

Plants Cont...

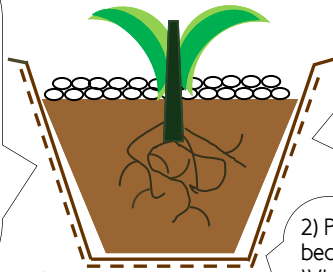
Deep Water Aquatics

Useful where water lilies aren't present or established. Like lilies, they help keep the water clear and provide shade for fish, keeping them cool through the summer.

All aquatic plants have a purpose. They will all remove nitrates from the pond to a degree - it's just some are more notably greedy than others, and so will be more effective at removing them from the water. A common problem causing high nitrate levels are too many fish.

Planting Aquatic Baskets

4) Introduce deep water aquatics & lilies gradually. Stand the basket on 1+ bricks & remove as it grows.



1) Line the basket with hessian to stop soil washing into the water and then fill with heavy clay/loam (not peat or compost)

2) Plant up firmly, bedding into the soil. When planting lilies, their crowns should be just above the soil surface. Add a layer of grit/pea shingle on top of the surface to prevent disturbance.

3) Water the basket thoroughly before placing in the pond, and use strings to lower the basket gently into the water, with help from someone else if planting is out of reach in a larger pond.

Why stop there?

Fountains, waterfalls, cascades, atmospheric lighting... you really can go as far as you want with a pond, although the presence of other features besides a range of plants and fish/wildlife often isn't desired or considered necessary, particularly with informal ponds.

Do remember that nearly all features involving movement of water will require a power source/ electricity. Take care when working around this water-electric combination, and make sure a qualified electrician deals with the installation.

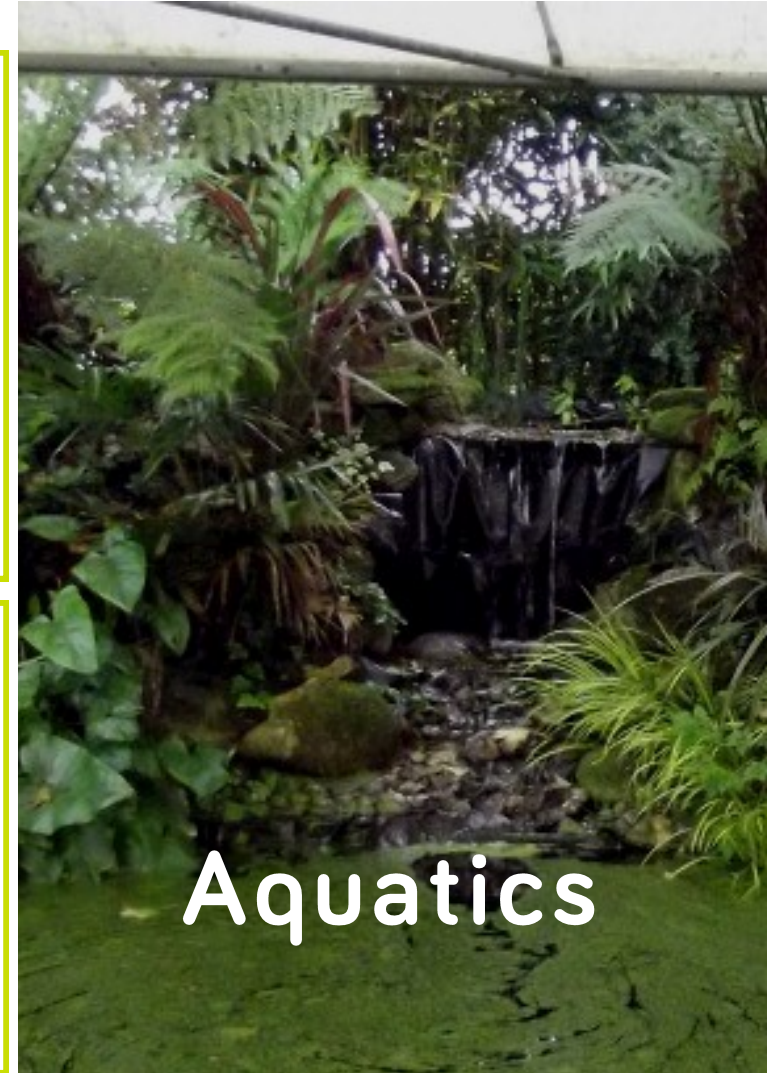
Further Advice

Please note that this information is only intended as a guide - put together from our knowledge and experience.

One of the best bits of advice we can give you, is to take some time to plan before rushing into the build. Do you have friends or neighbours with a pond? Take ideas from their creations to use for your own! At Trevena Cross Nurseries we can help cater for your aquatic needs, with pond liner, aquatic plants, pumps in the shop, and more!. Pay us a visit and ask our advice - we're always happy to help.

A Fishy Note...

Fish bring life and interest to a pond, and also do a great job of keeping down the midge and mosquito populations. However, they have no bearing on the balance of the pond, which keeps the water clear, and so while desirable for many, are certainly not essential. Be sure to seek advice regarding the ratio of fish to pond size - certain fish demand special provisions and won't suit all installations. Be sure to wait at least two weeks after pond installation before introducing any fish too.



Aquatics

For more information get in touch with us, and we'll do our best to help and advise you.

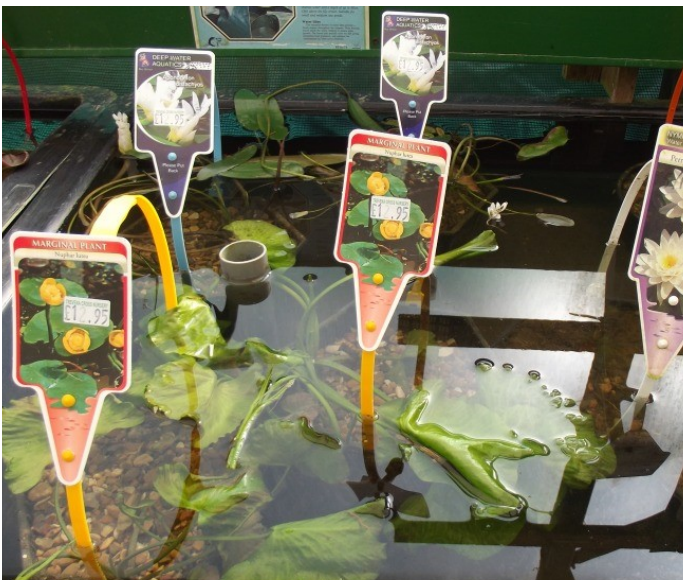


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Background

A great way to enjoy a different kind of growing environment in the garden, a garden pond offers a home for numerous plants and a host of wildlife including frogs, toads, and many insects such as dragonflies. A pond can also be a home to fish, should you choose to introduce them. The secret to success in a pond environment is balance – as with any natural ecosystem.

A pond style and size that fits with the natural environment of your garden, and looks 'at home' will be the ideal choice and allow for natural integration into the landscape.

Installation (In Brief!)

Mark out the shape of your pond on a level site (including a shelf around part of the inside for plants), dig the hole (including a shallow end for wildlife) and then line the pond, (see 'Pond Liners') removing any protruding stones or roots. Weigh down the outer edge of the liner before filling the pond to ensure it doesn't move, and once full, cover the edges with paving or turf, or water associated plants.

Pond Liners

RIGID POND LINERS

Made from a hard glass fibre or plastic, these liners can be made to order, according to specific specifications.

Advantages include easy installation and durability, whilst disadvantages include costs involved to purchase, and the overall finish, which can appear less natural than alternatives, due to a lack of flexibility. It can be the answer for a formal pond if chosen carefully and with consideration for its surroundings.

FLEXIBLE POND LINERS

Strong liners, often bought by the metre off a roll, can be a very cost effective option, and give a very natural looking overall finish.

Whilst designed to be tough/strong and avoid tears, there is a higher chance of leakage than with a rigid liner; and greater time, care and attention will be required to install it correctly.

The amount of flexible liner required can be calculated:
 Length + twice required depth
 Width + twice required depth

This allows for the depth of the water and also a 25-30cm wide and deep shelf where marginal plants can be grown in planting baskets as desired.

Flexible liners may be best sited on sand, old carpet, mat or underlay to provide a smooth base and provide protection from puncture.

Plants

Marginals

These plants don't really play a big 'role' in maintaining balance within the pond, although they do provide ornamental value, softening the boundary between water and pond edge in planting baskets, and providing colour/ interest during the growing season. Their roots are submerged (15-45cm) with leaves and

flowers clearly visible above the surface.

Oxygenators

These plants are extremely important for keeping the water clear, healthy and for providing food for fish. With most of the plant normally submerged under water (with the exception of flowers), they are excellent absorbers of carbon dioxide and minerals, thus starving rampant algae! They are best planted at the pond's lowest point in a perforated planting basket.

Floaters & Water Lilies

These do what they say on the tin and float just below or on the surface of the pond, with their roots submerged, and any flowers above the surface. They provide shade for fish and wildlife, as well as adding interest, and keeping the water clear, by providing cover and preventing the sun penetrating through. Floaters can just be dropped on the water, while lilies require planting in in lily soil, in a basket, at the labelled depth. Select the right lily type and size for your pond.

Poolside / Associated Plants

These plants generally sit at the pond edge, and thrive in damp, humus-rich soil – but not waterlogged conditions. They can help extend the pond beyond its actual boundary.

