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## Category: Backyard & Patio Fountains

### Subcategory: Backyard & Patio Fountains

#### **Tip: Basic Maintenance For Larger Water Features**

Maintaining larger water features is probably easier than you think &ndash; especially if you use an all-natural methodology to your routine. Use a skimmer basket to draw out leaves once a week. All you have to do is rinse out the filter of the skimmer basket every time you clean. Once a week, backwash the pump and filter with about 100 gallons of nutrient rich water. Allow it to discharge onto your grass if possible. Inoculate the water with bacteria after you backwash. The process keeps your water in top condition. Once or twice a year, rinse the water filter box out to rid it of dirt and debris. Use pond salt or barley to control algae in your pond.

#### **Tip: Caring for Your Patio Water Fountain**

Is something missing from your patio? You've got the patio furniture, soft lights, candles to keep the bugs away, good food and the company of great friends. Water fountains can complete your patio space, inviting serenity and calm in your own personal space. Homes are the safe places where we can relax at the end of a long day, entertain friends and recharge our proverbial batteries. Patio water fountains can really help solidify that sense of ultimate relaxation. However, in order to enjoy this luxury for years to come, it's important to understand how to care for backyard fountains. Outdoor water fountains purchased online require very little care, but there are a few things you should keep in mind. Make sure you've got enough water in your fountain to keep the pump from making too much noise. Never install water fountains meant for indoors in an outdoor environment. Distilled water works best in outdoor water fountains to prevent the buildup of mineral deposits which can clog, discolor and affect the flow of water. Keep a copy of your water fountain care instructions. Every couple of months, empty all of the water out of the fountain and wipe it down. Keep in mind that the type of material the fountain is made of will make a difference on how you should clean it. For example, never use copper cleaner on a copper water fountain with a powder finish coat. Carefully read the instructions that come with your new water fountain. When purchasing outdoor water fountains online at Serenity Health, make sure to carefully read the water fountain maintenance tips located on their website. With proper care, you can enjoy years of solitude and peace with your outdoor water fountains.

#### **Tip: Photogenic Backyard Fountains**

Outdoor wall fountains make the perfect spot for picture-taking. Getting married? Having a party? Whatever significant event is going on in your life, make sure to put your outdoor water fountains to good use by strategically placing them in the picture. Water

fountains add depth and interest to photographs, providing an elegant backdrop for posed pictures.

The best backyard fountains for use in photographs are multi-tiered in the medium to large size range. Backyard water fountains that are too small won't make a significant impact in the photograph. Likewise, a backyard fountain that's too large can easily overwhelm the photo.

The best time of year to take your photographs in front of the flowing backyard waterfall fountain is during the spring, summer, or fall months. Imagine a crisp fall wedding day with photos set against a backdrop of richly hued trees, framed by the flowing waters of your backyard fountain. In summer, the added foliage and flowers of the garden will add depth and richness to your photographs when set against the backdrop of an outdoor water fountain.

To get the best photos, make sure your backyard fountain is clean and in good condition. You can purchase safe, non-toxic cleaners directly through Serenity Health online. Enjoy your outdoor water fountain for years to come by taking many beautiful pictures on any occasion.

### **Tip: Your How-To Guide To Create A Backyard Fountain**

If you're thinking about building a backyard fountain, it's a straightforward process if you just take it step-by-step. Here's how to tackle a basic backyard fountain. Make sure you're dealing with a clean work area first. Mark the outline of the pond on the floor. Lay a five row high layer of bricks lengthwise at the perimeter. Place a pond under-liner in the center of the pond. On top, add a 45 ml thick pond liner that's safe for fish if you're planning to add them. Add a second layer of bricks inside the pond to stabilize the wall and weigh down the liners. Trim the excess liner at the edge of the pond. Add an additional layer of bricks perpendicular to the existing rows for a nice edge finish. Build a pedestal of bricks and add your statue. Fill the pond up with water. Place a submersible pump inside behind the pedestal. Turn the pump on and your backyard fountain is complete.

## Category: Cleaning Fountains

### Subcategory: Cleaning Fountains

### **Tip: Cleaning Your Fountain Pump**

If your water feature has a fountain pump, inevitably, you'll need to perform some basic maintenance to get it cleaned. Your fountain pump likely has a strainer or screen to prevent pebbles and other debris from jamming the function of the pump. It's always a

good idea to clean your fountain pump before the water flow is completely blocked because your equipment can overheat and burn out. Here are just a few tricks to keep your pump jam-free. Read the instruction booklet on how to disassemble and reassemble your pump for easy cleaning. Once disassembled, use warm soapy water and an old toothbrush for a thorough cleaning. You can then dip the pump parts into a mild bleach solution. Once you're done, reassemble all the pieces and make sure your fountain pump is back to its original setting. The process should just take you less than 10 minutes.

### **Tip: Mother Nature Helps Clean Garden Fountains**

Tap the power of Mother Nature to help balance and keep garden fountains clean. If you are interested in growing water garden plants, a garden pond fountain needs to be located where it gets four to six hours of direct sunlight daily. Mother Nature's sunny days also power solar fountains that inhibit algae bloom through aeration and by cooling water temperatures in summer.

Watch out for excessive direct sunlight, especially in sweltering summer months, as it may lead to increased algae bloom. Best bet: Use water plants to cover up to 2/3 of the garden fountain surface and prevent too much sunlight from reaching the surface while reducing algae build-up. (Note: if plants cover *more* than 2/3 of the surface they trap excessive carbon dioxide and other gases.) Keeping fountain pumps running continuously also helps Mother Nature.

Fish add interest and pleasure to a garden fountain. Although a garden pond fountain stocked with fish requires more care and cleaning, Mother Nature once again helps out with scavengers. Snails love algae. Tadpoles and goldfish feast on mosquito larvae. Plants help ecologically balance a fish-filled garden fountain by helping remove natural nitrates that are a by-product of the ammonia fish secrete into the water.

## Category: Feng Shui Fountains

Subcategory: Feng Shui Fountains

### **Tip: The Gift of Feng Shui Fountains**

Feng shui fountains make perfect gifts. There's always one family member or friend who has it all. If you've got one or two people who have traditionally been impossible to buy for, consider feng shui fountains. Really, any type of indoor or outdoor fountain makes a great gift. Relaxing indoor fountains are gender neutral and suitable for men, women and even teens. Water fountains aren't something you usually think of when looking for gifts, making it a unique idea.

At Serenity Health online, you can find any number of fantastic feng shui fountains. Look for outdoor solar-powered fountains for people who love their gardens. For book worms who prefer to snuggle inside, purchase a portable tabletop water fountain.

When purchasing feng shui fountains as gifts, keep in mind that the person you're buying it for might want to try it out in different outdoor locations.

## Category: Fountain Supplies

Subcategory: Fountain Supplies

### **Tip: Filters For Water Features**

Not all water features need filters. Some ponds and fountains can function without one if there's a balanced ecosystem that allows the environment to clean mostly on its own. However, some water features do need filters to rid the water of fish waste, decaying organic matter and floating algae. If that's the case, here are some types you can choose from. Mechanical filter &ndash; The mechanical filter uses some type of screen, foam, or mesh to trap debris. They are affordable, but they do clog easily and require weekly cleaning. Biological filter &ndash; The biological filter is similar to a mechanical filter, but it also uses live bacteria to break down substances that pass through the substrate. They don't typically require more than a monthly cleaning for maintenance. Chemical filter &ndash; This type of filter uses a chemical to remove water impurities. A chemical filter is typically used in conjunction with a biological filter. Veggie Filter &ndash; Using a separate pond or tub connected to the main one, a veggie filter uses plants to consume nutrients and reduce algae growth. The veggie filter isn't necessary for water features that already have a lot of existing plant life. UV Clarifier or Sterilizer &ndash; This type of filter is often used in conjunction with a biological filter or mechanical filter. It consists of an enclosed ultraviolet bulb which kills off algae, bacteria, viruses and certain parasites.

### **Tip: How To Select The Right Sized Pump**

Selecting the most appropriate size pump is essential to having your water feature running properly. You want one that's powerful enough to supply the right amount of water flow to your water feature. However, you don't want to end up with a workhorse pump in a small pond either. To help you figure out what size pump you actually need, we've put together a few guidelines. A pump may have an electrical power rating in amps or watts. However, you need to look at the gallons of water per hour a pump will put out in relation to the height, called the head. You'll need to find out the volume of your water feature to figure out which pump you need. You can do this mathematically or by taking a meter read after you've dug and lined your pit. Take a water meter reading right before you fill your pond or pool. Then fill up your water feature, and take

another reading. You should have a figure in cubic feet. Take the amount of water used and multiply it by 7.48 for the volume. Determine the pump size you need by using this rule of thumb: select a pump that can move out half the volume of the water feature in a half an hour's time. For a 200 gallon pond, you'll need a pump that can deliver 100 gallons per hour. Remember that water features with moving streams and waterfalls require more power because the water needs to head uphill and adjust your needs accordingly.

### **Tip: The Preformed Liner**

A preformed liner, also known as a rigid liner, is a molded container, often made of fiberglass or plastic. They create a waterproof environment for your pool, pond, or other water feature. You can expect to pay more for a fiberglass version of the preformed liner than a plastic one. However, fiberglass versions can last much longer — up to 50 years. They come in a variety of depths. Some have shallow areas for plants and deeper zones for fish. A practical application for the preformed liner is in a paved area where you can support the edge. One important rule to keep in mind when installing a preformed liner is that you need to keep it completely level and make sure all areas are supported so that there isn't any problem of collapsing due to water weight.

## Category: Garden Fountains

Subcategory: Garden Fountains

### **Tip: Easy Garden Fountain Care and Installation**

You don't have to be a DIY veteran to have your own garden fountain. Serenity Health is an online retailer selling a variety of garden water fountains, table top fountains, pond fountains, etc. Fountains are shipped to residents living in the United States and Canada, and they come with a guarantee policy. Depending on the size of the garden fountain you order, it may come in two to five pieces or more. Constructing a garden fountain purchased through Serenity Health is made simple with easy-to-follow instructions.

Not used to shopping online? It's the same thing as shopping in person except it's much more convenient. Everything you need to know in order to make a smart shopping decision is available on the website. You'll find a contact phone number, email, and lots of tips on making the most of your new garden fountain at Serenity Health online. You may want to bookmark the website for easy access. Take your time! Visit the website a couple of times before making a decision. Not sure what type of garden water fountain you want? Call the company and ask for suggestions. It's really that easy.

Before placing your order, check out the garden fountain accessories. You can buy

polished stones, cleaners, submersible pond and fountain lights, etc. You're going to love your new fountain and you'll especially love how easy it is to install.

### **Tip: Garden Fountains Turn Drab into Dramatic**

The outdoor environment detracts or enhances the appearance, ambiance and appeal of a home. According the Feng Shui principles, outdoor space design has a significant impact on the flow of energy, well-being and success.

A drab garden with dead plants exudes negative energy and gives the impression of neglect and indifference. Turn drab to dramatic with an outdoor makeover. Begin by removing dead, dying and overgrown plants and other unsightly debris. Then, use the five essential elements of Feng Shui to create a fountain garden with impressive visual appeal; a setting that brings pleasure and good fortune.

The five elements are water, fire, earth, wood and metal. Moving water is a powerful Feng Shui symbol. Choose from small tabletop garden fountains, free-standing fountains, floating fountains, garden statuary fountains and garden waterfalls that appeal to each of the five senses and become the centerpiece of outdoor living space. The light and warmth of the sun signify fire complemented by an outdoor fireplace, candles and incense burners. Earth is symbolized by pottery urns and planters, rocks and stone. Wood is represented by trees providing shade and shelter. Wooden windchimes also complement the sound of burbling fountain waters. And metal is introduced to the setting with fountain materials such as copper and stainless and other gleaming garden accessories.

### **Tip: The Sunken English Garden Fountain**

The perfect addition to any English garden is a fountain. You can add a fountain, such as the two-tier Belvedere cast stone garden fountain, in an English garden. The placement of your fountain can be at the center of the garden or along the garden's edge. The key is to build a landscape environment that allows the fountain to become an integral piece in your garden. Pick up elements from the fountain and compliment it in your landscaping, such as a rounded layer of brick paving to mirror the circular lines of the fountain itself.

### **Tip: Yin & Yang of Garden Fountains**

Yin and yang denote two opposite and complementary life-giving forces of the universe. For instance, winter is yin and summer is yang. Day is yang and night is yin. The sun is yang and the moon is yin. Yang is male; yin is female. A balance of yin and yang brings good fortune. However, when either yin or yang elements are excessive, an environment is out of balance. Fountain garden Feng Shui naturally involves balancing the yin and yang elements of the living space. A garden with excessive yang is not

relaxing. Excessive yin may be too bland or boring. A backyard fountain garden naturally contains both yin and yang elements. Water may be yin or yang. A cascading waterfall or bubbling fountain home garden evokes yang energy. A still pond or pool exemplifies the serenity of yin. Picture a garden pond with a pond fountain. Surround the garden fountain pond with additional balanced elements of yin and yang such as a lush, lacy green ferns (yin) tucked brilliant blooms (yang). Large, textured rocks (yang) complement a series of small smooth stones along a garden path. Garden statuary fountains are another way to add a yin or yang element to outdoor spaces. Remember that yin and yang are not concrete concepts. Like night turns to day, they are ever changing, constantly evolving. To create the most pleasing yin and yang environment, as seasons change, look for ways to lower the yang energy while raising the yin energy until the two are balanced.

## Category: Garden Waterfalls

Subcategory: Garden Waterfalls

### **Tip: Three Good Reasons To Have A Garden Waterfall**

The garden waterfall provides continuous motion, the relaxing sounds of running water and an oasis for any outdoor environment. However, the garden waterfall does more than just that. Here are three reasons to have a garden waterfall. Algae grows in still water environments. Having running water, like a waterfall, helps prevent algae growth. Moving water helps oxygenate a pond, fountain, or other water feature. Oxygenation helps water clarity and keeps fish healthy. The waterfall helps facilitate that oxygenation. Waterfalls are attractive and mesmerizing to behold. Creating a garden waterfall in your environment is an uplifting addition to your home or office.

### **Tip: Three Ideas For A Moving Outdoor Water Feature**

Adding an outdoor water feature doesn't mean you have to start from scratch. You can purchase a waterfall unit suitable for use in a variety of settings. These outdoor water feature units can have the appearance of natural rock or can take on the form of a built stone waterfall. Some units also have their own self-contained ponds. Add a waterfall unit to set amongst the lush floral environment of your garden. Place it near an outdoor patio or even in an indoor room to create an environment of serenity.

## Category: Indoor Water Falls

Subcategory: Indoor Water Falls

### **Tip: Create a Lucky Water Dragon with an Indoor Waterfall**

Portrayed in some cultures as dangerous and threatening and in others as benevolent and fortuitous, dragons have always captured the imagination. They are one of the classic symbols of positive Feng Shui. There are air dragons and water dragons, echoing the meaning of Feng Shui &ndash; wind and water. Chinese Dragons are good guys, associated with strength, vigor and courage. People born in the Year of the Dragon are believed to be energetic, brave and honest. Pairing a dragon with moving water is a powerful combination. Outdoor waterfalls cascading over several levels are often called water dragons. Bring the water dragon inside to tap its wealth-enhancing energy. Begin by purchasing an indoor waterfall of your choice. Tuck a small gold dragon in the waterfall so that water flows over the dragon with the tail toward the source of the water flow. Add a small happy Buddha statue sitting atop smooth stones above the water. And, small healthy plants with rounded leaves and flowers tucked around the fountain for more good fortune. (Avoid plants with spiky or sharp leaves such as cacti. They are considered unlucky.) For additional viewing pleasure, purchase a lighted indoor waterfall or tuck a tiny submersible 10-watt low voltage fountain pen light in the fountain basin. When completed, position water dragon indoor waterfalls in the north sector of the living area to enhance career success. The east, southeast or southwest sectors of family living space are also auspicious directions.

### **Tip: Improving your Home Interior with an Indoor Waterfall Fountain**

Installing an indoor floor fountain in your home will instantly add social and visual appeal to your home's interior. Introverts love the cozy, relaxing atmosphere that an indoor water fountain brings to the home. Extroverts appreciate the naturally magnetic quality of an indoor water fountain. You'll never see a group of people shy away from indoor fountains! If your goal is to socialize in your home more often, position your indoor waterfall in the most comfortable spot of your home. You'll want a place that's warm and inviting, where people feel comfortable relaxing. Want to enjoy your new indoor floor fountain in solitude? Consider a smaller fountain for a smaller space and personalize the area to suit your own tastes and personality. Stock up on books, buy some incense or scented candles, play music, and make sure you've got an ultra-soft place to relax.

Indoor waterfall fountains designed for the home can be customized to match your décor, and designed to fit unique home spaces. At Serenity Health online, you can get started simply by filling out the customization form and sending it in. Get a quote, talk to a professional, and invest in an indoor waterfall fountain. This one simple investment will do wonders for the interior of your home.

### **Tip: Locations for a Home Indoor Waterfall**

In a home, an indoor water fountain properly placed in almost any room draws positive energy. An entrance way to a home is the pathway where good fortune (chi) enters. An indoor waterfall in a foyer attracts chi as it enters the home and persuades it to linger. A

wall-mounted waterfall in a dining area balances the elements of the area, encourages leisurely dining and provides pleasing background music during the meal. An indoor waterfall fountain in the kitchen soothes the cook and cools the heated ambiance. An indoor waterfall surrounded by plants in a sunroom brings nature inside. And, if you work from a home office, an indoor waterfall inspires creativity and improves focus by masking distracting noises from other rooms. Note: One possible exception for a waterfall indoors is the bedroom. Although, water sounds are sleep-inducing for some people, some Feng Shui practitioners believe that the *energy* of cascading water counteracts sleep. Similar beliefs recommend not placing a waterfall or fountain in a room directly *above* the bedroom because sleeping under a water feature may prohibit a restful night.

### **Tip: The Benefits of Owning a Large Indoor Waterfall**

If you're interested in making a statement within your home or office, consider a larger scaled indoor fountain. The best floor fountains are those that produce large, dramatic waterscapes while providing soothing sounds in your working or living environment.

An indoor waterfall could range in price from hundreds of dollars to thousands of dollars. In fact, it's possible to customize your own unique indoor water fountain with the help of the staff at Serenity Health online.

The benefits of owning a large indoor floor fountain include the following: An indoor fountain like the Sunrise Springs Wall Fountain is easy to install, and despite the larger size, it doesn't get in the way because it's hung on a wall. An indoor waterfall like the Cottonwood Falls Wall Fountain serves a dual purpose, both as a beautiful indoor waterfall and as a glass mirror. The Wood Flower Table/Wall Fountain is priced well within reason and can either be used as an indoor floor fountain or can be wall mounted to save space.

When shopping for larger scaled floor fountains, read over the specs carefully before purchasing. Although you can purchase any indoor fountain you see through Serenity Health online, you'll be happier with your order if you've done a little research first.

## **Category: Installing a Fountain**

Subcategory: Installing a Fountain

**Tip: Building A Fountain - Finding Your Center**

When building a round fountain, you'll want to locate placement of the fountain's central feature. If you're wondering what the best way to do this is, we have one idea that'll ease your dilemma. Once you've dug your pit and laid out the pond liner, tie string to stakes at the perimeter of your pit. You should have two strings running perpendicular to each other. The result would be that your pit would be divided into four equal pies. The intersection in the middle would be the center point of your fountain. You can mark the center without damaging your pond lines. Simply attach a PVC pipe to a small piece of wood and you have your center point at the base of the pit.

### **Tip: How To Select A Bowl To Make Your Own Tabletop Fountain**

Making your own tabletop fountain is cost effective and lets you use your creative skills. The bowl of the fountain is the most prominent item in the assembly, so it's always important to select this piece wisely. Here are a few ideas to help you select the right part. Keep in mind that your bowl will be part of a room, table setting or an area. Think about coordinating the style of the bowl with its surroundings. You don't want to pick a sleek, modern bowl for a traditional antique desk. Think about what angle your bowl will be viewed from. Will your fountain be at eye level or below? The slim, vertical container might look great straight on, but a view from above might not be as attractive if your fountain is placed on the ground. Think about the size and scale of the bowl. Will it be high enough to cover the pump completely? Also, a larger bowl that holds more water will require less water changes than a smaller one. Consider the shape of the bowl carefully. The bottom needs to have a flat plane. You also need to have enough room for the pump, as well as the attached cord. Beyond the aforementioned considerations, your choices are wide open for selecting a bowl for your tabletop fountain. You can consider glass bowls, ceramic planters, plastic containers, or metal tins covered with camouflage material.

## Category: Landscaping Water Features

Subcategory: Landscaping Water Features

### **Tip: Designing A Landscape Water Feature For Fish**

If you're designing a landscape water feature that will contain fish, you do have to have certain specifications in mind. Ideally, a landscape water feature should cover three basic things — appropriate depth, safety from predators and clean water. A depth of two feet will be sufficient for most types of garden fish. If you plan on raising koi, because of their larger size, you should have a depth of at least three feet. Garden predators that you might need to be concerned about include raccoons, herons, egrets and kingfishers. As long as you create a water feature with at least two feet deep steep sides, your fish should be safe. For areas of a water feature with shallow depths, plant a thick layer of bog or marginals to help protect your fish. In order to keep your fish alive

and healthy, it's essential you provide the optimum water environment for them. One way to do this is by getting a good biological filter to help you maintain their ecosystem. Moving water from a pump or via a waterfall will help oxygenate the fish's environment.

### **Tip: Do's and Don'ts of Landscaping Water Features**

When landscaping water features, there are some do's and don'ts to consider: Do: Think ahead. Create a plan before you start. Failure to plan results in lack of balance and visual appeal. Choose a central theme and stick to it. Use color to enhance and tie garden elements together. Shop wisely. Research pros and cons of water features and fountain accessories, including care and maintenance requirements. Compare quality and price before purchasing water features and fountain accessories. Make sure you have the expertise to install and care for water features and landscaping water accessories. Don't: Attempt to install electrical connections if not experienced. If in doubt, hire an expert. Mix formal and informal landscape elements and accessories. A rustic barrel fountain does not complement a formal entry courtyard and an elegant Old World statuary fountain looks out of place in a laid-back country or decided modern setting. Overdo water fountain accessories or use too many different, unrelated colors. Less is often more when it comes to creating a relaxing outdoor retreat. Too much even of good things creates unsettling clutter. Cut corners on quality. Poor quality almost always results in added time, effort and expense in the future.

### **Tip: Plants For Water Features**

Water features alone can make stunning focal points in a backyard. The addition of plants can be the complimentary element to give water features a lush, landscaped feel. If you're looking for some ideas on which ones work best with water features, we have a few picks that'll enhance any fountain or pool. Plant Marginals &dash; Meant to line the edge of a pool, marginals help frame and create a natural edge for water features. The bulrush is a sturdy perennial that has tall, grass-like growth. It's perfect for creating a vertical edge in a fountain or pool. For a dash of color, plant the iris, which is a perennial you can find in shades of purple, blue, pink and yellow. Free Floating Plants &dash; Beautiful all their own as plant life gracing on the surface of water features, free floating plants break up the surface area of the interior of a pool. For a still water environment, hardy water lilies make great surface accents in colors of yellow, copper, pink or red. For a subtle effect, try the delicate nature of duckweed, a hardy perennial with small angular leaves. Oxygenating plants &dash; Oxygenating plants grow entirely beneath the water's surface, providing oxygen and removing carbon dioxide to remove algae. Try introducing the slender, ribbon-like leaves of the eel grass to help maintain your pool. For an oxygenating plant that provides food and shelter for fish, there are up to 100 species of pondweed to choose from.

### **Tip: Three Ideas For A Landscape Fountain**

One way to design your landscape fountain is through the use of softscape elements. However, you can also dress your landscape fountain up with some well-placed garden elements. The clean lines of a Saguaro planter set would make a great accent piece to a contemporary landscape fountain. The ornate pattern of a pedestal urn marks a grand entrance to the pathway of any landscape garden. Create a lush, low wall along one end of your fountain by placing a row of rectangular planters. Whichever piece you choose, keep in mind the style, colors and type of environment you're creating with your landscape fountain.

### **Tip: Using Water Fountain Accessories for Landscaping Water Features**

When landscaping a garden feature, water fountain accessories add visual interest, enhance a garden theme, balance yin and yang and attract positive Feng Shui energy. Garden ornaments include both natural and manufactured objects. Rocks and stones, driftwood, sculptures, columns, urns, wind chimes, lanterns, sundials, birdhouses, candles and incense burners are all examples of garden ornaments. Whether using natural objects or man-made ornaments, consider size and style. If a water feature is the focal point of the outdoor setting, accessories should complement, not compete with it. Ideas for using garden ornaments: Statues bring life and personality to an outdoor setting. Choose a statue that complements the garden theme such as a serene seated Buddha for an Asian garden and an elegant heron or crane statue or fish spitter fountain beside a still garden pond for a nature-themed outdoor landscape. Columns and pillars, standing alone or as a base for a small statue, also add important vertical interest to a predominantly horizontal garden setting. Use natural stones in varying sizes and textures to create borders, edge garden ponds or introduce yang energy in a serene yin setting. Planters and garden pots serve a double duty for container gardening and as landscaping ornaments. Most gardeners recommend choosing pots that contrast with their plants. For instance, a neutral terracotta pot showcases bright blooms and a colored or patterned pot complements lush greenery. And, cast stone garden benches, available in a wide array of styles, shapes and colors, provide decorative seating for relaxing beside a water feature.

## Category: Solar Powered Fountains

Subcategory: Solar Powered Fountains

### **Tip: Accessorize Your Fountain With Solar Power**

These days, solar-powered products are big with homeowners concerned about the environment. One easy-to-install, low maintenance piece is the solar power light. You can use a solar power light to brighten up the pathways around your fountain or light up the fountain itself. An inexpensive solar power light for a pathway might just be \$30 to \$40 for a four-piece set. A high-end set might run you ten times that much. Want a

solar-operated pump? You can find them everywhere, from home and garden stores to online locations and catalogs. If you want to add water spray to your fountain, you can even do that with a circular floating spray which shoots water up to 17 inches. There's even a birdbath that circulates water and runs on solar power, as well.

### **Tip: Any Excuse for a Solar Fountain**

With solar fountains, you can go as big or as small as you want, with the added benefit of a backup battery pack for those days when the sun isn't as bright as it could be.

Solar fountains are easy to install, maintain, and make a great addition to any garden or yard. In addition to a beautiful solar fountain, consider the added benefit and beauty that a string of solar garden lights can bring to your home. Illuminate pathways, garden borders, or the edge of your pond with solar lights.

You don't need a special holiday and you certainly don't need to spend hours justifying why you want a solar fountain. If you want one... get one! While you're at it, buy one for that special someone in your life. For under \$75 you can buy gorgeous solar water fountains. Serenity Health online offers a wide variety of solar fountains in all price ranges and styles.

Remember, you don't even need to have a yard to own a solar fountain. Solar fountains are perfect for a sunny patio or deck. Not enough sunlight? No worries. Serenity Health offers on-demand solar powered fountains and all the cascading solar fountains come with an AC adaptor. Complete with battery back-up, these solar fountains can be run when you want them to run. Turn it off when you're away from home. Turn it on during the evening when entertaining guests. There's something for everyone when it comes to solar fountains. Add accessories and lights and you've got yourself a unique outdoor space that will provide years of enjoyment.

### **Tip: Creating a Green Sanctuary with a Solar Fountain**

These days, it's important for everyone to do their part to protect the environment. Every decision made can have a drastic impact on the environment and that includes the decision to purchase a solar fountain. Solar fountains rely directly on the sun for energy. No electricity is used at all! However, unlike the types of solar panels you might have in your home, solar fountains aren't designed to accumulate energy from the sun. They will only work on sunny days. Don't despair though! Some of the solar fountains sold at Serenity Health online (including the three tiered solar fountains) come with AC adapters for indoor use. So, if the weather is particularly inclement, just move your solar fountain indoors where you can continue to enjoy the soothing and relaxing water sounds. Want to take your green initiative even further? Buy a solar powered bird bath. Attract nature's beautiful birds to your back porch with one of Serenity Health's

gorgeous bird baths. Just remember to keep some good quality bird seed nearby. Your backyard will instantly become a safe haven for a wide variety of beautiful birds. That bird bath, combined with the soft water sounds of your solar fountain, will draw you and your friends to the yard more often. What better incentive to pull away from the television set! Enjoy the peace and harmony you're sure to get with your solar powered water fountain.

### **Tip: Drawbacks of Solar Fountains**

For most consumers, the energy-saving and simplicity of solar water fountains, solar pumps and solar garden accessories far outweigh the few drawbacks. The most obvious requirement for a solar fountain to work properly is an adequate supply of sunlight. Therefore, location of solar fountain with a built-in solar panel or a separate solar panel is important. Solar powered fountains do not work well in heavily shaded locations or in climates that rarely enjoy sunny days. Basic solar fountains consist of a built-in panel and pump that operate *only* in direct sunlight. They do not store solar power. No sun, no water movement. If the sun goes behind a cloud or the fountain falls into a shade, water flow ceases shortly. For water flow during cloudy periods and evening hours, a solar fountain pump with battery backup is needed. And, while solar fountains can be used most of the year in most of the world, when temperatures fall below freezing and during periods of snow and ice, it is best to disconnect the solar panel from the pump and move them inside to prevent potential damage to the solar panels.

### **Tip: Tap the Sun's Energy with an Indoor Solar Fountain**

Solar powered fountains are typically associated with outside use. With the exception of home solar roof panels for heating water and running some household appliances, the idea of tapping the power of sunlight with an indoor solar water fountain is relatively new. Here's how it works. Choose a solar water fountain with a *detachable solar panel* and AC power adaptor. The detachable solar panel is placed outside in full sunlight within 10-15 feet of the inside fountain. It collects the sun's energy and transmits the energy to the fountain pump during sunlight hours. Some solar fountains feature a backup battery that stores solar energy for use on cloudy days or evenings. Otherwise, the AC adaptor powers the pump when there is no sun. Multi-tiered, hand-crafted from terracotta, ceramic or copper, Serenity Health's Cascade Solar Fountains are an example of solar powered fountains with indoor potential. A six-volt solar pump in the fountain's bottom basin circulates water to the top pitcher where it cascades like a waterfall down a series of bowls back to the basin. A separate solar fountain panel with a 10 foot solar cable sits directly outside a nearby window or wall collecting the sunlight that powers the water flow on sunny days. (Note: This panel does not *store* power; it works directly off bright sunlight.) At night, an AC Adaptor (for indoor use only) operates the fountain through a household AC outlet.

### **Tip: The Solar-Powered Birdbath**

If you're looking for a birdbath that can spray a continuous stream of water and operate without any plugs or electricity, there are several products available that can do that. The solar-powered birdbath will let you create a delicate centerpiece for your garden without having to deal with running electricity to your unit. You can choose from versions with the classic lines of a Greek column or a sleek version more suited to a Japanese garden. A solar-powered bird bath typically has solar cells embedded in the fountain bowl which will absorb the sun's rays to power the spray of water. You can also find versions which simply re-circulate the water, keeping it in constant motion.

### **Tip: Things to Consider Before Purchasing a Solar Pond Fountain.**

Have you ever seen a water fountain in the middle of a pond and wondered how the owner was able to install the electrical wiring necessary to run it? Well, there's a good chance that person was using a solar fountain. Solar fountains work by converting sunlight to energy through a solar panel located on the fountain. If you're thinking of buying a floating solar fountain, there are a few things to keep in mind: 1) Where are you going to place the solar pond fountain? A pond surrounded by trees that block the natural sunlight will prevent the floating solar fountain from working properly. 2) How much do you want to spend on a solar garden fountain? The best idea is to read the product specs first and determine which solar garden fountain best suits your needs. Prices at Serenity Health are always well within reason. 3) How deep is the pond? Depending on the floating solar fountain model, it's recommended that there is a minimum depth of six to 12 inches. 4) Consider purchasing accessories with your solar pond fountain. Solar fountains, like regular water fountains, require care. At Serenity Health, you have the option of adding accessories like No More Foam, Fountain Fresh, and No More Algae to your order. A floating solar fountain can really add zest to your pond or pool. Just remember to make sure the size of the water fountain is proportionate to the size of the pond or pool.

## **Category: Stone Fountains**

Subcategory: Stone Fountains

### **Tip: Creating A Tiered Stone Fountain**

If you want to create a focal point for an outdoor area, one project that will add splash to any yard is a tiered stone fountain. The tiered stone fountain can be completed for just under \$2,000 if you do it yourself. If you hire professionals, you'll end up paying about three times that much. Here are some hints to help get your project up and running. You'll need to create the tiered stone fountain in three main steps. Start with the understructure, set in the liner and then put finishing touches onto your stone fountain.

The understructure will consist of determining an area for your fountain, clearing the site and digging a 12-inch deep basin. Next, you'll need to add a ledge with a 28-inch drop to create the sounds of splashing water. Use pressure-treated wood timber ties to create a frame for the fountain. You can use two to three foot long 1/2 inch rebar to drill through the timber ties into the ground for reinforcement. After the frame is in place and secured to the ground, the next step is installing the liner. A 20 mil waterproof liner should work well to create this stone fountain. You'll want to sandwich the waterproof liner between two layers of landscaper fabric to help prevent any tears or punctures. You can secure the layers with hammers and nails to the timber ties. The final step is the finishing touches. Add stone ledges for the water to spill over. For a dramatic effect, select stone that is rich in texture with a beautiful cut and use the whole slab rather than breaking it into smaller pieces. To fill in gaps, wedge in smaller pieces and pour pea gravel into the crevices.

## Category: Tabletop Fountains

Subcategory: Tabletop Fountains

### **Tip: All Kinds Of Table Water Fountains**

If you think table water fountains might be a great addition to your office or home, you're right. Table water fountains work well in just about every environment for several reasons. 1. You can find one suitable for your specific needs, whether it's an indoor space, outdoor space, modern décor or a traditional one. 2. Setup is quick and easy and requires no plumbing. 3. You can find table water fountains with the faintest pump, leaving you only with the soft, tranquil sounds of moving water. 4. You can use them on the table top, but you can also place them on solid landscape, as well. 5. They're compact, allowing you to create a serene environment in any area you choose.

### **Tip: Decorating Options With The Table Top Fountain**

For an instant soothing fix to the interior of your home or office, consider adding a table top fountain. A table top fountain can dress up a desk at work to help ease your daily stress. It can become a centerpiece on a dining table and a conversation piece for formal meals. Place a table top fountain at the entryway of your office countertop to welcome visitors. Or place a soothing table top fountain in a bathroom nook to create your own spa oasis. Set-up is easy &ndash; you can do it right out of the box and it takes just minutes. You have numerous choices with the table top fountain. Spend as little as \$40 on a contemporary aromatherapy fountain that uses ultrasonic waves to bring a mist of delightful olfactory scents into the air. Or splurge on a vertical wall fountain made of copper for \$200.

### **Tip: Reasons to Buy Tabletop Water Fountains**

Tabletop fountains add instant appeal to two of the five senses. They are beautiful to look at and they are delightful to listen to. Though significant, these benefits are not the only reasons to add a tabletop water feature to indoor and outdoor settings. Tabletop fountains both soothe and stimulate. The soft sounds of trickling water combined with visual appeal provide creates a calming atmosphere that helps relieve stress and anxiety. Tabletop water fountains with increased water flow stimulate the imaginative and creativity. Best bet: Tabletop or desktop fountains with an adjustable pump allow water flow and sound to be increased or decreased according to the mood at the moment. Indoor table top fountains re-create the fresh feeling of being outdoors after a spring rain or the invigorating effect of a walk along the seashore by adding negative ions to the air. (This is one of those times when negative is good.) Household appliances emit positive ions into the atmosphere. WebMD cites decreased energy, headaches, eye strain, insomnia and difficulty concentrating as common symptoms of exposure to excessive positive ions. Simply put, negative ions are created by rupturing water molecules; thus the splash of water in a fountain add negative ions to the air and helps reduce excess serotonin and its undesirable effects. And, tabletop fountains act as natural humidifiers adding welcome humidity to dry indoor air especially during winter months.

### **Tip: Selecting Rocks For Your Tabletop Fountain**

If you're adding rocks to your tabletop fountain, appearance and size are certainly factors, but that's not all you need to be concerned about. Rocks make great decorative filler pieces to any tabletop fountain, but you do have to select certain varieties of rock. In choosing, you'll want to select the rocks that will hold up under daily water movement over the rock's surface area. For instance, flagstone, quartz, polished rocks and many types of beach and river rocks will work nicely in a fountain environment. However, sandstone, lava rocks, mica, and moss rock will tend to deteriorate over time and are not suited for a tabletop fountain.

### **Tip: Shopping for a Tabletop Water Fountain**

Purchasing the right fountain brings years of enjoyment. Purchasing the wrong type of fountain or a poor quality fountain inevitably results in disappointment. Tabletop water fountains are sold just about everywhere. Discount department stores, drugstore, home improvement centers, garden centers, flea markets and garage sales are just a few of the many places that sell indoor tabletop water fountains and garden tabletop fountains. However, buyer beware! All tabletop fountains are not created equal; quality varies. Customer service advice and assistance is also minimal or non-existent in many stores. It pays to research and compare tabletop fountain styles, specifications and prices before opening your wallet. Avoid the high cost of gas and wasted time spent roaming all over the city from store to store to find the best deals and compare tabletop fountains. The World Wide Web brings a wealth of water fountain resources to your

fingertips. Take advantage of savvy online fountain tips and advice from the comfort of your own home or office. Visit Websites of online fountain suppliers that feature detailed information and specifications on fountain materials, construction, installation, cleaning and maintenance. Look for online retailers that also offer replacement fountain parts and fountain accessories. Read customer reviews on pros and cons of different tabletop fountains. And, compare comparable fountain prices and shipping costs.

## Category: Urn Fountains

Subcategory: Urn Fountains

### **Tip: Cleaning and Maintaining Urn Water Fountains**

A little TLC (tender loving care) keeps an urn water fountain operating at peak capacity with sparkling water. If possible use distilled water that is free of chemicals and minerals that cause foaming and scale build-up. If tap water is used, you must remove chlorine and other harmful chemicals. Also, adding the correct quantity of Small Fountain Protector helps prevent sludge, cloudy water and mineral deposits from forming and keeps the fountain pump free from organic buildup. Keep an eye on water level. Never allow the pump to operate dry. Low water levels also cause excessive pump noise and reduce operating efficiency. For periodic cleanings, empty the water from the urn. Use a Fountain AcScents Cleaning Kit with a non-abrasive scrub pad and Lime Off to wipe away algae, scale and slime. Soak the pump in mild soapy water and use a brush to get to hard to reach corners. Rinse thoroughly. Replace the pump, refill the urn fountain and resume operation. Winterize urn fountains in frigid climates. When winter temperatures plummet below freezing, freezing water may crack the pump housing, cause seals to fail and crack the urn fountain. Dismantle the urn fountain and store it inside or operate it inside. If not unable to move the fountain, drain the water, stuff old towels or other absorbent material in the basin and urn and secure a water-proof cover over the fountain. Clean and store the pump indoors. Many experts recommend storing the pump in a container of distilled water (not plugged in) to prevent the seals from drying out. When the danger of freezing ends, celebrate the arrival of spring with restored fountain waters and fresh landscaping.

### **Tip: Create Your Own Urn Fountain**

One fountain project that's relatively easy to make is the urn fountain. The urn is the perfect water container and you just need to have a hole in place to run power. Read on to find out how to create your own urn fountain. First, have your electrical wiring set up and ready to go for your urn fountain. Unless you're a competent pro with wiring, consider having a licensed electrician install the ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) for you. The GFCI will prevent a pump malfunction and the possibility of electrocution. If you're placing the urn fountain on your lawn, remove the grass to the soil. Lay down and

compact a layer of gravel for a level and sturdy base. Place down one to two layers of flagstones to create a base. Place the urn down, ensuring you have a level surface. Place the pump in the urn and pull the power cord through the hole in the base of the urn and seal it with a rubber fountain plug, available at most fountain specialty shops. Conceal the pump with gravel, using extra rocks to position the spout. If need be, add clear tubing to bring the water stream higher. You can use a special fountain head to create varied water effects. Add distilled water, plug in the urn fountain and you should see a stream of water appear just above the line of the gravel.

## Category: Wall Mounted Fountains

Subcategory: Wall Mounted Fountains

### **Tip: Pros and Cons of Wall Water Fountains**

When choosing a fountain for a home or business, it is important to consider the pros and cons of different fountain styles, materials and designs. It is also helpful to research installation and maintenance of a variety of fountains. Indoor wall fountains and garden wall fountains are popular water features.

There are many reasons to choose a wall water fountain. With adequate support, they create appealing focal points for almost any type of wall in any room. Wall mounted fountains free floor space; especially helpful in confined spaces. Wall fountains are made from a myriad of materials complementing different decorating themes from formal to whimsical. Diverse styles allow wall fountain water flow to be customized from a gentle trickle to a stimulating cascade. And, unlike tabletop fountains an interior or exterior wall fountain hangs above the reach of toddlers and small animals.

Drawbacks of wall water fountains are minimal. Since some large wall fountains are heavy, especially when constructed of concrete or stone, they require the adequate support of studs and anchors. An electrical source must be installed behind the fountain to avoid the distraction of electrical cords running from the fountain to a ground power source.

### **Tip: The Magic and Mystery of a Lion Wall Fountain**

If you're looking for a wall water fountain that amazes your friends and delights younger guests, consider adorning your home with a lion wall fountain. Serenity Health has many wall fountains, but the Leo Wall Fountain in particular is suitable for a variety of situations. Hang it on your interior wall, mount it on an outside wall in your garden, or even set it upright on a sturdy table. Wherever you decide to install the Leo Wall Fountain, it'll be sure to inspire great conversation. It doesn't take much to spark a child's creativity, and the majestic lion's head on this wall water fountain is sure to spark

interest. The Leo Wall Fountain comes in one piece and is easy to install. It comes with its own pump, light, and weighs only 22 pounds! Because it's so lightweight and easy to install, you could potentially move this wall mounted fountain outdoor to your garden for the summer months, and back inside when the weather turns cold and inclement.

Serenity Health online has so many indoor wall water fountains and outdoor wall mounted fountains to choose from that it's often hard to decide what to get. To help narrow down your search, try to keep in mind where you want to put the wall fountain, what size wall fountain you're looking for, and whether you will be moving it around or keeping it in the same place. Whatever type of wall fountain you decide on, you can be sure it will inspire the old and young alike.

## Category: Water Fountain Accessories

Subcategory: Water Fountain Accessories

### **Tip: Outdoor Fountain Pumps - The Heart of the Fountain**

Just like the engine of your car, the cleaner the fluid that runs through it, the better and longer it's going to run. Pour a simple cup of water and have a look at it. Chances are that it looks pretty clear. What you don't see are all the hard deposits and un-dissolved organics floating around in there. Over time, these deposits attach themselves to the inside of outdoor fountain pumps. They also tend to leave nasty residue (white scale, foam, algae) on the surface of your water fountain. Left unchecked, this sediment will eventually erode and clog the outdoor fountain pumps. Although the outdoor fountain pumps sold at Serenity Health are priced well within reason, you probably want yours to last as long as possible. To do that, make sure you clean the water out of your indoor or outdoor fountain at least once every three months. If you notice a quick buildup of residue, you may have to do it more often. Make sure to use good quality, non-toxic, water fountain accessories like those sold at Serenity Health (No More Foam, No More White Scale, etc.) to help keep the water as clean as possible, and check your outdoor fountain pumps for leaves, dirt, and other debris that may have blown into it. Fountain pumps are really the heart of the fountain. Keep it in good working condition and you'll have no problems with your fountain.

### **Tip: Tips for Saving Money on Water Fountain Accessories**

After you've purchased and paid for your water fountain, you soon discover that there is more to buy. Even the most inexpensive water fountains require care, cleaning, and maybe a little something to jazz up the area around the fountain itself. That's where water fountain accessories come into play. A great online store will have everything you need to keep your fountain working properly including indoor fountain pumps, safe products for pets, and a variety of water fountain cleaning supplies. Today's economic themes are downsizing and spending less. The following are ways to make the most of

your water fountain and the water fountain accessories that go with it: Regularly clean your water fountain. Indoor fountain pumps typically last a little longer than outdoor fountain pumps (less clogging), but either model still needs to be cleaned. Preventing algae in fountains is easy to do with No More Algae cleaner. However, a little goes a long way. Follow the directions carefully and don't overdo it. Water fountain lighting is optional. If it's a feature you're interested in, see if the fountain you're buying comes with lighting or if the cost is extra. Although fountains require little electricity to run, you could save some money by purchasing solar powered fountains. These are just a few ways to watch your spending while enjoying years of fountain enjoyment and beauty in your own backyard.

## Category: Wood Fountains

Subcategory: Wood Fountains

### **Tip: An Eastern Oasis With A Bamboo Water Fountain**

If you want to create a water fountain with an Eastern feel, consider a bamboo water fountain. Bamboo containers are commonly sold as planters and make the perfect starting point for a water fountain of Eastern influence. Make sure the one you find can be lined for waterproofing. Here's how you create your own bamboo water fountain: What you'll need: Rectangular bamboo container Pool liner Square container Latticework container Aquatic potting mix Lime-free potting mix Slate or granite stones Bricks What you need to do: Secure the inside of the bamboo container with the pool liner. Pack lime-free potting mix in the square pot and add *Iris ensata*. Place the pot into the bamboo container. Use aquatic potting mix in the latticework container and place Japanese reedmace into the container. Place the latticework container in the bamboo container, raising it with bricks to the appropriate height. Add stones on top of the arrangement in the bamboo container to characterize landscaping. Fill your container with water to complete your bamboo water fountain.

### **Tip: Building a Wood-Sided Garden Fountain Pond**

Wood-sided above ground garden fountain ponds offer a custom approach to outdoor wood fountains. Although above ground, a sturdy concrete footing supported by wooden forms is required to support the weight of the water. Base the depth of the footing on local climate changes, in frigid climates, deeper footings are needed. The typical height of an above ground fountain pond is 24"-30." Constructed with rot-resistant wood, such as redwood or pressure-treated lumber, once the frame is complete a pool liner is stapled into place and a cap of stones or trim along the top conceals the liner and offers a finished edge. Add water, a water fountain pump sized for the volume of the pond with a fountain spray head, landscaping plants and fountain accessories and enjoy your own personalized wood garden fountain. For an easier approach, install wood-sided fountain

using a preformed rigid pond liner. Put the rigid liner in place and trace the outline in the ground. Dig a hole to the depth you wish to bury the liner and line it with a few inches of sand and gravel for the base. Fill in sides with sand and enclose or edge the preformed liner with pressure-treated wood or landscaping timbers. Based on volume and voltage, order a submersible pump from a reliable online fountain retailer or add a pond side statuary fountain with a pump to the pond.

### **Tip: The Barrel As A Wood Water Fountain**

A wood water fountain is an excellent choice to add charm to any garden or indoor area. One choice for the wood water fountain is a durable cedar wood construction. You can find a barrel version ready-made to become a central feature in your landscape. Or find a tiered-corner version, which can become a delightful focal point for any garden. Many of these units continuously recycle the fountain water, so they require no plumbing. Set-up is a breeze and no extra parts are necessary.

### **Tip: Types of Indoor Wood Fountains**

Other than bamboo fountains, most people don't associate indoor water fountains with wood. However, wood fountains bring nature inside the home or office. With a variety of styles to choose from wood fountains complement most interior design themes. Most wood fountains are indoor floor fountains or wood-framed wall or shelf fountains. Some tabletop fountains found at Serenity Health also incorporate wood elements like bamboo. For instance: The Savannah combines the effects of wood, light, water, leather, stone and metal in an enclosed intriguing diorama. An intricate hand-carved hippo rests in a savannah setting among eucalyptus and reed on polished stones at the base of the fountain. Water cascades gently down slate tile background into the reservoir below. The Tuscan Ivy fountain brings visions of an Italian garden into the home. And, The Stone Mountain Waterfall draws inspiration from the way water flows down Georgia 's Stone Mountain during a sunset rainfall. Sparkling water flows down background multi-colored slate tiles that gleam in the fountain's built-in light. And a choice of eight finishes for the wood cabinet complement virtually any indoor décor. Meticulously designed by a talented artist, each of these unique wood fountains can be mounted on the wall, placed on a tabletop or stand alone as indoor floor fountains. Each fountain uses only about one gallon of water that sparkles day and night with built-in lighting. The rich distressed pine frames come in a choice of finishes to coordinate with interior décor. Kudos to the artist who requests that a portion of these fountain sales is donated to American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Hosea Feed the Hungry, Atlanta, Georgia or American Arthritis Foundation.