want what they don't have – more sun,

during the Miramonte Garden Tour.

"Before we re-landscaped the yard, it was a very depressing space with an old pool, broken

"I wanted to do the same thing with our back yard."

Hardscape colors and materials for the garden tie into the nearby kitchen to create a smooth transition to the outdoors. The same slate on the kitchen floor was used for the patio floor. Glass mosaic tile similar to that used in the kitchen was used to back the waterfall on the spa. And the porcelain tile surrounding the grill reflects the home's red clay roof tile.

To complement the Mediterranean feeling of the home, Lambert used plants including palms and banana leaves to give a tropical feel to the property. Shaped maples, grape vines and a 12-year-old wisteria – "the only things we saved from the former yard," says Glickman – also grace the yard.

Because his yard faces southwest, too much sun was an issue. Lambert designed wooden trellising to run on the back side of the house to provide a shaded eating area close to the kitchen and the outdoor grill. From there the Glickmans can enjoy the beautiful "shared view" beyond their garden walls. "This design really framed the extended view of the valley," says Glickman. "We love to sit out here now."



more shade, more water, more drainage, more space and more intimate corners. Fortunately, this is the time of year when gardeners can have it all, at least for a few hours, by touring gardens of every shape, size and Bay Area microclimate.

Garden tour season is upon us. . . Nice new construction turned the Orinda back yard of Ron and Suzanne Glickman into a family-friendly retreat. This garden will be on view May 23

concrete and a half-dead walnut tree," says Glickman. "We really didn't enjoy being out here."

With the help of Steve Lambert of Orinda's Garden Lights Landscape design firm, the Glickmans removed the pool and added a shaded patio area, expansive spa, built-in grill and freestanding fireplace – all on less than one-third of an acre.

"Our home is a series of rooms that create small vignettes,' says Suzanne.