

Garden PARTY

PHIL BONIFACIO

A SMART START MAKES A BIG FINISH

The secret to gardening is to have an end-result that's beautiful, functional and good for all seasons. One common dilemma is how to keep your garden modern and inviting with lush greenery and still have room to entertain. We tapped into the expertise of Phil Bonifacio, owner of Acadia Landscapes, whose specialty is hardscapes, landscape construction and implementing high-end landscape designs, like his recent project shown here at the home of Eddie Mannis. "Good landscapes need to function as a calm refuge that allows homeowners to escape from the extremes of today's world while still complementing their home." Phil's philosophy is to keep it simple by displaying natural looking plants. He suggests looking into UT Extension programs to learn what's best suited for a home garden and learning skills. For beginners, Phil urges gardeners to not get frustrated with having the wrong equipment. "Invest in the right tools," he recommends. "And start with small conquerable projects you can complete so you experience the great sense of fulfillment that comes with landscaping."

—RUPA VED



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