

BETTER BY DESIGN TWO FACES OF EDEN

eighbors of Karen and Jeff Detwiler are treated to a parklike vista every day. The slender front yard of the couple's home has been turned into a little lavender field-a fragrant and stately garden designed for all to enjoy.

"I have people walk by all the time and thank me for giving them the garden," Karen says. "My favorite time of the year is that first day in spring when I'm ready to go again, and everyone congregates here to talk about gardening."



BETTER BY DESIGN TWO FACES OF EDEN



The Detwilers decided to forgo front-yard privacy for their corner lot in the San Francisco Bay area. choosing instead to create a classic Mediterranean garden in full view of passersby. They planted rows of boxwood and lavender and then dotted the beds with pairs of lime, orange, and lemon trees in pots.

Jeff has always admired the discipline of European gardens, and this small symmetrical field of

lavender fills the bill. Karen cuts the fragrant flower spikes in June for drying. There's another big harvest in fall when the plants are sheared into geometric mounds for the winter. "That's the day we give away armloads of lavender," Karen says.

While the formality of the front yard suits Jeff's personality, Karen's favorite part of the landscape is the backyard, an informal and flowery garden that is hidden from the street.

NAME THAT STRUCTURE

KAREN DETWILER

What's the difference between a pergola and an arbor? Many people use the terms interchangeably, but there are subtle distinctions. ARBOR This is a decorative structure over a short passageway or entry into a garden. It can signal entry into the landscape and may provide seating for one or two people. Traditionally, arbors are clothed with vines for shade.

PERGOLA Usually bigger than an arbor, a pergola may be attached to a building or freestanding. Sheltering a garden walk or terrace, it often provides a passageway between buildings or spaces and can seat a number of people. Vines may be trained on the overhead beams.

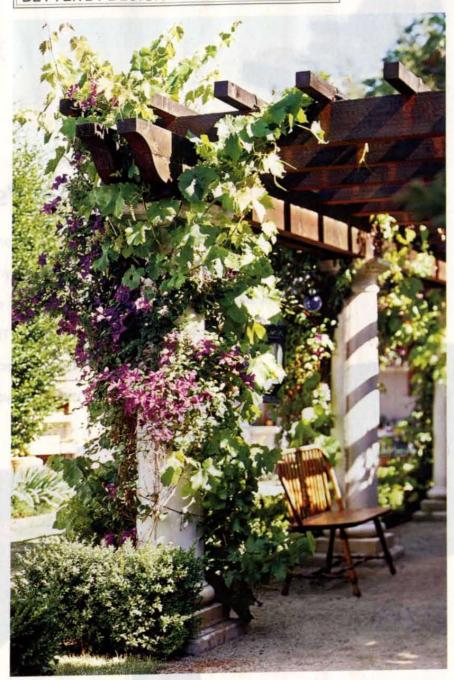


Made like fine furniture.

Have you seen windows and doors that remind you of well-built furniture?
Not likely. At Marvin, we're just pickier.
We insist on tight construction and furniture-grade joinery. See the difference yourself at marvin.com/thedifference



BETTER BY DESIGN TWO FACES OF EDEN



OPEN-AIR AMBIENCE

The Detwilers' pergola offers shade and shelter. "It's considerably cooler under there," Karen says. Decomposed granite makes a satisfying crunch underfoot.

"The landscape designer asked me what colors I liked, and I said yes to all of them. We both just laughed," Karen recalls. "The garden has many different colors, and I like it that way."

The backyard centerpiece is a pergola, which creates an outdoor living room of sorts, inspired by the old-world architecture of the house. Tall columns support sturdy crossbeams, which are smothered in clematis, trumpet vine, and grapes. Jeff built the long trestle table to fit the space.

"We entertain out there from early spring until late fall," Karen says. The Detwilers replaced a swimming pool with a small green lawn, and Karen added a cutting garden where she can change the plants from year to year.