

Your **FREE** e-magazine for garden ideas, inspiration and advice

Self-build dreams

**STYLISH
LANDSCAPING**

Get ready for autumn

**GARDEN
FURNITURE CARE**

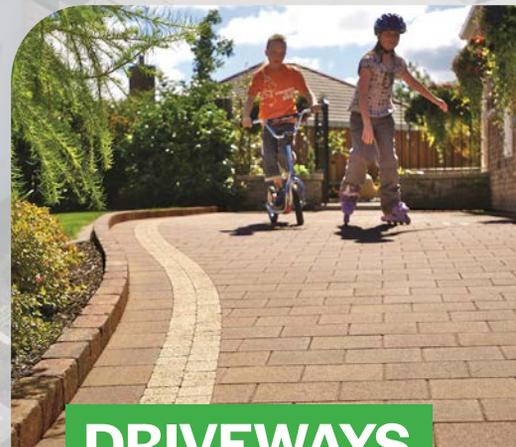
Issue 03 | Autumn 2021

**OUTDOOR
LIVING
& LIFESTYLE**



PLANTING

Get some end-of-year colour in your garden



DRIVEWAYS

Block paving for a wow-factor first impression



Welcome to your magazine



Orla McGoldrick

Consumer Marketing Manager at Tobermore

Autumn is on its way, which means it's clean-up time in the garden. But it doesn't have to be all about tidying and preparing for winter!

In this edition of Outdoor Living & Lifestyle, we're looking at some of the best plants and blooms to add a splash of late-year colour to your outdoor space.

We've also got a bumper crop of homeowner projects to share with you. Take inspiration from these gorgeous properties, stylishly finished with hard landscaping products from Tobermore.

Elsewhere, we've got some top tips for preparing your garden furniture for winter. It's a chore no-one wants to do, but giving your furniture a little TLC before the cold months hit will help it last for years to come.

And if you're looking for a late-summer outdoor project, why not jazz up your front garden with our quick ideas for low maintenance planting?

Until next time, enjoy your outdoor space!

And the winner is...!

Congratulations to Roslyn McClelland from Londonderry who has won our £200 pizza oven voucher competition!



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ONLINE TOOLS FOR GARDENERS

We've put together some useful online tools to help you choose the right products for your garden.





Rake up moss

Rake up any moss or dead grass that has established in the lawn over the summer. Some moss killer from your local garden centre can help if there's a lot to deal with. **After raking, put down an autumn lawn feed** to help your lawn's roots stay healthy during the cold winter months.

Protect sensitive plants

Young shrubs, spring-blooming trees and tender perennials such as dahlias are all frost-sensitive. **You can protect them by covering with bubble wrap**, which helps to keep the plant insulated. Remove the bubble wrap on warmer days so the plant doesn't sweat. A preventative measure can be planting your blooms in protective places – by a wall or bench, for example.



Do seasonal pruning

Perennials will benefit from a good cutting back, as will other plants that don't like being pruned in the winter. **Be sure to prune plants before the weather starts to turn.** Cut shrubs down to a quarter of their original size. Trim any crowded stems to give the plant better air circulation.

Autumn Garden **CHECKLIST**

After a summer of activity and growth, now's the time to give your garden some TLC to help it through the colder months.

Wash out plant pots

No one wants to do it, but it has to be done! Dirty pots can harbour garden pests and bacteria that can do a lot of damage to your garden. Dilute some bleach with water in a large container and use a stiff brush to remove dried soil from your pots. **Make sure you dry them thoroughly afterwards to prevent mould build-up.**



Give your lawn a feed

You may think that once you've raked up the moss and leaves from your lawn, you can leave it to sit until spring returns. But you'd be wrong. Even when turf goes dormant over winter, it still needs some TLC to keep it going until the next growth spurt in spring.

Aerating your lawn is one of the first things you can do to help improve airflow and drainage in the soil. For a smaller lawn, you can simply use a garden fork, pushing it into the turf at intervals. Fertilising your lawn, clearing snow soon after it settles and removing debris throughout winter all help keep your lawn healthy.





1

Sempervivums

Sempervivums are very tough succulent plants which **thrive in all types of weather**. These beautiful Alpine plants can bring lots of colour to your garden in the colder months. They're also great for adding texture to pots, rockeries and any garden nook and cranny you want to put them.



2

Virginia Creeper

This incredibly popular creeper gives a fantastic **autumn display of colour, turning a deep, vibrant red from its summer green**. It grows vigorously and will conquer any space, swallowing up other plants in the process. It needs regular pruning and management, so isn't ideal for gardeners who want a low-maintenance life!

5
blooms
you'll love

PERFECT PLANTS FOR AUTUMN COLOUR



3

Beauty Berry

With small pink flowers in summer, this deciduous shrub is probably best known for its **stunning violet berries that appear in autumn**. They remain on the plant even when the leaves have dropped and bring beautiful, much-needed pops of colour to your garden.



4

Aster

Asters typically **flower in late summer or early autumn**, so they're perfect for bringing splashes of colour to your outdoor space when things start looking a little bare. Be sure to plant them in an airy spot with plenty of sun to get the best display of colour. Cut them back hard when flowering is finished.



5

Cotoneaster

Just like Beauty Berry, Cotoneaster **produces lovely punchy red berries in autumn time**. Some are evergreen and can be tall and tree-like right through to low growing types that help to stop weeds.



How to prepare furniture for winter



Like other things in your garden, the colder weather can take its toll on your garden furniture. **Mark McIlmoyle** shares a few simple steps you can follow to keep your patio paradise looking great and lasting well into the future.



Wooden furniture

Wooden furniture needs regular care and maintenance, especially ahead of the colder months.

But it doesn't need to be complicated! Take these simple steps to give your wooden furniture the protection it needs to survive winter.

What you'll need:

- Warm, soapy water
- Soft brush
- Sandpaper
- Preservative, wood paint or oil
- Clean paint brush



1 Use a bucket of warm, soapy water and a clean sponge to **give your wooden furniture a thorough clean**. Remove all algae, bird droppings and lichens.



2 If your furniture is hardwood, a good clean is fine. For softwood furniture, give them a light sandpapering, then **apply preservative, paint or oil**.



3 If your furniture has sustained any damage over the summer, now's the time to **get your tools out and do that repair job**.



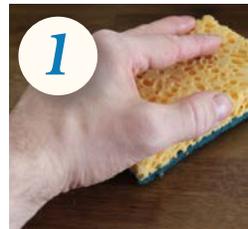
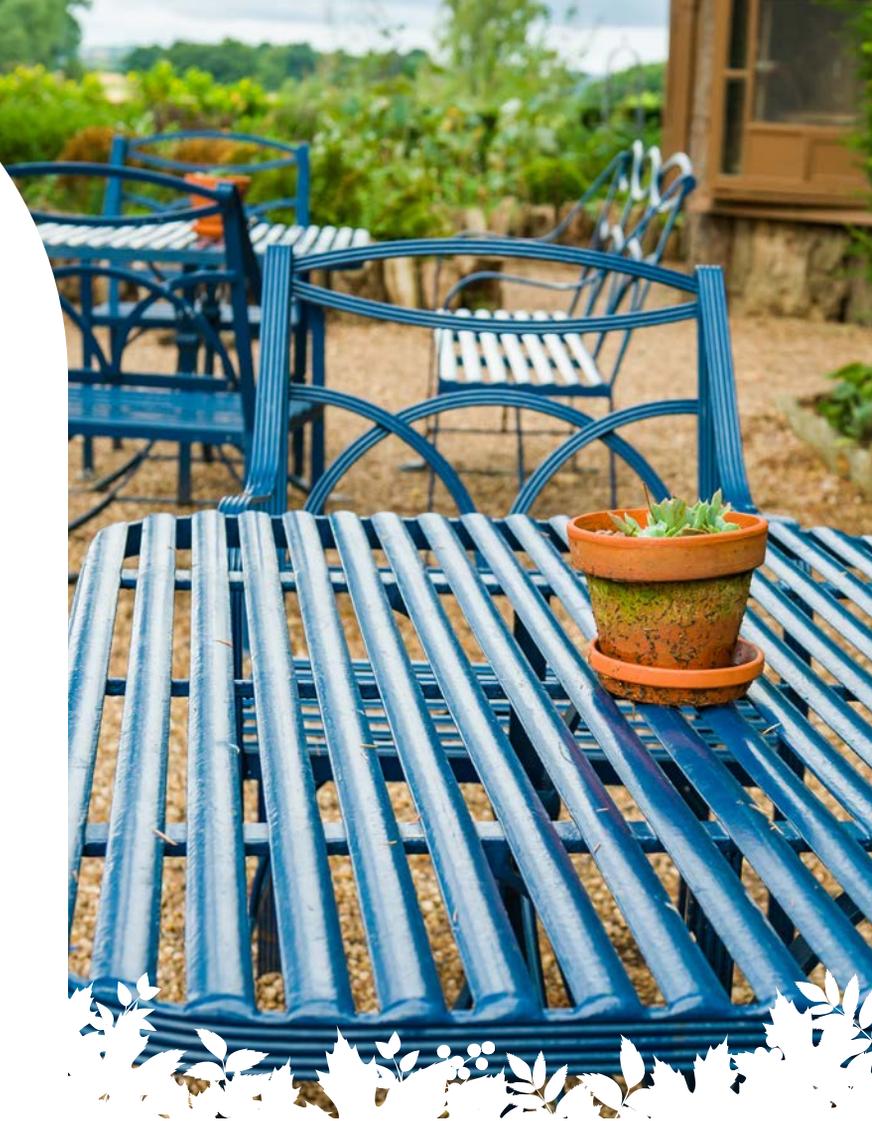
Wrought -iron furniture

Rust is your metal garden furniture's arch enemy. So keeping it at bay should be your number one goal.

With a little tender loving care before the winter arrives, you'll keep your metal garden furniture looking good for spring.

What you'll need:

- Warm, soapy water
- Brush
- Wire wool or hand sander
- Epoxy filler
- Metal primer and paint
- Clean paint brush



As with wooden furniture, begin by **cleaning off any dirt and debris** with a clean sponge and some warm, soapy water.



If there are any rusty areas, **sand the area with steel wool**, clean again, then fill holes with epoxy filler. Give it another light sanding ready for painting.



Now you're ready to **prime and paint your furniture** to give it full protection for the coming colder weather.



Rattan furniture

Wicker or rattan furniture should never be left uncovered outdoors through the winter. Cold, frosty weather will take its toll on this delicate material.

Before you pack away your rattan furniture, follow these simple cleaning steps to get it ready for the winter.

What you'll need:

- Vacuum with soft brush attachment
- Damp cloth



1



Use a soft brush attachment on a vacuum cleaner to **remove any dirt and dust** from between the woven material.

2



Wipe over your furniture with a damp cloth to get rid of remaining dirt and mildew build up.

3



Wicker and rattan furniture is best stored indoors over winter. If you have to leave it outside, **invest in a good quality, waterproof cover** to keep it protected.



A closer **LOOK**

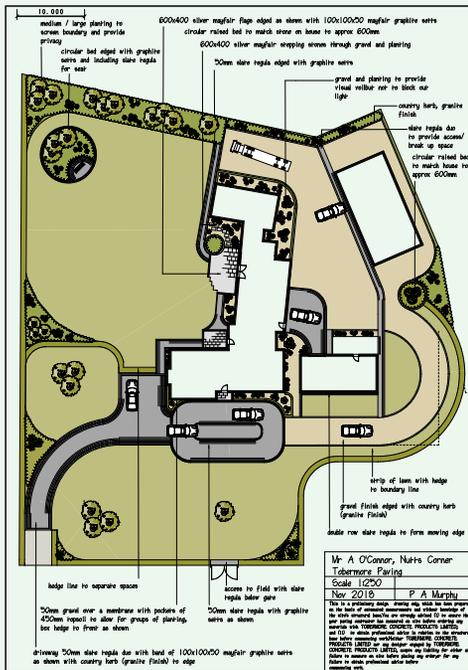
“The landscaping really provides a beautiful finishing touch to our home”

Tobermore customer Jackie O'Connor gave her self-build plot a classy finish with some thoughtfully chosen paving.



Owning a bespoke home surrounded by beautiful countryside is something many of us dream about. For Jackie O'Connor, it's a dream in the making.

With a good-sized plot of land on the outskirts of Belfast, Jackie and her husband have been busy building a brand new home. Outside, their brief was to maximise the sun as much as possible and make good use of the plot for landscaping, including various paved areas and feature planting.



The paved areas were designed to maximise the usable outdoor space. A south-facing, 'open courtyard' became a key feature of the design.

"One of the main areas we were keen to include was an 'open courtyard' with a south-facing patio," says Jackie. "We wanted to make sure the flow from the house to the patio area was as seamless as possible, so we tried to incorporate similar colour schemes in the patio as we have in the house.

"The stonework on the outside of the house is Liscannor stone, so we were keen for the paving around the house to complement and enhance that look."

Jackie chose a mix of Tobermore paving products to achieve the look she had in mind.

"We picked up brochures and samples at Tobermore's paving centre, which really helped to focus our minds on how we wanted the patio and other paved areas to look. In fact, thanks to visiting the paving centre, we changed our mind about one type of flagstone and went with a different option, and I'm so glad we did."

Would Jackie recommend Tobermore to others?

"Yes, absolutely," she says. "We're very happy with the outcome of this project – the landscaping really provides a beautiful finishing touch to our home. This is our second self-build project and we used Tobermore on the last project too, which we were also really happy with."



Focus on: Driveways



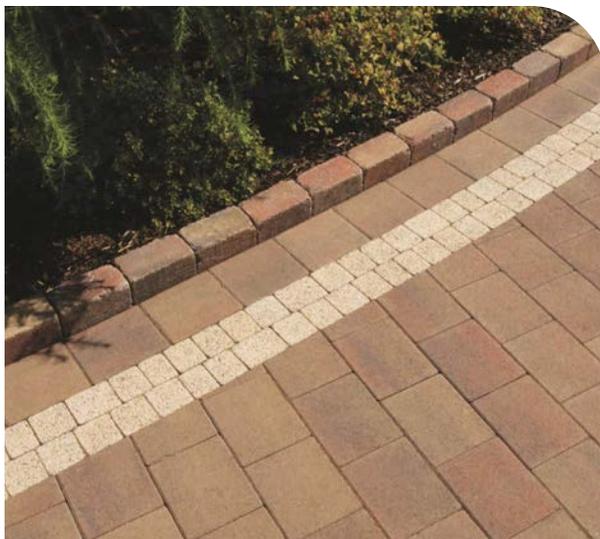
If your driveway's looking tired and unloved, block paving can be a great way to give your property a wow-factor first impression.

Here, **Kelly Marie Hegarty** explores Tobermore's Shannon block paving product.

Shannon offers a contemporary design with an ultra-smooth surface, making it the ideal paving product if you want an area for the kids to play on.

It's the perfect surface for bikes, skateboards, rollerblades and any wheeled toys. Plus it comes in a range of vibrant, long lasting colours. The close fitting joints and fine, expertly finished edges help to minimise maintenance and create a smart appearance. It also looks great with complementary kerbs and edgings, to finish the look and keep borders looking neat and tidy.

The Shannon range is also available in Hydropave – our permeable paving system.



Shannon: *At a glance*

Versatile smooth paving

- Vibrant long-lasting colours
- Superb hard-wearing smooth surface
- Pencil chamfer significantly reduces maintenance
- Smooth surface is ideal for use with trolleys, cases etc.



Shannon is available in a range of different long-lasting colours.

Whether you want to make a statement with an eye-catching design, or have your driveway blend in or subtly complement your home, there's an option for you.

[Find out more about Shannon](#)



Bracken



Brindle



Charcoal



Heather



Natural



Slate



Quick front garden ideas

Whether you've found your forever home or plan to move soon, investing some care and attention into your front garden will make a huge difference to your home's kerb appeal.

Think about the style and character of your property and plan a front garden to suit. New-build properties tend to come with much smaller front gardens than older homes, so plan for a design that makes the most of the space you have.

If low maintenance is your preference, choose paving and pot plants for an easy life.

Topiary can be used to provide privacy and screening, especially if your property faces onto a busy street or walkway.

For a country look, plant rose bushes and use trellis to extend planting vertically.

3 of the best...

Low maintenance plants for a great first impression



Geraniums will always be on a gardener's quick and easy win list. They're virtually indestructible, and just need cutting back after the first flowering.



Bowles's Mauve is a perennial wallflower that has bright purple flowers, sometimes throughout the year in warmer climates.



Sternbergia looks similar to a crocus and are great bulbs for bringing a splash of autumn colour. They can be grown in poor soils and are happy in a sunny position.



FEATURED PROJECT



Self-build project

Country Living

See how Tobermore customer Tim Woodside transformed his home with a landscaping makeover.

Location:

Antrim

Paving products used:

- Mayfair
- Sienna Setts
- Tegula
- Country Kerb
- Step risers





Everything you need to **Get Inspired**

Download your FREE guide, packed with info to help you choose the best paving and walling products for your garden.

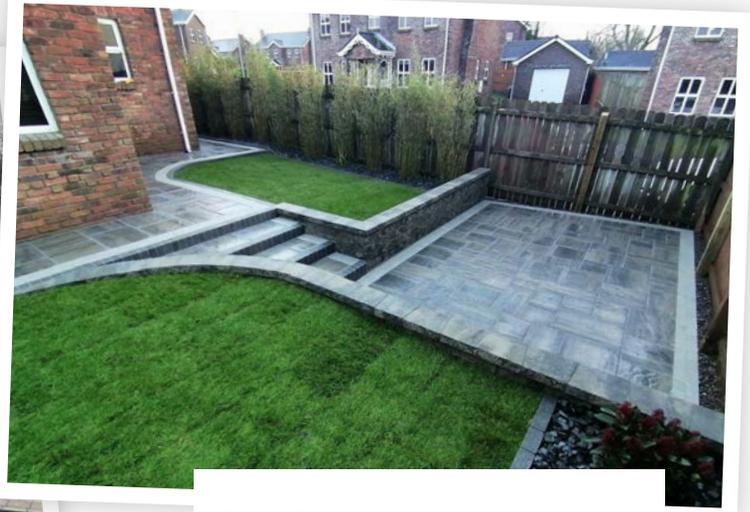
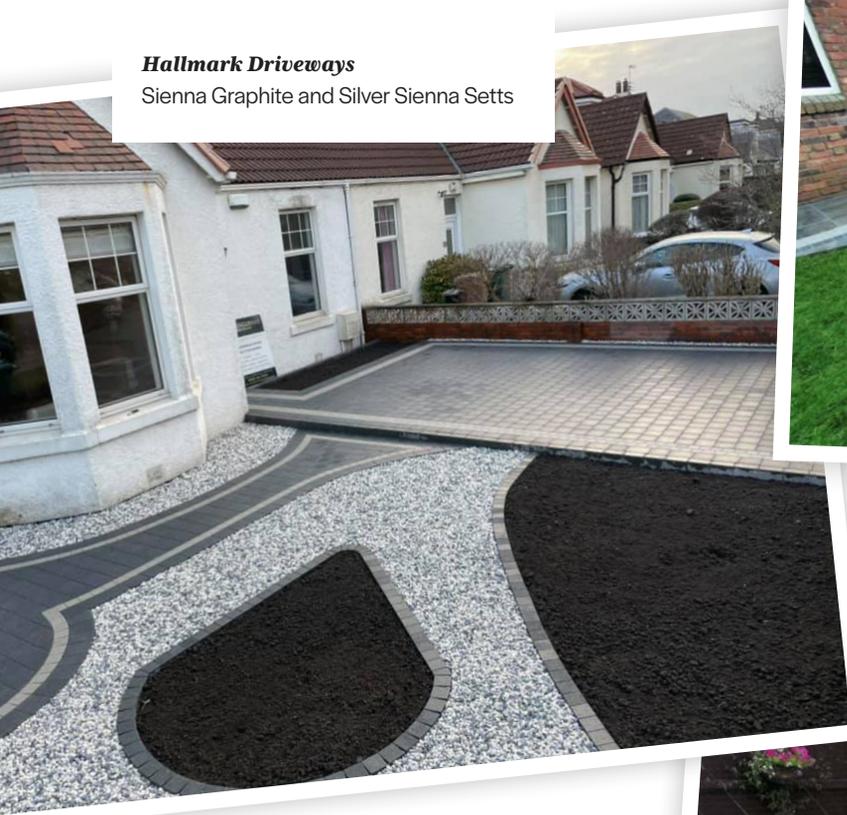
- Colour tone examples
- Popular laying patterns
- Finishing touches
- Design services

[Download your FREE guide](#)



Hallmark Driveways

Sienna Graphite and Silver Sienna Setts



Lagan Landscapes

Historic Slate and Garden Stone Slate Wall

*Quick
Project Pics*

Take inspiration from these project photos, sent in by our Approved Contractors.



Lagan Landscapes

Shannon Heather, Sienna Setts and Kerbstone

PR Paving Services

Fusion Graphite, Mid-Grey and Silver



Jim Henderson

Shannon Duo Bracken

Online Tools for Perfect Planning

The Tobermore website is home to a host of digital tools and services to help you plan, design and build your outdoor space.



Landscape Design Service

Our landscape design consultation service is available in a range of packages to suit all projects and budgets. Consultations are provided on-site for our customers in Northern Ireland and ROI, and by video call for our customers in England, Scotland and Wales.

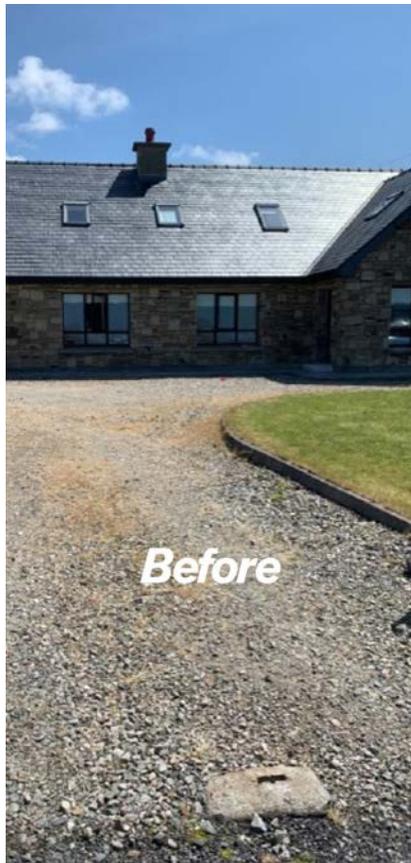
[Click here to find out more about our landscape design service.](#)

Paving Creator

Paving Creator is our free tool to help you experiment with various paving design options and products. Simply specify whether you're designing a driveway or patio, choose a 'scene' in which to view your paving, and get creative! If you like what you create, you can easily request a quote for the paving products directly through the Paving Creator tool.

[Click here to find out more about Paving Creator.](#)





Paving Visualisation Service

Bring your paving project to life by visualising your paving choice at your own property. Send us a picture of your driveway or patio area with a description of your project, advise us on what products and colours you would like for your project, and we'll send you a computer generated image of your paving choice at your home.

[Click here to find out more about our paving visualisation service.](#)

How To Buy Your Paving

You can find information on the Tobermore website about how to choose and buy paving products.

Click here to find a Tobermore stockist in your area.





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