

MOTHER'S DAY

I  YOU
MOM!



*Home &
Garden 2026*





The importance of inspecting your roof: how to avoid unpleasant surprises

Every spring, it's a good idea to inspect your roof to see if it withstood the winter months. This will help you identify any problems and take necessary action. Here's what you need to know when doing a thorough visual inspection of your roof.

SAFETY FIRST

Climbing onto your roof can be risky, so use appropriate safety equipment, including closed-toe, non-slip shoes, a sturdy ladder and a safety harness. Having someone help you stabilize the ladder and be available in an emergency is also a good idea.

Additionally, ensure the roof is dry before inspecting it. Choose a day with minimal wind and cool temperatures to avoid working on a screaming hot surface.

THINGS TO CHECK

First, remove any debris, such as leaves. Then, inspect all accessible parts of the roof to identify problems such as:

- Standing water
- A damaged or deformed membrane
- An uneven gravel layer
- Cracked sealing joints
- Rusted or flimsy flashing
- Protruding nails
- Missing, broken or lifted shingles
- Mould

It's also a good idea to examine your attic, walls and ceilings while you're at it. Check for signs of water infiltration or poor ventilation. Unpleasant odours, mould, excessive moisture and peeling paint are telltale signs that something's amiss.

If you notice an issue, don't wait for it to worsen. Seek professional help. If you're uncomfortable inspecting your roof, call a local roofing professional to get the most accurate assessment of your roof's condition.



"Which lawnmower should I choose?"



ry-powered counterparts, gas-powered models must be regularly refuelled and topped up with oil. However, electric models can lose their charging capacity over time, forcing you to replace the batteries. This can end up costing up to half of the original price of the mower.

Weigh the pros and cons. Remember that an advantage can hide a disadvantage. Electric and battery-powered mowers are lighter but less robust than gas-powered mowers. Plug-in models are less polluting, but the cable can easily get tangled. Manual reel mowers are still the most environmentally friendly option but require more physical effort.

What's the most critical feature for you? Durability? Ease of use? Low emissions? Make sure your choice matches your preferences, and don't hesitate to ask a salesperson for advice before you buy.

During the summer, mowing your lawn is a must. It can be a moment of relaxation for some, while others may see it as a chore. Whatever your perspective, having the right equipment is essential. If you're looking to buy a lawnmower but can't make sense of the numerous options available, these tips can help you make an informed decision.

If your yard is less than 15,000 square feet, an electric mower will generally be quite efficient. However, the power cable could make it challenging to manoeuvre in hard-to-reach areas. In this case, a battery-powered mower could be a better option. A self-propelled gas-powered model might be suitable if your lawn is steeply sloped.

Consider the size and type of lawn
The larger your lawn, the more energy it takes to

Keep maintenance costs in mind
Different types of mowers require different levels of care. Unlike their batte-

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HOME & GARDEN

3 landscaping trends for 2026

Do you want to add some flair to your yard? Here are a few trends that'll be everywhere in 2024.

1. ZEN SPACES

It's essential to make time to escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and recharge your batteries. That's why many homeowners are creating Zen gardens on their property. These gardens are distinguished by their stunning rock arrangements, flagstone paths, minimalist plants, soothing sculptures and water features like pools, waterfalls and fountains.

2. PERGOLAS

Often made of wood, vinyl or aluminum, these structures

are a must for elegantly defining your outdoor space and creating a casual shaded area. Depending on your preferences, you can install yours on a paved surface or your deck. With some well-placed furniture and decorative elements, it'll become your favourite place to enjoy the summer!

3. ROCK GARDENS

Rock gardens are ideal for creating a modern-looking landscape, featuring a few well-chosen plants that require very little

maintenance. If mowing the lawn and weeding aren't your go-to pastimes, a rock garden is the way to go.

Visit your local nurseries and garden centres to find everything you need to enhance the beauty of your yard this year.

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MOTHER'S DAY I ♥ YOU MOM!



Redvers School Kindergarten

My mom is special because she plays switch games with me and she bakes. - Jaxson

My mom is special because she plays with me. - Calder

My mom is special because she got new tattoos and she will pick me up from places. - Ziggy

My mom is special because she used to sleep beside me. - Jace

My mom is special because she drove a big tractor. - Max

My mom is special because she tucks me in for bedtime. - Soraya

My mom is special because she takes time to do cleaning. - Bryker

My mom is special because she goes to the park with me and went on a fire truck ride with me. - Bentley

My mom is special because she says yes to taking me to the places I want to go. - Mya

My mom is special because she plays games with me. - Adalee

My mom is special because she spends time painting with me. - Atlas

My mom is special because she lets me have playdates with friends. - Rayne

My mom is special because she takes care of us. - Blair

My mom is special because she gives me hugs and kisses. - Ridley

My mom is special because she does hard work. - Maverick

My mom is special because she takes us on trips. - Scarlett

My mom is special because she works hard at cleaning. - Layne

My mom is special because she plays outside with me. - Everett

Play Fair Daycare

My mom is special because she loves me. - Eva

My mom is special because I love her and she makes my bed for me. - Marshall

My mom is special because she hugs me when she picks me up from daycare. - Kade

My mom is special because she gives me some toys. - Klea

My mom is special because she makes my food. - Amira

My mom is special because she loves me. - Acelyn

My mom is special because she always plays with me. - Theo

My mom is special because she takes me in the car. - Emmy

My mom is special because she gives me kisses. - Lenon

My mom is special because she loves me and Charlie. - Brooke

My mom is special because she plays with me outside. - Emma

My mom is special because she goes to work. - Jensen

My mom is special because she takes just me and her to DQ. - Sayla

My mom is special because she makes me cookies. - Sophia

My mom is special because she is so beautiful. She plays with me a million times. - Veronika

My mom is special because I play with her a lot. I like her so much. - Hayes

My mom is special because she helps me to be kind and helps me to be a good man. - Caleb

Doodlebug Daycare

My mom is special because we do things together. - Ellie

My mom is special because she gives me hugs - Peyton

My mom is special because she plays with me - Noah

My mom is special because she always makes me food and plays on the trampoline with me. - Mia

My mom is special because she's the best mom - Mila

My mom is special because she helps me solve my problems. - Briella

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My mama's name is Mommy.
 She is 75 years old. She has black hair and white and blue eyes. Her favorite color is white, black, blue, and green. Her favorite food is donuts.
 My favorite things to do with her is play.
 My mama's super power is save a city.
 Three things I love about my mama is kissing, I love her, and she's pretty.

and blue eyes. Her favorite color is yellow and blue. Her favorite food is cucumbers.
 My favorite things to do with her is play with her.
 My mama's super power is making stuff like food.
 Three things I love about my mama is she cuddles with me at night time, she hugs and kisses me, and she bakes for us.



The best mama ever!

My mama's name is Mommy.
 She is 2 years old. She has black hair and brown eyes, just like mine. Her favorite color is green and pink. Her favorite food is supper.

My favorite things to do with her is go for a bike ride together.
 My mama's super power is she can blast things when she's a superhero.

Three things I love about my mama is she likes to play with me, we eat supper with me, and everything.

My mama's name is Mom.
 She is 29 years old. She has yellow hair and green eyes. Her favorite color is blue. Her favorite food is broccoli.

My favorite things to do with her is colour.

My mama's super power is minecraft.
 Three things I love about my mama is she plays with me, we buy flowers from the store, and I love her.

My mama's name is Mommy.
 She is 18 years old. She has yellow hair

A **M** **A** **Z** **I** **N** **G**
L **O** **V** **I** **N** **G** 
S **T** **R** **O** **N** **G** 
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Redvers School Grade 3/4

My mom is special because she is a good cook and she loves me very much. - Talaya D.

My mom is special because she makes really good meals and she takes us a lot of places. She puts me to bed on time and cooks me really good meals. - Holly M.

My mom is special because she cooks really good and she brings me on trips. - Max C.

My mom is special because she is very good at driving and she plays football with me. - Nerrik G.

My mom is special because she's a hard worker and smiley. - Jaylynn L.

My mom is special because she's stylish. - Kenna G.

My mom is special because she's a strong, athletic person. - Maddox H.

My mom is special because she's hard working around the house and she loves us. - Sorren T.

My mom is special because she cheers loud at my hockey games. - Brooks G.

My mom is special because she is beautiful. - Dakota F.

My mom is special because she's a good snowboarder. - Alexis B.

My mom is special because she stays awake to make sure my blood sugars are good numbers. - Emma M.

My mom is special because she's a good hair dresser. - Chasen R.

My mom is special because she works from home so she can see us every day after school. - Madison B.

My mom is special because she's good at working with cattle. - Jamie F.

My mom is special because she cares about others and not just herself. She is special because she is good at working with cattle. - Paisley H.

My mom is special because she's tough, strong, hard-working and she never lets me down. - Henri H.

Whitewood School Kindergarten

My Mom is special because she gives me hugs and buys me toys. - Sadie Thompsom

My Mom is special because she plays mini sticks with me and gives me snuggles. - Maddox Brule

My Mom is special because she gives the best hugs. - Luka Arnason

My Mom is special because she helps me make chicken noodle soup. - Paizley Redwood-Cote

My Mom is special because she gives me hugs and kisses and lets me sleep between her and daddy in the middle. - Stevie Boutin

My Mom is special because she nice and she gives me kisses. - Dally Johnson

My Mom is special because I like her. She lets me watch Youtube after lunch. - Theodore Rokos



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Whitewood School Grade 1

My mom is special because she helps me fall asleep when I am struggling. - Riley Ast

My mom is special because she gives me hugs and she gives me kisses. - Willow Bear

My mom is special because she does fun things with me and I love her. - Leo Boutin

My mom is special because she lets me sleep in her room when dad is working. - Maddy Boutin

My mom is special because she cooks yummy perogies and they are my favorite. - Liam Delorme

My mom is special because she makes me happy by hugging me. - Crue Ecklund

My mom is special because she loves me and gives me lots of hugs. - Hazel Gilchuk

My mom is special because she is helpful when I get hurt and when I get hurt she always gives me a band aid on my boo boo. - Sloan Leepart

My mom is special because she makes me food every day like pancakes and spaghetti. - Frankie Mannle

My mom is special because she makes different snacks and I love her. - Naresh Persaud

My mom is special because she is a teacher and I can get to school early. - Ivy Raiwet

My mom is special because she treats me good. She lets me go to my friends houses and she lets me go on bike rides with my brother. - Jackson Young

My mom is special because she is rich and bought me a dog. - Denny Paskwa



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Ecole St. Lazare Grade 1 & 2

Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle m'a fait. – Nicolas
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle m'a fait. – Reid
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle prend soin de moi. – Isabelle
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle ma porter au parc de trampoline. – Langsten

Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle m'aide. – Steevie
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle écoute le hockey avec moi. – Gabriel
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle me fait des câlins. – Avery
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle écoute le hockey avec moi. – Sawyer

Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle m'aide à nourrir les bébés chèvres. – Macy
 Ma maman est spéciale parce qu'elle fait de la nourriture pour moi. – Lam

Maryfield School Kindergarten, Grade 1 & 2

My mom is special because she is so beautiful, and I love her so much! – Emerson
 My mom is special because she always takes me to hockey. She's my biggest cheerleader! – Oaklan
 My mom is special because she is my favourite person in the whole world. – Vanessa
 My mom is special because she teaches me on the farm, and we rock out to music, and I just love her! – Rosalee
 My mom is special because she always loves my pictures I colour for her, and she takes really good care of me and Izzy! – Robbie
 My mom is special because she makes really good food. – Christyn
 My mom is special because she warms me up when I am cold. – Bella

My mom is special because when I am sad she makes me feel better. – Sammie
 My mom is special because she treats me nice. – Liam
 My mom is special because she lets me garden with her, and I love gardening. – Leona
 My mom is special because When I'm sad she makes me happy, and she lets me help her bake. – Lia
 My mom is special because When I get hurt she helps me up, and I love her so much. She makes the best mac & cheese. – Scarlett
 My mom is special because she makes me happy, and we like to ride horses together. She always loves me no matter what. – Isabelle
 My mom is special because she loves me in every way. – Daryl

My mom is special because she makes the best chicken. – Kyle
 My mom is special because she buys me stuff. – Gibson
 My mom is special because she makes the best food and is an expert at making noodles. – Matthew
 My mom is special because she is really nice, and when I get hurt she helps me. She is a hidden gem! I love her so much. – Autumn
 Miller – My mom is special because she made me, and she loves me, and when I am hurt she helps me. – Miller
 My mom is special because she makes good tacos and she is special to me and my family. She keeps my dad in line! – Addy
 My mom is special because she takes care of me and makes delicious cake. – Susi

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Living with local wildlife: tips for protecting your garden



Has a raccoon invited itself into your yard? Are squirrels digging up your flower beds? Here are some humane ways to protect your garden.

- Plant varieties that are naturally repellent to animals, such as daffodils, garlic, onions, lavender and rosemary.
- Don't plant hazelnuts, tulips or crocuses if you want to keep squirrels away. If necessary, protect your soil with metal mesh.
- Scatter materials with strong scents, such as granulated chicken manure or even hair from your dog, to repel intruders. Repeat this process every three weeks.
- Has a skunk or groundhog dug a burrow in your yard? You can encourage it to move out by pouring a small amount of water—not enough to flood it—into the opening of the hole.

You can find everything you need at your local garden supply store. Do you need to relocate a stubborn critter? Call in the professionals.

Add pollinator plants to your garden

Do you want to do your part to support pollinators like butterflies and bees? You can help by introducing pollen-rich plants into your garden. Melliferous plants—plants that are rich in pollen—can help increase biodiversity while revitalizing your garden with the buzzing of bees and the flutter of butterfly wings. Use these tips to get started.

Plan for multiple blooming seasons

Introduce a variety of plants so that you have nectar production in all three pollinator seasons. Common spring-blooming varieties include dandelions, apple blossoms and ground ivy. For summer pollen production, you can't go wrong with purple echinacea, borage and thyme. In the autumn, New England aster and goldenrod are both reliable late bloomers.

Provide a water source

In addition to keeping your melliferous plants watered, you'll need to provide a source of hydration for the pollinators. An ideal solution is a pond or water feature, but even a small bowl of water will do the trick. Just add a few stones to give the bees and butterflies a safe place to land.

You'll see the best results if you plant species native to your region. For information on species best suited to your local growing conditions, visit a nearby garden store. Pollinators are attracted to areas where nectar-rich plants are most plentiful. By supporting a local biodiversity organization, you can bring more bees to your yard—and to your region.



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Kitchens: Spotlight on 3 key trends in 2026



Are you thinking about renovating your kitchen? Are you building a new home and designing your kitchen from scratch? Here's a look at some of this year's latest trends to inspire you.

1. Create a spa-like atmosphere. Melt away the stresses of everyday life by creating a relaxing, warm and uncluttered space. This means doing away with bright, clinical lighting (think low lighting!). Fill the space with soft, organic colours like sandy brown and warm grey. Ideally, the cupboards should have no handles and focus on natural materials.
2. Curate a space for social interaction. Modern kitchens are designed to be a space for cooking together or breaking bread with loved ones. Spacious islands with rounded corners, along with stools or benches and other types of dining areas, are all the

rage. The focus is on creating a convivial atmosphere where family and friends can gather and enjoy each other's company.

3. Make eco-responsible choices a priority. Incorporate sustainable practices into every aspect of the space. This includes using recycled materials, VOC-free paint and wood from sustainably managed forests. You can also choose intelligent or ENERGY STAR-certified electrical appliances, such as the refrigerator and dishwasher, to reduce your carbon footprint further.

Creating the kitchen of your dreams requires careful planning. Otherwise, you could exceed your budget or run into other unpleasant surprises. Call on the services of a kitchen design specialist in your area to ensure your project goes off without a hitch.

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Essentials (and luxuries) for your outdoor kitchen



As warm weather nears, it's the perfect time to upgrade your backyard, patio, or balcony into a welcoming space for outdoor dining. Here are seven outdoor kitchen features to impress your guests this summer:

A barbecue

The ultimate symbol of summer, the barbecue is an essential part of any outdoor kitchen. Find a model that fits your space and budget—whether it's built-in, freestanding or portable. Get ready to grill mouthwatering meals!

A versatile work surface

You need space to prepare marinades and assemble plates. Invest in a weather-resistant countertop made from materials like stainless steel or granite. Hello, style and functionality! If space is tight, consider a removable sideboard.

A sink

Avoid the hassle of running in and out to rinse glasses and plates by adding a sink to your outdoor kitchen. You can

choose from a variety of models, including those that connect directly to your home's plumbing or to an outdoor hose for convenience.

A fridge

Summer calls for cold drinks! Keep your lemonade, alcohol and meal-prep ingredients chilled with an outdoor fridge. Position it strategically so your guests have access to it. For a budget-friendly option, consider a patio cooler.

Comfy furniture

Create a welcoming atmosphere with high-quality, inviting outdoor furniture. Pick comfortable seating, a large sunshade or awning and a sturdy table to enhance the experience.

A smoker

Do you want to take your outdoor kitchen to the next level? Invest in a smoker for preparing meat and fish. While some smokers can be pricey, you can find models starting at only a couple hundred dollars.

A kegerator

For a professional touch, install a kegerator with beer or kombucha to bring everyone together. This unique addition is sure to

add fun to your gatherings and is well worth the investment.

Visit your local retailers to create the outdoor kitchen of your dreams.

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How to plant a windbreak

Windbreaks are commonly used in the agricultural industry to protect crops and reduce soil erosion. However, they're becoming increasingly popular on residential properties. For instance, a windbreak can help protect your home from strong winds if you live in an area with few buildings and sparse tree cover.

CRITERIA

Planting a windbreak requires careful planning. To ensure its effectiveness, you must consider the following:

- The plant's growth, including its mature height, width and thickness
- The plant's orientation in relation to the wind
- The plant's permeability

SPECIES

If you want to get the most out of your investment, take the time to carefully select trees or shrubs that will block the wind while also beautifying your property. Avoid invasive exotic species at all costs. Instead, choose native species that are easy to maintain and can withstand temperature variations.

Consult your local nursery or contact a landscaping company in your area.



Before starting your project, consult your municipality's bylaws. For instance, you may need to plant your windbreak a certain distance from buildings, ditches, waterways and electrical wires.

7 chores kids can do in the garden

Gardening is an ideal opportunity to learn, observe nature and develop a sense of responsibility. Include your children in your gardening activities by having them take care of these seven tasks.

1. Planting seeds. From designing the plot to planting the seeds, these steps can be the beginning of a great adventure.
2. Digging holes. This task is an opportunity for your kids to learn how to use gardening tools. They can also just use their hands.
3. Composting. Although it's recommended to keep dead leaves on the ground to make the most of their benefits, adding them to a compost pile is also an excellent initiative for your kids.
4. Harvesting. Harvesting helps your children understand where their food comes from and teaches them to recognize when a fruit or vegetable is ripe enough to be picked.
5. Weeding. Using gardening gloves or a tool to pull weeds can be a fun activity. You can add to their enthusiasm by rewarding them for each weed they remove.
6. Watering. It only takes a quick lesson to teach a child how to correctly water various plants.
7. Spreading mulch. Your youngest will have a great time spreading mulch with their hands. It's also an excellent opportunity for your older children to learn to use a rake.



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