

Great Summertime Get-Aways in Your Own Back Yard

Discover New Destinations to Unwind — Without Hitting the Road

BY BRUCE ARANT



Illustration by: Shawn Doherty

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Now that summer is upon us, our natural inclination is to “hit the road” and make our getaways into the Great Outdoors. With higher-than-ever gas prices, however, many of our road trip plans have been detoured toward spending time nearer our homes. As frustrating as that might be, all is not lost. You may find the perfect opportunity to create a private “getaway” in your own back yard, by building a project plan. Depending on your needs and the size of your back yard, your options of what to build are almost endless. Here are some of our most popular project plan ideas to consider:

Backyard Bar-B-Ques Taste Better on a Brand New Deck

Whether you build a deck that’s large or small, simple or extravagant,

you’ll be adding living space to your home that’s both comfortable and enjoyable for your friends and family.



Decks have become the most widely utilized “outdoor rooms” and you’ll be amazed at how often you’ll take advantage of this additional space for entertaining or just relaxing at the end of the day. In recent years, new technologies have greatly improved building materials, allowing anyone to build a truly maintenance-free deck.

Garden Sheds for Green Thumbs and More

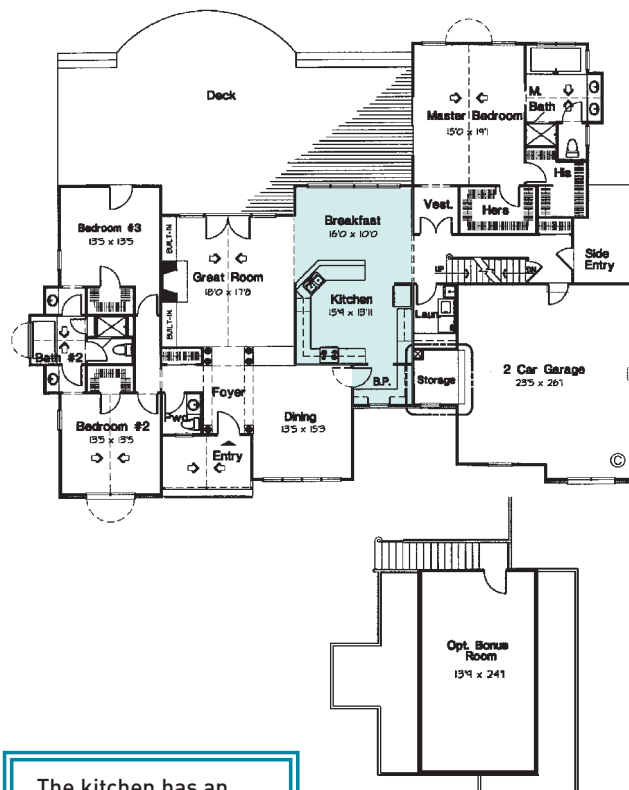
Green thumbs...some of us have them, some of us don’t. Whether or not you’re a garden or landscaping aficionado, you’ll never regret having



House Plan **24953** Price Code F

Total Living Area	2,614 sq.ft
Main Level	2,614 sq.ft
Bedrooms	3
Bathrooms	2.5
Garage Type	2 Car Garage
Dimensions	82' Wide x 61'4 Deep

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The kitchen has an abundance of counter space and is served by a butler's pantry



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dedicated storage space for your lawnmower, wheelbarrow, shovels and hoses. (The list goes on and on.) Backyard shed plans are available

in a wide variety of styles and sizes that will free up valuable space in your garage and will help to keep some of the more messy aspects of yard work away from your home. Not into yard work? Consider using a backyard shed plan as a craft studio, workshop, or even office space.

A Touch of Romance for the Backyard.



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You may have never thought of your backyard as being "romantic," but who could resist the allure of a charming arbor swing or quaint gazebo under the stars? Along with a bit of creative landscaping - and maybe some night lighting or a bubbling fountain - you can create a setting that will feel far, far away from the backyard you used to know. Gazebos, by the way, don't have to take up a lot of space. They range in size from 8' to 12' in width, comfortably accommodating a couple of chairs, or a casual outdoor dining set.

School's Out...It's Time to Play!



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Get the kids out of the house and away from their computer games, and into an exciting world of imagination and creativity, with a playhouse or play fort. If you want to build lasting childhood memories for your children or grandkids, these are the backyard projects that will never be forgotten - and they're as fun for adults to build and decorate as they are for kids to play in.

View the entire collection of Garlinghouse project plans at www.familyhomeplans.com ■