

Quick and Inexpensive Tips to Beautify Your Backyard

(MS) — Sunlight and warm breezes signal the season for outdoor entertaining. For some, those words conjure up images of lounging on the beautiful backyard patio with friends and family. But, for many of us, outdoor entertaining sets off an internal alarm, reminding us of tears in the canvas cushions and umbrellas, cracks in mosaic tables, and chipped or broken patio pots, not to mention the statue that has lost a few fingers. It all adds up to a slightly shabby look to our outdoor paradise.

Before you panic and spend too much money on design consultants and all new patio furniture, stand back and take a look around your backyard like you're seeing it for the first time. Decide what is too shabby to save and get rid of it, whether it's that scraggly shrub that has never thrived or those faded and chipped lawn trolls that have gone from cute to tacky. Clean away all "trash" — that stack of empty plastic flower pots from the nursery, debris around the barbecue area or tools leaning against the house. Be merciless in getting rid of scraggly flowers and shrubs. Replace them with hardy colorful species that are proven winners for your climate. If you have a "black thumb," don't worry. Tucking some seasonal silk flowers or ferns in a few hanging pots can be very effective and, of course, care-free!

Now you are ready to transform your outdoor living space, armed only with your imagination and a tube of versatile one-part adhesive like Amazing GOOP® Lawn & Garden by Eclectic Products. Here are some ideas:

- Try re-creating your outdoor space as several intimate "rooms" by the way you group your furniture around the lawn or patio. Subtle lighting and colorful clusters of pots or curving beds with seasonal flowers or shrubs can make these areas irresistible.

- Paint inexpensive chairs and tables in bright colors to add a touch of whimsy and fun. You can turn an old table into a beautiful mosaic with some broken china and a little Amazing GOOP® Lawn & Garden. This adhesive also will easily repair tears in canvas umbrellas and chair upholstery; it won't chip or flake off because it dries to a rubbery, flexible finish that moves with the material. In fact, this kind of adhesive is formulated for withstanding temperature change and moisture is your best bet for repairing almost anything outdoors that is cracked, torn, worn or broken.

- Create a warm, inviting experience in your own backyard — whatever fits your taste. One woman created a whimsical touch for her children by "GOOP-ing" little ceramic fairies among the branches of a small Japanese maple tree.

For all your outdoor "fix-up" projects, slip a tube of Amazing GOOP® Lawn & Garden adhesive into your pocket. One of the strongest and most versatile one part adhesives available, the product replaces glues, paste, rubber contact cement, and silicone and patch kits. It is unsurpassed for permanently repairing, mending, and sealing, and for bonding two different materials together. It is ready to use right out of the tube and easy to apply. It can also accommodate the difference



As the temperature rises, readying outdoors rooms for use doesn't need to be a time-consuming and expensive process.

in drying time when two unlike materials are bonded, such as metal to wood. Use it on almost any material — wicker, wood, metal, glass, ceramic, rubber, cement, leather, marble, plastic, PVC/ABS, tile, vinyl, and even fabric — repair it, bond it to another material or just glue it back together.

There are hundreds of glues on the market. When working outdoors, make sure the one you choose is water-resistant, UV-resistant and dries to a flexible rubbery finish that won't crack or break under pressure.

For best results when using a one-part adhesive:

- Make sure surfaces are clean, dry and free from dirt.
- If the tube has been stored in cool place, hold it under warm water to increase ease of application.
- Apply a thin coat of adhesive, like Amazing GOOP® Lawn & Garden, directly to each surface to be bonded or repaired. Allow to partially cure two to 10 minutes before bringing the two surfaces together. Because this adhesive has one of the strongest bonds of any one-part adhesive, carefully position the two surfaces before applying pressure.
- Allow the repair to dry for 24 hours, more or less, depending on room temperature. The warmer the room, the faster it dries.
- Clean threads of tube and cap with acetone before storing.

Most home improvement and hardware stores, including Ace Hardware, Rite Aid and True Value, carry a large variety of adhesives, including Amazing GOOP® Lawn & Garden. For more information about fast and easy repair of almost anything with one part adhesives, contact Eclectic Products, Inc. at 1-800-767-4667 or visit the company's Web site at www.amazinggoop.com. GT074XXX