



# Destination done right

A few tips can make a special place stand out

## Make it a place worth going to

The most important characteristic of a destination is that it is a place that is worth the journey. Here, the colorful fabric can be seen from afar and is inviting enough to draw you through the garden. Once there, the rich textures of the fabric and the comfortable seating ensure that you will want to stay.

## Obscure the view

To draw you in, a destination must be seen (or heard). But to heighten the drama and sense of mystery, make sure that the entire space can't be seen at once. Controlling the view also enhances an area's intimacy and coziness.

## Don't go straight there

The best destinations make you work a bit to get there. Rather than creating a direct path to your seating area, make it meander so that guests can wander a bit and earn the respite that your destination provides.

## Let the plants accentuate the space

To help the destination feel like a part of the overall garden, use the plants to highlight the colors and mood, like the way the potted Emperor I® Japanese maple and dark-leaved 'Hillside Black Beauty' autumn snakeroot pick up on the plum colors in the fabric behind them.



### KEY PLANTS:

1. Emperor I® Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*\* 'Wolff', USDA Hardiness Zones 5–9)
2. 'Lavender Mist' meadow rue (*Thalictrum rochebruneanum* 'Lavender Mist', Zones 5–9)
3. 'Villa Taranto' Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*\* 'Villa Taranto', Zones 5–9)
4. 'Elegans' hosta (*Hosta sieboldiana* 'Elegans', Zones 3–9)
5. 'Hillside Black Beauty' autumn snakeroot (*Actaea simplex* 'Hillside Black Beauty', Zones 4–8)

Photo: Allan Mandell

\*See invasive alert on page 86.