



2025 Quarter 4

The interior and exterior of this 1970's home features a variety of Asian architectural elements and accent pieces. After 50 years, the original landscape had fallen into disrepair and was in desperate need of a renovation. Plants and rocks were removed to clean up the clutter and the area was re-graded to eliminate the harsh funnel-like slope. For the new space, Japanese landscape design principles were followed to create a welcoming and tranquil front courtyard.

Zig-zagging through the space, a travertine paver walkway was designed to direct attention to points of interest along the way. Traditional Japanese lanterns were thoughtfully placed to create balance within purposefully laid out empty spaces. At the top landing area, a small basin filled with black beach pebbles symbolizes the element of water and offers a place for quiet contemplation. A crane sculpture within the basin represents harmony with nature. Essential to the creation of a meditative Japanese garden is the inclusion of individual stones, which represent islands. To accomplish this we added three black stepping stones around the basin, which also functions to connect different parts of the house.

Japanese landscape design emphasizes the beauty of form by focusing on a few key elements. Plants were used in minimal numbers and varieties to provide texture, structure and subtle color. A minimal use of steel, stone, wood & bamboo provide connectivity. Boulders and rocks were salvaged from the site and re-purposed to form a pleasing and functional rock retaining wall.

You can watch us build this project by going to SundreaDesignBuild.com and clicking on YouTube Videos and selecting Tucson Courtyard Renovation or go to YouTube.com/SundreaDesignBuild. Please be sure to like the video and share on your social media.

