



WATER PLANTS give this pool a more natural look. Betty Frankel suggests the ground should never slope away from the pool.

By BETTY FRANKEL

A little bit of water is good for the spirit -- especially if it is in a garden pool, and a little pool can add lots of charm to the garden.

Water is an ancient symbol of life, and in warm climates a garden pool was an essential feature. Even in our gardens it has great psychological benefits.

The sun glinting on a bit of water or the sound of a little stream trickling into a pool is so refreshing on a warm summer day. The pool reflects the sky and brings a bit of the sky's changing moods into the garden adding another dimension to the scene.

A lovely plant growing at the edge of the pool is reflected in the water and the beauty is doubled.

EVEN A TINY POOL or little basin of water can add a decorative highlight to the garden. It can be the central feature with all the rest of the garden planned around it, or it can be used to terminate a view. It can be built against a wall or incorporated into a patio, or it

can be tucked into an out-of-the-way corner of the yard for a surprise.

A garden pool can be designed so that it looks like a simple natural pool or pond with an irregular form and a few large boulders at its edge. Visualize such a pool in a wooded setting, with a tiny make-believe stream dripping over rocks and splashing into the pool. A dogwood spreads its branches near the pool and a dwarf azalea flames at the edge. A clump of Japanese iris and a mass of sky blue forget-me-nots and other rock-garden plants complete the picture.

The pool can be more formal with a regular geometric shape -- round, square, hexagonal, cross or four-leaf clover. Neatly trimmed grass comes to the coping, goldfish dart through the water and bright hued water lilies and round green lily-pads float on the surface.

THERE ARE MANY materials of which pools can be constructed. Concrete is one of the most frequently used and most durable.

The ground around a pool should be level, or the pool can be set in a small depression. The ground should not slope away from the pool.

Design A 'Natural' Garden Pool



THE HOMEOWNER won't want a garden pool this large, but this industry's pool shows how the appearance of a plant can be reflected and enhanced. Note how the irregular shape gives the impression of a natural pond.

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