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## Constructing Your Garden Pond – Basic Pond Building Steps

By Michele Miller

So you have decided to build a garden pond? Congratulations! With a little bit of time, effort, and money you can build a pond that is both beautiful and functional. Below you will find a checklist of what needs to be done to construct a garden pond in your backyard, as well as a list of additional things that you will want to consider when designing your pond.

### The Basics

**Step 1: Design/Plan your dream pond.** This step in the process is not one to be taken lightly. You need to decide the best place to put your pond, how big you want it to be, the shape/depth, whether you want fish or not, and many other details. Changing your plan mid-construction will likely cost you both time and money. Write down all of your ideas and create a list of the things that you want your pond to have, and what you could do without.

**Step 2: Outlining your pond.** You will want to use a garden hose, or twine and stakes to outline the general shape of your pond. Double check to make sure that it isn't in the way of power or water lines, and is away from overhanging trees or other environmental hazards.

**Step 3: Start Digging.** This is the most labor intensive part of the process. You can either dig the pond yourself, or hire someone to do it for you.

**Step 4: Line your pond.** Depending on the type of liner that you choose, this can be a simple or a complex procedure. If you use a PVC liner, it is simply a matter of getting the liner in place and smoothing out bubbles to make it conform to the shape of your pond. Fiberglass and concrete linings (which are more durable and long lasting) require more prep work.

**Step 5: Finish up the liner.** If you are using PVC lining, you will want to leave a couple of inches around the edge of your pond for rocks and edging. If you choose fiberglass or cement, you will want to make sure that the application was completed properly, and your system is flushed ready for water.

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Step 6: Decorate! Small and large rocks strategically placed around the outer rim of your pond will help conceal the liner and make it appear more natural. You can be as creative as you want with this process.

Step 7: Stock your pond. If you plan to put plants or fish in your pond, this is the time to do it. You will likely want to wait a while before introducing fish, and test the water often to make sure that the water levels are acceptable for supporting life.

### Additional Items to Think About

If you follow the steps above you will have a simple garden pond to enjoy for many years to come! If you plan on having any fish or want to design a medium to large pond, you will also want to read up on filtration systems, waterfalls, and the various types of plant and animal life for your pond.

Michele Miller is the author and publisher of two Ebook Guides about Pond Building And Caring For

Your Koi Fish. You can sign up for her free ecourse and learn valuable tips and advice about Building Your Own Backyard Pond and How To Care For Your Fish at

<http://www.easy-koi-ponds.com>

### **Tips On How To Choose The Best Pond Pump**

#### **By Grange Aquatics**

It often comes as a surprise to the budding pond enthusiast but the simple fact about owning a pond is that pond maintenance is not as simple as many people at first imagine it to be. Below we take a closer look at how to make sure that you get the best pump for your pond.

There are a lot of pond pumps on the market. So, how do you know which pump is the best for your pond? Follow our step by step guide for the answers:

**Pond Pump Size** Before you even visit your local pond specialist or look at pond pumps on the internet, the first thing you need to do is to accurately measure the size of your pond as this will determine how big a pump you will need. Many pond owners prefer to have a larger pump than is necessary and this is something which you should discuss with the pond specialist shop when you tell them the size of your pond.

**Pond Features** Another aspect of choosing the correct pond pump will revolve around the amount of pond features such as waterfalls and fountains that your pond has. The higher number of features the higher power pond pump your pond will require. If you have several pond features your pond specialist may even suggest having a separate smaller pond pump for each feature. This will have the advantage of working as a back-up system should any of the pumps fail.

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**Pond Pump Features** When it comes to buying the actual pump, make sure that the pump has the recommended amount of biological filtration and that the pump will turn the water over a minimum of twice per 24 hours. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each pond pump with the pond specialist before agreeing to purchase the product.

**Pond Pump Maintenance** In order to get the best out of your pond pump you will need to ensure that it is being correctly maintained and care for. You need to check that the pump is working 24 hours a day and clean the pre-filters regularly. The cables attached to the pond pump should also be regularly maintained to ensure that they are not damaged and are performing correctly.

Grange Aquatics have been in business for over 20 years and have a dedicated team of staff on hand to share their expertise. Visit their website

<http://www.grangeaquatics.com>



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