

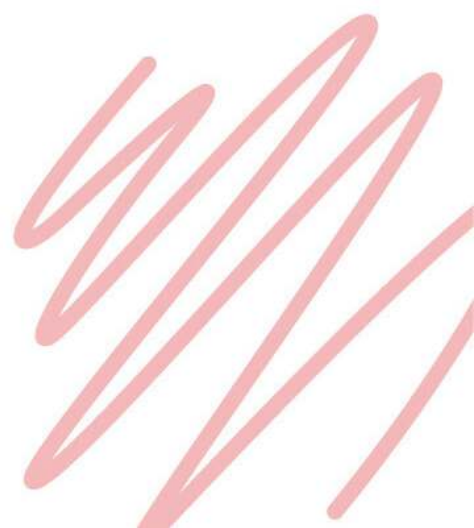


# 22 Retaining Wall Ideas for Your Yard or Garden

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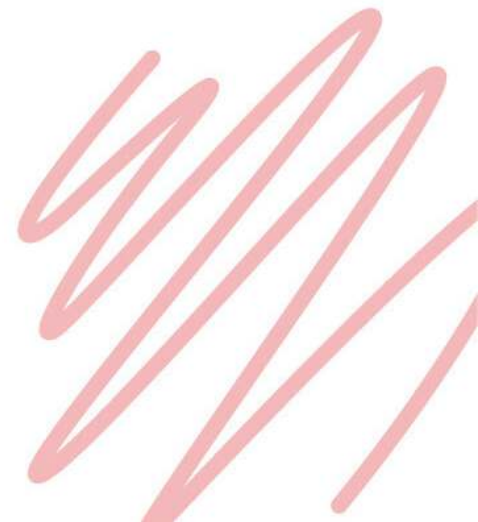
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**Retaining walls** have both practical and design-related purposes in gardens. In sloping spaces, they play an important role to help prevent soil erosion and help make the space more functional. They're also perfect for use as a design element—many ways retaining walls add interest and cohesion to a landscape.

Depending on the retaining wall's material, height, and size calling in the pros to help with the job could be a smart move—especially if you are incorporating walls to help prevent erosion. You may also need to **obtain a permit** from your local government agency for walls above a certain height and specification.

Here are 22 garden retaining wall ideas to offer some inspiration.



- ## Modern Poured Concrete Walls

The white poured concrete retaining walls give this **modern garden** a clean and light feel. Using them as easy-to-keep raised beds works well in this low-maintenance **Mediterranean-inspired space**. The drought-resistant palms and shrubs add color and interest.

Continue to 2 of 22 below.

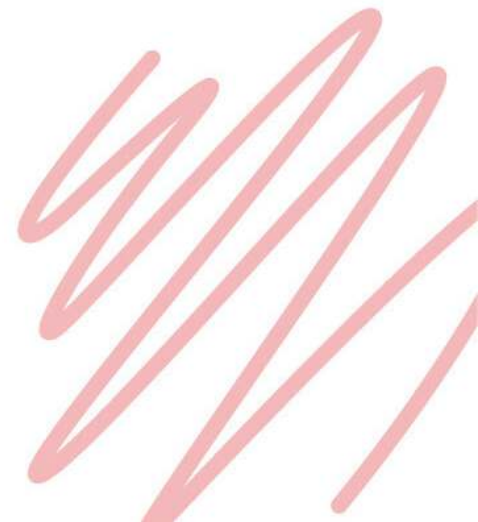
- ## Timber Retaining Walls

### Graniteco

While stone or concrete are the most common construction materials for retaining walls, sometimes, as in this example from Supreme Green Landscaping, they can be constructed from timber.

It's worth noting that timber walls will likely need replacing sooner than more durable stone varieties.

Continue to 3 of 22 below.



- ## Dry-Stack Walls

Andover Landscape

You don't need to use any mortar when building **dry-stack retaining walls**. They add visual interest, drain naturally, and are one of the easiest types to DIY build.

Continue to 4 of 22 below.

- ## Home Entry Retaining Walls

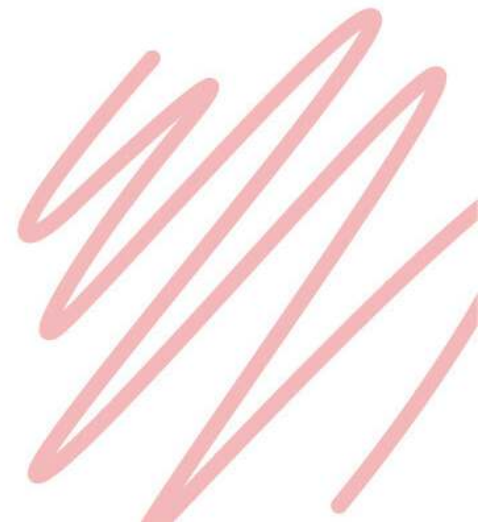
The stone retaining walls used in this garden have created terraced interest leading from the pool to the modern home's entry.

Continue to 5 of 22 below.

- ## Cottage-Style Garden Walls

It's common to use retaining walls to add texture and character in informal **cottage-style gardens**. Let the moss grow over the rustic stonework or create a living wall with hardy flowers growing from the cracks. Flower beds often sprawl over the edge of the walls in a riot of color. Here they complement the beautiful pink flowering **magnolia tree**.

Continue to 6 of 22 below.



- ## Retaining Walls in Xeriscaping

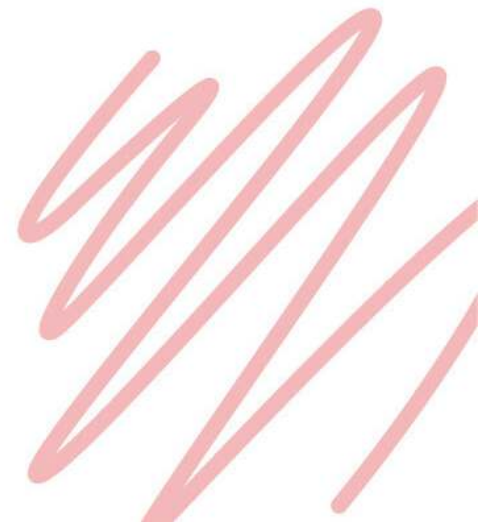
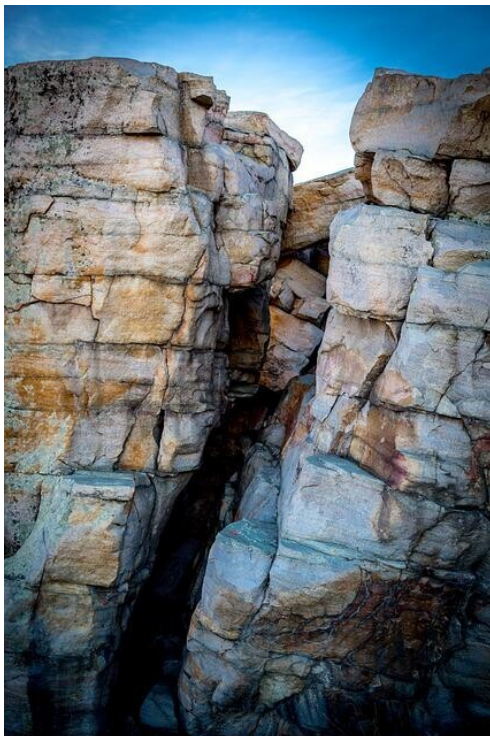
**Xeriscaping** is a way to landscape a garden in regions that practice water conservation or are prone to drought. The plan typically avoids or minimizes lawns and uses a variety of drought-tolerant plants. The walls create additional interest in a simple design.

Continue to 7 of 22 below.

- ## Sunken Patio with Retaining Walls

This sunken patio is surrounded by natural stone retaining walls to create a lush, hidden country garden feel. Once the retaining wall is done, you can even **DIY a firepit**.

Continue to 8 of 22 below.



- ## Multi-Tiered Design

laughingmango / Getty Images

If you have a large sloping garden, using tiered retaining walls to create **multiple terraces** can add interest and help to prevent erosion. This clever design has walls that also act as raised beds to add interest, make good use of the space, and keep the garden relatively low-maintenance. Shrubs and hedges smartly differentiate between the spaces.

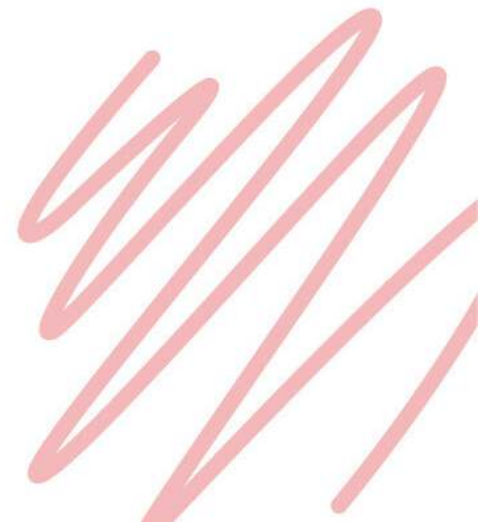
When a garden has multiple tiers, think carefully about the plants you choose and where you plant them. Position the taller plants at the back and be aware that the higher levels typically dry quicker. Placing moisture-loving plants in the lower terraces for better results.

Continue to 9 of 22 below.

- ## Terraced Flower Beds Soften the Pool Landscape

The natural stone steps and terraced retaining walls with a variety of flowers and shrubs soften the hardscape around this beautiful pool.

Continue to 10 of 22 below.





- ## Ornamental Grasses Take Centre Stage

These wide retaining walls are home to beautiful shrubs, flowers, and dramatic ornamental grasses for year-round interest and differing heights.

Continue to 11 of 22 below.

- ## Cohesive and Functional

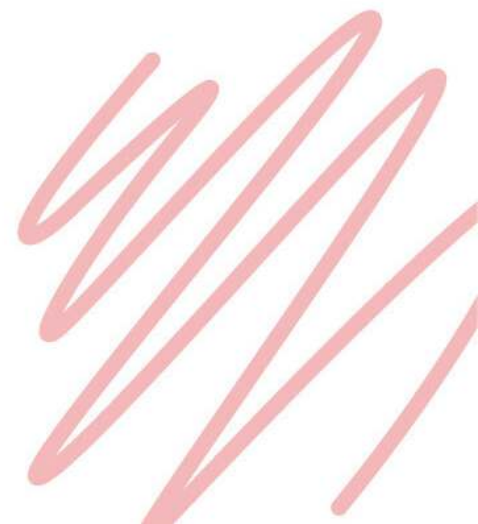
Integrating the retaining wall into the stair design leading to the house's front door combines functional and design elements and gives a focus to the garden with the bright raised flower beds.

Continue to 12 of 22 below.

- ## Dramatic Terraced Retaining Walls

This elevated house has a very steep, sloping garden with limited horizontal space. The multi-terraced space uses retaining walls and a mix of shrubs and flowers to create a dramatic but functional space.

Continue to 13 of 22 below.



- ## Create Cohesion With Other Garden Elements

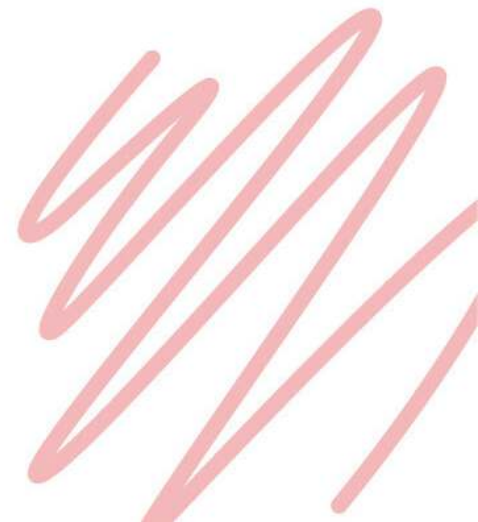
The stonework on the retaining walls is purposefully matched with the impressive **pizza oven** and firepit in this garden, giving it a cohesive appearance. The wall also helps retain the fire's heat, creating a cozier space for outdoor dining and socializing.

Continue to 14 of 22 below.

- ## Integrating Existing Landscape Elements

This distinctive house and its surrounding outside space were designed to fit around the old, large **gum tree** already in the landscape. The retaining walls prevent soil erosion and offer a degree of privacy to the rooms on the house's lower floor.

Continue to 15 of 22 below.



- ## Retaining Wall Around a Pond

If you want your garden pond to be a particularly eye-catching feature, you could build a retaining wall around it. It can also be helpful for safety and to prevent the sides of the pond from eroding.

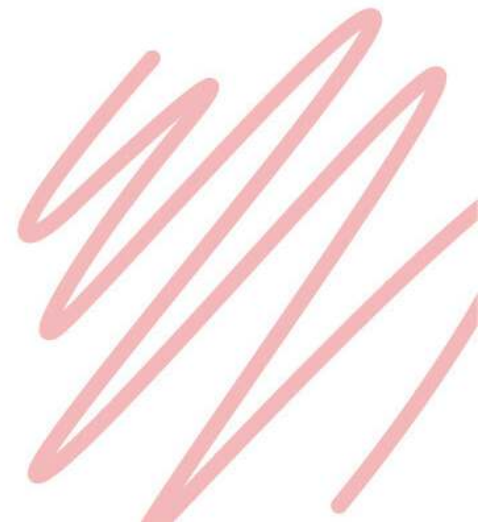
If you are **building the pond wall** yourself, be aware that loose, natural stones are difficult to stack, and the wall shouldn't be too high making pond maintenance more of a challenge.

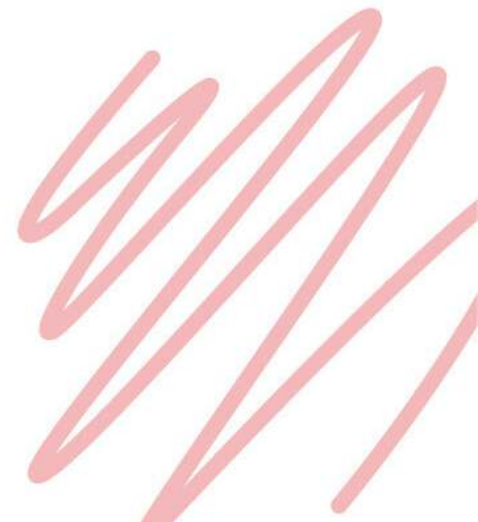
Continue to 21 of 22 below.

- ## Poolside Interest

This is another example of multi-height retaining walls being used to create interest and soften the landscape around a pool. Here the low-maintenance beds are filled with ornamental grasses of differing heights.

Continue to 22 of 22 below.





- ## Intricate Stonework

The intricate, mixed-color stonework is an eye-catching feature in this classic multi-tiered garden. The shrubs, roses, and other flowers fit with this traditional style and let the showy stonework shine through.

