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## Lawn & Garden Hoses

### Learn what to look for ...before you buy

**A**lthough very often standard in size, shape and color, garden hoses are as varied as the colors in a flower garden when it comes to strength, convenience and durability.

If you are going to buy a garden hose soon, the experts at Apex Garden Products suggest you consider these factors before putting your money on the counter.

#### FREQUENCY OF USE

Generally, the more active you are in your yard and garden, the higher quality hose you will need. A *frequent gardener* spends time virtually every day on outdoor yard work, while a *weekend gardener* handles lawn and garden tasks on Saturdays and Sundays. The *occasional gardener* is the least active user who can likely do with the most basic garden hose.

But even if you aren't an avid gardener, remember there are many other activities and chores that require a garden hose, such as washing the car, spraying

hard-to-reach exterior of the house, hosing down the family dog or just letting the kids cool off under the sprinkler!

#### QUALITY OF MATERIAL

Today, even the casual user is willing to spend a few dollars more for a garden hose that lasts several years longer, does not kink and is more resistant to extreme heat or cold.

Most garden hoses are available in a choice of materials: vinyl, rubber and rubber/vinyl — each with different advantages. In general, vinyl hoses are lighter than rubber, and more resilient and resistant to kinks that can halt the steady flow of water. Rubber is considered stronger and less susceptible to cuts and abrasions.

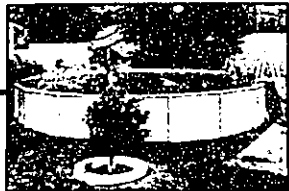
With today's emphasis on improved quality, the composite rubber/vinyl material has replaced vinyl as the most common material. That's because a rubber/vinyl hose often combines the best features of vinyl and rubber and can offer

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