



## SOME SECLUDED RENDEZVOUS

In the beginning, there was a hydrangea bush. That's it. But David Richardson had bigger plans. He transformed the 20-by-40-foot lot of this St. Louis coach house into a horticultural hiatus of containerized plants in a mix of annuals, tropicals, and herbs.

### make an easy euro-style courtyard

- Remove any existing grass by smothering it with a tarp. Then dig down a few inches. Add plastic barrier sheeting so weeds and grass can't grow, pour on pea gravel, and spread it around evenly with a rake.
- Add an old country worktable, bistro chairs, decorative wire pieces, and architectural finds.
- Enhance the ordinary. David hung a wooden gate from a Southern cemetery on his neighbor's privacy fence.
- Make your own torch. David's, at far right, is an upside-down funnel with a votive inside, perched on a pole. 📸