

## HOME BASE



**JENNIFER ADAMS** Ask Jennifer

## A few ideas for hanging festive outdoor strings of lights

**Q.** I also read your article on lighting in Costco Connection magazine. I have owned some string lights for a year and still haven't hung them over my deck or patio because I can't figure out how to connect them to the house and the deck. We don't have high railings, so we'd need some sort of poles and it just seems like it wouldn't look very nice. Do you have any ideas?

**J.**

**A.** This is a great question! Outdoor lights truly add such a festive touch and beautiful lighting to backyards. Here are several ways to make it work.

I like to use strings of lights to create a "roof." Like

a canopy or tent, a deck or patio underneath becomes a cozy alcove or room inside the larger space of your yard.

Look past your deck out into your yard. Do you have a tree someplace? Trees, especially large ones, are a strong focal point for any yard. Anchor one end of three to five light strings to the tree or a large branch. Attach the other ends to your house, spaced with the center string over the center of your patio and the other strings equally spread out a little ways past the patio's edge.

No tree? Or is it really far away? Buy or build a trellis as the anchor for the light strings. This trellis can also be a focus, and act as a "door-

way" out to the rest of your yard. Place it out into your yard a bit, either centered on your deck or off-center in another area that makes sense. Or build a very simple trellis at one or two corners of your deck. Or just use a 4-by-4 with a top piece so it looks like a column instead of a pole.

With outdoor lighting, more is more! For additional interest, outline pathways and other areas of your yard with different types of lighting. I hope this helps. Send in a picture of how this turns out!

Adams is a designer, writer and TV personality. Send your questions to AskJennifer@JenniferAdams.com or on Twitter: @JenniferAdams.



### DATEBOOK

#### Events

**Shred Fest 2016:** This free event helps residents securely destroy personal financial records and other sensitive documents to help protect against identity theft. Noon to 4 p.m. today at 1420 Loma Lane, Chula Vista. Information: aibarra@aarp.org.

**Cooking Class and Wine Tasting:** Luxury Farms will host French chef Virginie Woo for an in-store cooking class and wine tasting. 3 to 6 p.m. today at 918 Orange Ave., Coronado. Free. R.S.V.P.: info@luxuryfarms.com.

**Pet Day on the Bay:** Hornblower Cruises and events will host its 16th annual Pet Day on the Bay to benefit the Helen Woodward Animal Center. Pet owners can bring their dogs aboard for a one-hour cruise, complete with a doggie treat bar, a meet-and-greet with Chopper the Biker Dog and training tips from Petco's dog training department. Cruises depart at 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 1 p.m. today from the Hornblower ticket booth at 1800 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego. \$12-\$22. Tickets: hornblower.com.

**Author Signing:** Good Earth / Great Chefs presents a special book signing at Chino Farms with Jeanne Kelley, author of "The Portable Feast: Creative Meals for Work and Play." Guests can enjoy small bites inspired by the book and wine samplings by Seka Hills. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday at 6123 Calzada del Bosque, Rancho Santa Fe. Information: goodearth-greatchefs.com.

**Water-wise and Butterflies:** This plant sale and festival will showcase two speakers and demonstrations on birds of prey and hummingbirds, two butterfly releases and garden vendors selling everything from barrels and owl boxes to birdhouses and succulent mini-gardens. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 7 at Christ the King Church, 1460 Midway Drive, Alpine. Butterfly releases at noon and 2 p.m. Information: clean2005air@yahoo.com.

**Chocolate Festival:** The San Diego Botanic Garden's annual Chocolate Festival will feature more than 15 chocolate artisans. The festival features food samples, demonstrations and vendors selling plants, purses, jewelry and garden-themed gifts. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 7 at 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Free with paid admission or membership; tasting tickets available for a small fee. Information: sdbgarden.org.

#### Classes

**Spring Rose Care:** Class led by David Ross. 9:30 a.m. today at Walter Andersen Nursery, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway. Free. Information: (858) 513-4900.

**Free Composting Workshop:** This two-hour presentation will discuss the basics of backyard composting and vermicomposting. 2 to 4 p.m. today at San Diego Central Library, 330 Park Blvd., San Diego. Register: solanacenter.org.

**Growing Citrus:** Discover the best way to grow citrus fruits in your home garden. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at City Farmers Nursery, 4832 Home Ave., San Diego. Free. Information: cityfarmers-nursery.com.

**Art in the Garden:** Local artists will showcase handmade goods, including pottery, photography, soaps, bags and gourds. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at City Farmers Nursery, 4832 Home Ave., San Diego. Free. Information: cityfarmers-nursery.com.



ANGUS MCRITCHIE AP

**PPG Paints' 2016 color of the year, Paradise Found, shown here, is a complex, leafy hue. Green is a trending color this spring as people respond to wellness trends and the need for calmness in a hectic world.**

## Green's a go for spring décor

Authorities on design color cite the soothing, restorative power of incorporating nature's dominant hue

BY KIM COOK

**W**hen we think about "spring," one color comes to mind.

Tender pea shoots, that soft fuzziness on budding trees, a new lawn — there's a palette of greens that herald nature's shift to the warm seasons.

And there are many fresh ways to bring green indoors with paint and furnishings.

"Green is Mother Nature's favorite color. It's so abundant in the world around us that we're accustomed to seeing it as a background color," says Lee Eiseman, head of the Eiseman Center for Color Information and Training near Seattle.

She also points out the "good-for-you" connotations of green — eating fruits and vegetables, juicing and so on — and the generally calming nature of the hue.

"We're looking for that restful

shade to bring the outside in, and provide balance in our lives," she says.

Dee Schlotter, spokeswoman for PPG Brands, design and color marketers and makers of PPG Paints, says, "Green is restorative, rejuvenating and fresh. Being in nature brings an ease or a relaxation that's almost immediate. Recreating that feeling in the home is very popular right now."

The company has chosen Paradise Found as its 2016 color of the year. It's a soothing gray-green with a hint of blue.

Greens like this play well with others. Combining gray-green with matte black modernizes a traditional space. Paired with white, the color becomes more mineral and organic.

Farrow & Ball has a new, leafy, verdant hue with historic provenance to help commemorate the paint maker's 70th anniversary.

"Yeabridge Green was originally

found in an 18th century Georgian farmhouse in the (United Kingdom) county of Somerset," creative director Charlie Cosby recalls. During renovation, an original gun cupboard was removed, revealing the paint color.

Rich and earthy, it's a green in the family of avocado, olive and evergreen.

Crate & Barrel's Marin collection of artisan-made stoneware comes in a relaxed yet sophisticated lemongrass shade. There's a soft wool rug named Baxter in the hue as well. (www.crateandbarrel.com)

If you're trying green for the first time, Eiseman advises looking at the blue-greens. "They're the most universally pleasant and least risky," she says. "Particularly teals and deep turquoise."

West Elm has a little midcentury-style desk and wooden counter stools in a gentle blue-green they're calling "oregano." (www.west-elm.com)

CB2 has a sleek, low-profile dresser done in high-gloss mint lacquer. They also have a mint, powder-coated steel filing cabinet, and an array of minty trays, vases and napery. (www.cb2.com)

Saturated shades like char-treuse, citron and lime give a "pop" to walls and home accessories. At All Modern, find bold, zigzag-printed throws and slipper chairs from Amity Home, Deny Designs and Handy Living. (www.allmodern.com)

Kitchenaid's mixers and tools come in a fresh apple green. (www.kitchenaid.com)

Looking for other colors with which to pair green?

"Reach across the color wheel and choose the complementary colors," Eiseman says. "It's the rose tones, wines and warm purples that are very effective with shades of green."

Cook writes for The Associated Press.

### PET ACCESSORIES



### Whimsical beds by Wegman

Famed photographer William Wegman has launched a collection of pet beds and accessories made with stain-, moisture- and odor-resistant Crypton Home Fabrics. The William Wegman Collection features flat pillows, bumper dog beds and blankets called "throwers" enlivened by Wegman's humorous line drawings of his famous Weimaraners.

This Good Dog/Bad Dog bed in orange and pewter measures 27 inches wide, 36 inches long and 5 inches deep. The Crypton fabric cover is removable and can be machine washed. It's priced at \$135.

The collection retails for \$95 to \$165 and is sold exclusively at www.Crypton.com.

### Vases add splash of color

Bazaar del Mundo's shops in Old Town offer these hand-painted Talavera vases from Mexico that can add vibrant color to homes and gardens. The Talavera collections at Bazaar del Mundo also include plates, platters and pitchers — perfect for brightening up a dining room or kitchen.

There's a variety of patterns and colors in the Talavera pottery. This large vase is 13 inches tall and is priced at \$50; the smaller vase is 10 inches tall and \$40.

The Bazaar del Mundo Shops are located at the corner of Juan and Taylor streets in Old Town. For more information, call (619) 296-3161 or visit bazaardelmundo.com.

### MADE BY HAND



### GARDENING NEWS

#### Cherry tomatoes have 'chocolate' hue

Among Bonnie Plants' vegetable introductions for 2016 is the Chocolate Sprinkles Tomato, a hybrid cherry variety.

The tomato has great flavor, heavy yields and disease resistance. Bite-sized fruits are red striped on dark green. The plant matures to 5 to 7 feet tall; support it with stakes or sturdy caging at planting time.

Plants come in 5-inch pots and are \$3.68. Find them along with other Bonnie Plants vegetables at area Walmart, Home Depot and Lowes stores.



### DESIGN ACCENTS



#### Copper tray with horse motif

San Diego Hardware now carries copper designs by Good Directions, including trays, weathervanes and artistic fire bowls.

This multipurpose Horse Tray with a raised-relief design measures 22 inches long, 14 inches wide and 2 inches high. It's made of powder-coated galvanized steel with a copper finish and is priced at \$55.

Find San Diego Hardware products online at www.sandiegohardware.com, call the store at (858) 576-1892 or visit the showroom at 5710 Kearny Villa Road.