

Falling Water

Making a splash in your life and garden with enchanting water features and fountains

By Adriene Biondo

SUMMERTIME BRINGS A FLURRY of outdoor activity—from afternoon family barbecues, to planting and pruning the garden, to reworking the patio to create a cozy corner where family and friends will soon gather for those hot August nights.

One of the nicest ways to add delight to your outdoor scene is by adding water, by way of a peaceful pond, a sparkling water feature, or even a fire-and-water fountain, a novel backyard display that has been gaining in popularity in recent years.

Depending on your personal design aesthetic, you can find an array of styles, from contemporary to traditional. Bring a bit of magic indoors with a compact tabletop fountain, or introduce a full-scale water feature that will be a treasured part of your outdoor landscape for years to come.

In planning for your water feature, you'll want to ask yourself a few questions. Where will your new feature be positioned—on sturdy concrete or on wood decking? What size, scale,

and weight work best in your planned space? Water features of every shape and size are available in metal; lightweight, weather-resistant synthetic materials; and heavy-duty stone and concrete.

Will access to electricity and water be needed? Fountains are typically operated by electricity, but some can be solar-powered or run on a gravity feed.

Other factors to keep in mind before bringing your water feature home are noise level, splash zone, drainage, auto-fill needs and capabilities, and maintenance and safety concerns. With some planning, you're sure to find a feature that both captivates your family's senses and brings joy and intrigue to home and garden.

To give you a sampling of what's on the market today, we're presenting ten selections here, including Modern HQ's captivating 'Falling Water,' a cascading mid-century classic; and Modfountain's 'Midi-Mod' series, a minimalist modern design that can serve as a choice focal point in any environment.

Let's meet them all...

1 FALLING WATER

A tour de force, the 'Falling Water' fountain commands attention with its sea-blue platters that cascade down in a rush of falling water. Resembling lily pads, the four-tiered circular dishes are custom made of powder-coated metal, resting on a metal base. Pump included. Available in azure blue, or request custom colors. Overall dimensions 65 inches deep x 48 inches wide x 32 inches high. Bowl diameters: 24, 28, 32, and 36 inches. Free shipping. \$1,599. modernhq.com



2 MIDI-MOD SERIES

Sculptor Randy Bolander, founder of Modfountain, creates everything from sculptural minimalist works to monumental modern commissions. His 'Midi-Mod' patio line is constructed of Corten steel, powder-coated in six color options. Includes 30-inch-diameter round-pebble reservoir, recirculating pump, pre-assembled plumbing, and

steel platform. 9.5 inches square x 36 inches high. Signed by the artist. \$650. modfountain.com

3 TWISTER

And now for something completely different. 'Pipkins Acrylic Twister Mini Fountain' whips up a tornado-like vortex inside a crystal-clear column of bubbling water. Twister's cylindrical body has a 12-gallon capacity



constructed of transparent, weather-resistant acrylic. 12 inches diameter x 12 inches high. Includes recirculating pump and basin. For outdoor use. \$419. wayfair.com

4 LOTUS

This lovely 'Lotus Fountain' by Campania International is ideal for a serene garden spot. Made of concrete, with finish options in natural, aged limestone,

copper bronze, or English moss. Pump is included. 23.75 inches diameter x 23.75 inches high. Weight 251 pounds. Recommended for outdoor use. \$1,090. perigold.com

5 FIRE & WATER

The drama of fire and water is blended together in Aquascape's 'Fire Fountain.' Quick and easy set-up allows you to enjoy the beauty and elegance

of flickering fire and flowing water immediately. Self-contained, stand-alone unit of durable GFRC construction. Sandstone finish. Complete with



fire pot, pump, and plumbing. Three sizes available; 32 inches diameter x 16 inches high the largest. \$649. aquascapeinc.com

6 SANTA FE WALL FOUNTAIN

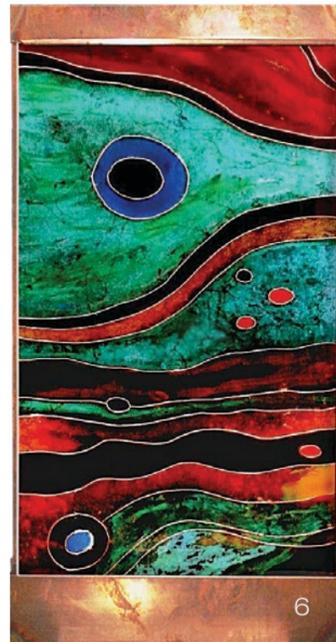
A stunning copper and acrylic-painted stained-glass wall fountain. Each panel is painted on high quality Lexan and signed on the reverse side. Ideal for indoor use, entryways, or exterior covered walkways. 28



inches wide x 48 inches high. Made to order. Size, materials, and colors can be customized. \$1,125. outdoorartpros.com

7 AVIAN FOUNTAIN

An elegant statement piece that adds subtlety and charm to an outdoor space. Bubbling fountains are lit with LED lighting on a rectangular concrete cascading fountain. Stone finish with 7 bronze-patinated birds



perched across the top. 11.8 inches deep x 18.1 inches high x 23.6 inches wide. Easy to assemble. Includes pump. Imported. \$189. zulily.com

8 MODERNO

The 'Moderno Fountain' is a handsome combination of pillar-style fountain and tiered planters. Made to order of rugged cast concrete. Thirty-nine finish options available, including marble, charcoal, coffee, and silver dove. Shown in old stone finish. Color samples on request. 361pounds. Approximately 28-inch dimensions all the way around. Includes recirculating pump. \$1,049. outdoorartpros.com



9 ESCALA TABLETOP

An exquisite little tabletop fountain that will be a welcome accent anywhere it's placed. Constructed of premium cast-stone concrete, it features a four-way water flow. 12.25 inches wide x 6.25 inches high. Includes a whisper-quiet, UL-listed recirculating pump. Finish options range from copper bronze to travertine to aged limestone. Free shipping. \$219. serenityhealth.com

10 SOOTHING BALANCE

This tranquil 'Soothing Balance' tabletop fountain by Sunnysdaze Décor is presented in perfect Zen-like balance. The versatile, self-contained unit is a compact 13 inches wide x 3 inches deep x 7 inches high, and can easily travel with you to yoga or the studio. Made of slate and metal. Complete with electric pump, copper-coated metal rods, decorative river rocks, and LED lighting. \$125. serenityhealth.com

Photography: courtesy water feature suppliers