Outdoor

By Ali Morris, WGSN-homebuildlife, 23 May 2012

Access to green and open space is often highlighted as a key ingredient to acheiving a good quality of a life in the urban environment. Balconies and roof decks are becoming increasingly popular as a way of extending the home in a controlled way. For those with no outdoor space, there are product options for creating an indoor-outdoor space within an apartment.

Small outdoor spaces

Gardeners are coming up with new, imaginative ways to get the most out of the urban environment. Green walls and roofs are now a common sight in the city, with plenty of green wall products on the market. There has also been an increased interest in home gardens, with more people wanting to grow their own food. This is true even if the garden is just a window box, a balcony or a porch.



The M&G Garden at The Chelsea Flower Show 2011



Courtyard space



The M&G Garden at The Chelsea Flower Show 2011



Courtyard space



Basement garden



RBC New Wild Garden at The Chelsea Flower Show 2011



Roof garden



Green Meadow Furniture Ltd at The Chelsea Flower Show 2011

Outdoors indoors

The presence of greenery within the work space and domestic environment is proven to boost your mood and increase productivity and now consumers with no outdoor space want to create gardens within their homes. The reverse situation is also true, as manufacurers produce outdoor furniture with fabrics and finishes that would look just as at home inside the house as they do outside.







Terrariums by Brittany Cox

Indoor garden space

Outdoor furniture

Multifunctional

For those short on space, combining greenery into exisiting furniture is a great option. From decorative room dividers to health-boosting air purifiers, these products have plants built into their design.



Offecct at Stockholm Furniture and Light Fair 2012



Air Purifier by Andrea



Offecct at Stockholm Furniture and Light Fair 2012



Air Purifier by Andrea



Jailmake at Maison & Objet January 2012



Édition Sous Étiquette at Maison & Objet January 2012



Gloriette lamp by Noé Duchaufour Lawrance for Forestier

Versatile

Black + Blum

Both decorative and functional, hanging planters can be used anywhere in the home for growing cooking herbs or displaying flowers. In January 2012, French brand Bacsac launched a smaller version of its popular portable textile planters, which can be used indoors or out. The new smaller format enables them to be positioned on a window sill or a side table within the home.







Indoor Bacsquare planters by Bacsac



Porcelain and leather hanging planters by Farah Sit

Compact

Window boxes, balconies and porches are transformed into miniature gardens through the use of clever fixings and handles.



Ridge Forrester hanging planter by Joe Paine



Lucile solar lanterns by Sylvain Rieu-Piquet at Ligne Roset



Uncommon Goods



Balcony planters by Bacsac



Balconia by Suntime at Glee 2011



Balconia by Suntime at Glee 2011