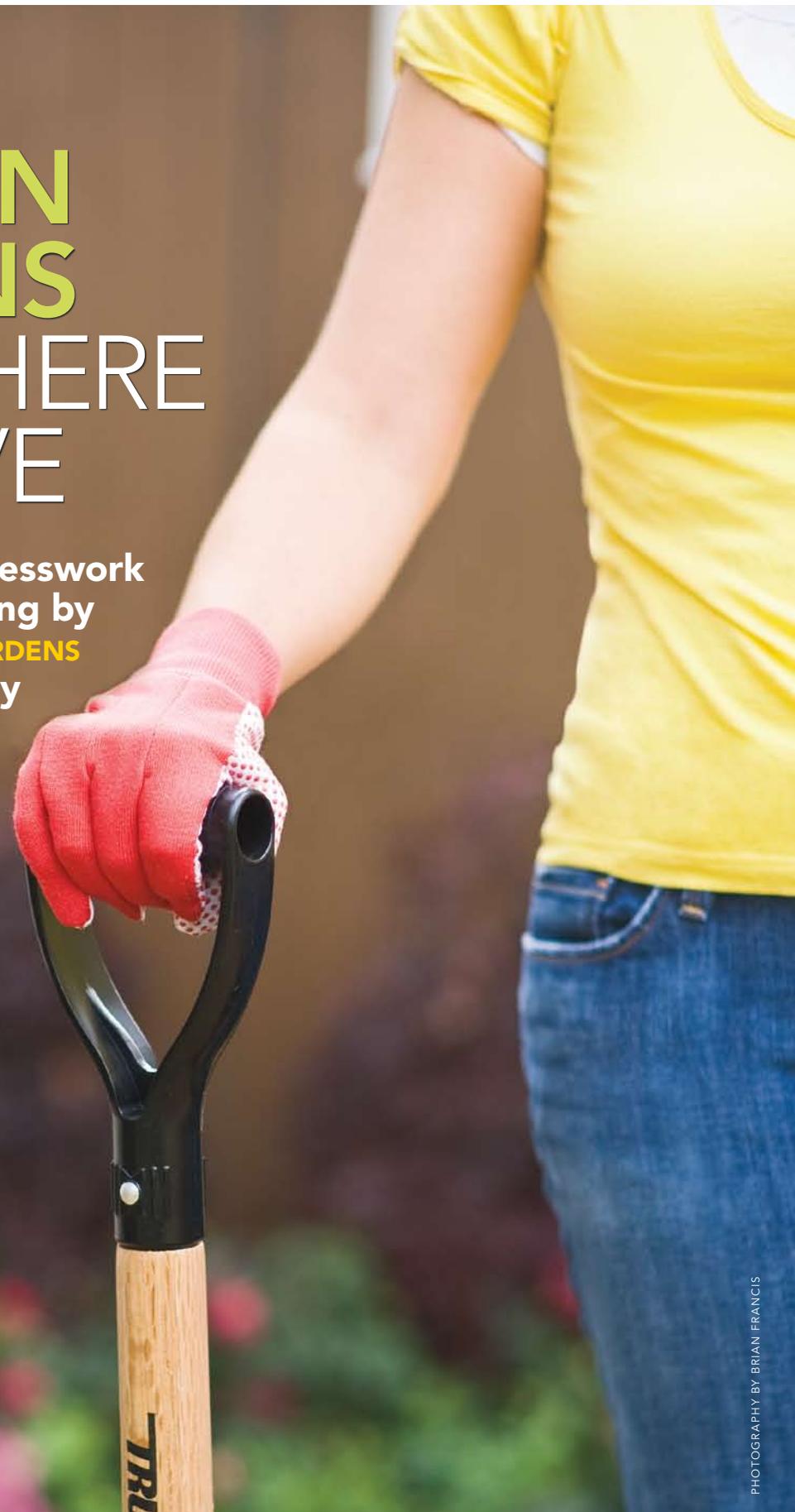


GARDEN DESIGNS FOR WHERE YOU LIVE

We've taken the guesswork out of spring planting by giving you **THREE GARDENS** designed specifically for your region.

Planting a garden is the best way to celebrate spring, and we asked **PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT BILL SLACK** to help. He's designed three gardens, all friendly to your region, so you can spend less time planning—and more time planting. The plant selections reflect availability and growing conditions in your area. Use our easy-to-follow plans to get your spring started right.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIAN FRANCIS



DESIGN 1

Vegetables, Herbs, and Perennials

Mix edible plants with long-lasting flowers.

Colorful blooms mingle with fresh herbs and vegetables in this creative garden. The design employs height hierarchy, with taller plants such as okra and purple coneflower placed in back and shorter selections up front. Flavorful herbs, including sweet basil, cilantro, garlic chives, and rosemary, add to the mix. Liriope and carpet bugle—both popular border plants—provide more texture and color.



Plant List

- A** Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* 'Clemson Spineless')
- B** Sweet basil (*Ocimum basilicum* 'Dark Opal')
- C** Cilantro (*Coriandrum sativum*)
- D** Garlic chives (*Allium tuberosum*)
- E** Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*)
- F** Liriope (*Liriope muscari* 'Silvery Sunproof')
- G** Sedum (*Hylotelephium telephium* 'Autumn Joy')
- H** Carpet bugle (*Ajuga reptans*)
- I** Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ERIN O'TOOLE



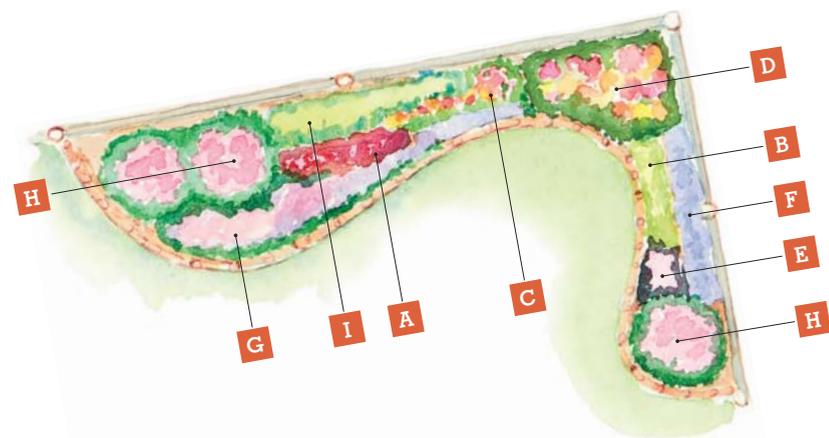
DESIGN 2

Annuals and Perennials

Plant a patch of spring-to-fall blooms.

Enjoy fresh blossoms all season

with this long-lasting mix of annuals and perennials. The color show begins in the spring with soft, bushy spiraea and moss pink, then continues through fall with splashy petunia, zinnia, and other selections that can tolerate warm Gulf Coast temperatures.



Plant List

- A Begonia (*Begonia x semperflorens-cultorum*)
- B Coleus (*Coleus x hybridus*)
- C Zinnia (*Zinnia elegans*)
- D Dahlia (*Dahlia* hybrid)
- E Moss pink (*Phlox subulata*)
- F Lisianthus (*Eustoma grandiflorum*)
- G Trailing petunia (*Petunia x hybrida*)
- H Spiraea (*Spiraea japonica* 'Anthony Waterer')
- I Sedum (*Hylotelephium telephium* 'Autumn Joy')

DESIGN 3

Container Combo

Accent your landscape with a pop of color.

Group various-sized planters

filled with a classic selection of plants for a casual springtime look. For the largest container, we used caladium in the center with trailing geranium around the rim, and then filled spaces with white dianthus and trailing ivy. The medium planter has a smaller container in the center so you can switch out plants with the seasons. The smallest container holds ivy and white dianthus.

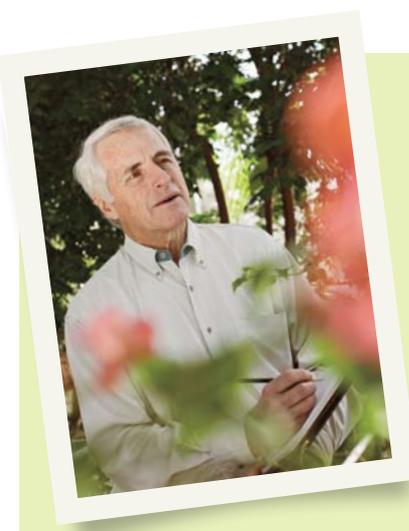


Plant List

- A Caladium (*Caladium bicolor*)
- B Geranium (*Pelargonium x hortorum*)
- C Sweet William (*Dianthus barbatus*)
- D English ivy (*Hedera helix*)



Live outside the region featured here? Find garden plans for all eight regions at LoweCreativeldeas.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN KEONINH

PLANT LIKE A PROFESSIONAL

Bill Slack shares his tips for a no-fail spring garden.

What's the secret to a great garden? "Height, texture, and color," says Bill Slack, a registered landscape architect, author, and former faculty member at the University of Georgia. Once you know the basic requirements for your planting zone, you can focus on aesthetics, the award-winning garden specialist says. Think of your class picture from school: Tall kids go in back, shorter ones up front. "It's the same rule with plants," Bill says. "Then play with texture and color, and you're good to go."