

REFLECT ON THIS

This inviting Japanese-style reflective garden offers a serene and tranquil setting



There is no denying the enduring appeal of a Japanese-style garden and, if you have a small outdoor area, the Japanese approach to landscape design is ideal. In this Brisbane garden, tucked behind McCarthy Homes' latest display home, Aesthetic Landscapes has taken what is a time-honoured approach to landscape design — the Japanese reflective garden — and given it a contemporary twist.

As the interior of the home was decorated in a Japanese theme, Aesthetic Landscapes, under the guiding hands of owners Peter Sands and Brendan Dun, decided to extend it outside to the rear courtyard.

"The idea of a Japanese garden is to duplicate a larger scene from nature into a small area. The garden should also give the owner a place of peace, which is why planting is usually kept to a minimum with seating offering a place to sit and reflect," explains Peter. "Also, Japanese gardens are ideal designs for small yards where upkeep can be kept to a minimum because of the simple design."

A Japanese garden is also a place of symbolism. "Rivers and streams are symbolised by the use of raked sand or gravel. Feature rocks represent the land or islands," says Brendan. "In this garden, we used random slate stepping stones to take visitors on a path of discovery through the courtyard without compromising the raked gravel. And we used

rich red hardwood timber fencing posts to contrast with the black infill panels."

As the preferred landscaper for McCarthy Homes in Brisbane, Aesthetic Landscapes is adept at designing and constructing contemporary gardens of many different styles. In addition to providing a landscape design service, Aesthetic Landscapes also specialises in the creation of outdoor rooms and courtyards, custom-made water features,

outdoor structures and daybeds.

Peter Sands and Brendan Dun established Aesthetic Landscapes nine years ago and the business has flourished over that time. The reasons for their success are simple: they love what they do, they are backed by team members with extensive landscaping experience, and both Peter and Brendan take a hands-on approach to ensure each client receives the landscape they envisioned. ■



For more information

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