

# *Formal And Informal Landscaping*

## Formal Landscaping

Formal landscaping is best described as structured, orderly, perfect or clean.

Hedges are often used in formal landscaping.

Some hedges are straight, some have curves, but they tend to have a great sense of symmetry and balance.

Formal gardening attempts to fight with nature to make it stay growing and stay perfect.







**This image of a Formal Landscape Example is a Garden Design that fits a formal colonial home- the hedges are equally spaced on both sides of the walk. The planting design is symmetrical and both sides of the walk match.**

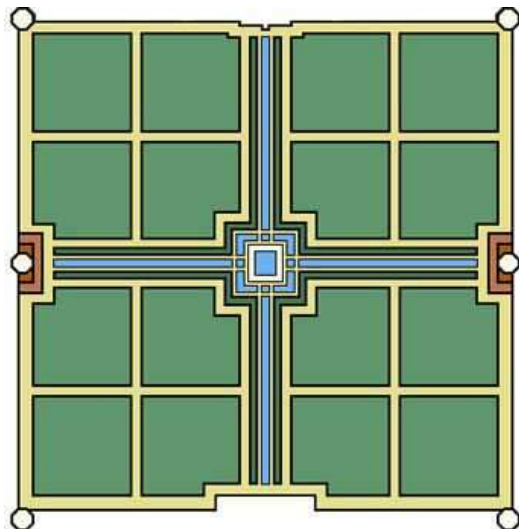




**FORMAL GARDEN AT  
RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN,  
DELHI**



**MUGHAL GARDEN AT TAJ  
MEHAL , AGRA**





## Informal Landscaping

Informal landscaping is more relaxed than formal landscaping.

If hedges are used at all, they are not sheared flat, but instead they are left fluffy and soft.

Informal landscaping is more in-step with nature, it looks more natural.

Informal Landscaping include the organic form.



## GARDEN DESIGN

A **garden** is a planned space, usually outdoors, set aside for the display, cultivation, and enjoyment of plants and other forms of nature. The garden can incorporate both natural and man-made materials.

Gardens include- Residential garden, Zoological garden, Botanical garden, Zen Garden, Xeriscape Garden etc.

The history of ornamental gardening may be considered as aesthetic expressions of beauty through art and nature, a display of taste or style in civilized life, an expression of an individual's or culture's philosophy, and sometimes as a display of private status or national pride—in private and public Landscapes.

The earliest gardens were grown for practical reasons. People grew herbs or vegetables. However when man became civilized an upper class emerged with the leisure to enjoy purely decorative gardens. They also had servants (or slaves) to do the gardening for them. After the emergence of the first civilizations, wealthy individuals began to create gardens for purely aesthetic purposes.

**Garden design** is the art and process of designing and creating plans for layout and planting of gardens and landscapes.







**ZEN GARDEN**



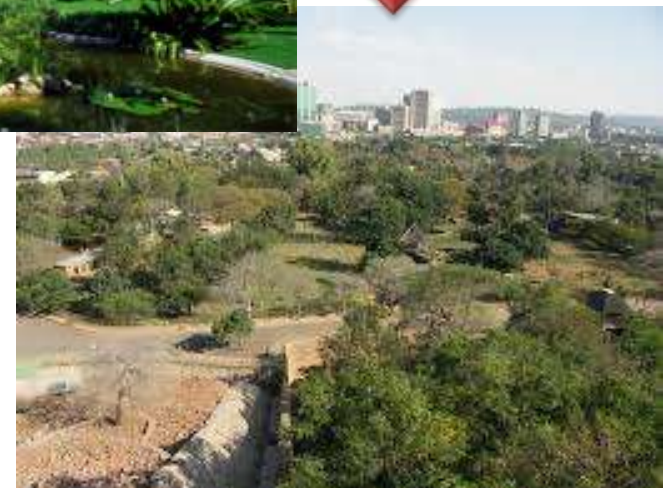
**XERISCAPE GARDEN**



**ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN**



**BOTANICAL GARDEN**



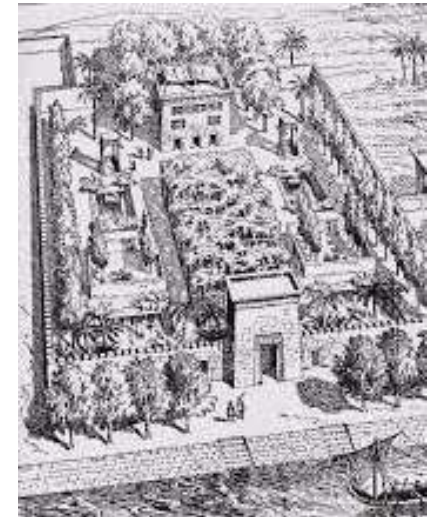


## Egyptian GARDEN

The gardens of ancient Egypt probably began as simple fruit orchards and vegetable gardens, irrigated with water from the Nile. Gradually as the country became richer, they evolved into pleasure gardens, with flowers, ponds and alleys of fruit and shade trees. Temples, palaces, and private residences had their own gardens, and models of gardens were sometimes placed in tombs so their owners could enjoy them in their afterlife.



A funerary model of a garden, dating to the Eleventh dynasty of Egypt, circa 2009–1998 BC. Made of painted and gessoed wood, originally from Thebes



Rectangular fishpond with ducks and lotus planted round with date palms and fruit trees, in a fresco from the **Tomb of Nebamun**, Thebes, 18th Dynasty



## Egyptian GARDEN

❑ In the hot and arid climate of ancient Egypt rich people liked to rest in the shade of trees. They created gardens enclosed by walls with trees planted with trees in rows. Sometime the Egyptians planted alternating species.

❑ They grew trees like **sycamores, date palms, fig trees, nut trees and pomegranate trees**. They also grew **willows**. The Egyptians also grew vineyards. (Although beer was the drink of the common people the rich liked drinking wine).

❑ The Egyptians also grew a wide variety of flowers including **roses, poppies, irises, daisies and cornflowers**.

❑ Egyptians also liked their gardens to have rectangular ponds. Sometimes they were stocked with fish.

❑ The Egyptians also liked to grow fragrant trees and shrubs.

❑ The Egyptians believed that the gods liked gardens and so temples usually had gardens by them. In ancient Egypt gardens also had religious significance as different trees were associated with different Gods.

❑ However in Egypt there was no strict division between gardens for pleasure and gardens for produce. As well as being beautiful gardens were used to grow fruit and vegetables and to produce wine and olive oil.

## COMMON TREES OF ANCIENT EGYPT



The **date palm**, used by the Ancient Egyptians both as a food and for making wine.



The **Persea indica** tree, in the same family as the avocado, once common in Egypt, has vanished there.



The **sycamore** (*Ficus sycomorus*) was often planted for shade. It was also often planted at temples, and its wood was used for making coffins for mummies.



**Tamarisk** tree, used for shade



The **Acacia** tree was associated with **Iusaaset**, the primal goddess of Egyptian mythology.



Fruit of the **Pomegranate** tree, introduced during the **New Kingdom**, used as a medicine against tapeworm various infection



**Egyptian blue lotus**, found in garden ponds



**Cyperus papyrus** was used as a writing material, for making boats, and even eaten




## GREEK AND ROMAN GARDEN

### **GREEK GARDENS**

- ❑ The Greeks were not great gardeners. They sometimes planted trees to provide shade around temples
- ❑ and other public places but pleasure gardens were rare. The Greeks did grow flowers but usually in containers.
- ❑ Although Greek travelers admired the gardens of the east, in Greece gardens were usually grown for practical reasons.
- ❑ The Greeks grew orchards, vineyards and vegetable gardens.

### **ROMAN GARDENS**

- ❑ When they conquered Egypt in 30 BC the Romans introduced eastern ideas about gardening. Rich Romans created gardens next to their palaces and villas. The Romans were masters of the art of topiary.
  - ❑ Roman gardens were adorned with statues and sculptures.
  - ❑ Roman gardens were laid out with hedges and vines. They also contained a wide variety of flowers including acanthus, cornflowers and crocus, cyclamen, hyacinth, iris and ivy, lavender, lilies, myrtle, narcissus, poppy, rosemary and violet.
  - ❑ In the towns wealthy Romans built houses around a courtyard. The courtyard usually contained a colonnaded porch, a pool and a fountain as well as beds of flowers.
  - ❑ After the Romans conquered Britain they introduced a number of new plants including roses, leeks, turnips and plums. They may also have introduced cabbages.
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□ The garden was a place of peace and tranquillity – a refuge from urban life – and a place filled with religious and symbolic meanings. As Roman culture developed and became increasingly influenced by foreign civilizations through trade, the use of gardens expanded and gardens ultimately thrived in Ancient Rome.





## Mughal GARDEN

**PERSIAN GARDENS** → **ISLAMIC GARDEN** → **MUGHAL GARDEN**

Persia is located in west and south-west Asia. At the height of the empire it stretched from Egypt to India. It was conquered by Alexander the Great between 334-331 B.C.

**Persia** was the official name of **Iran** until **1935**.

The dry arid climate of Persia had enormous impact on the designs of their garden paradises. Persian gardens may originate as early as 4000 BCE.

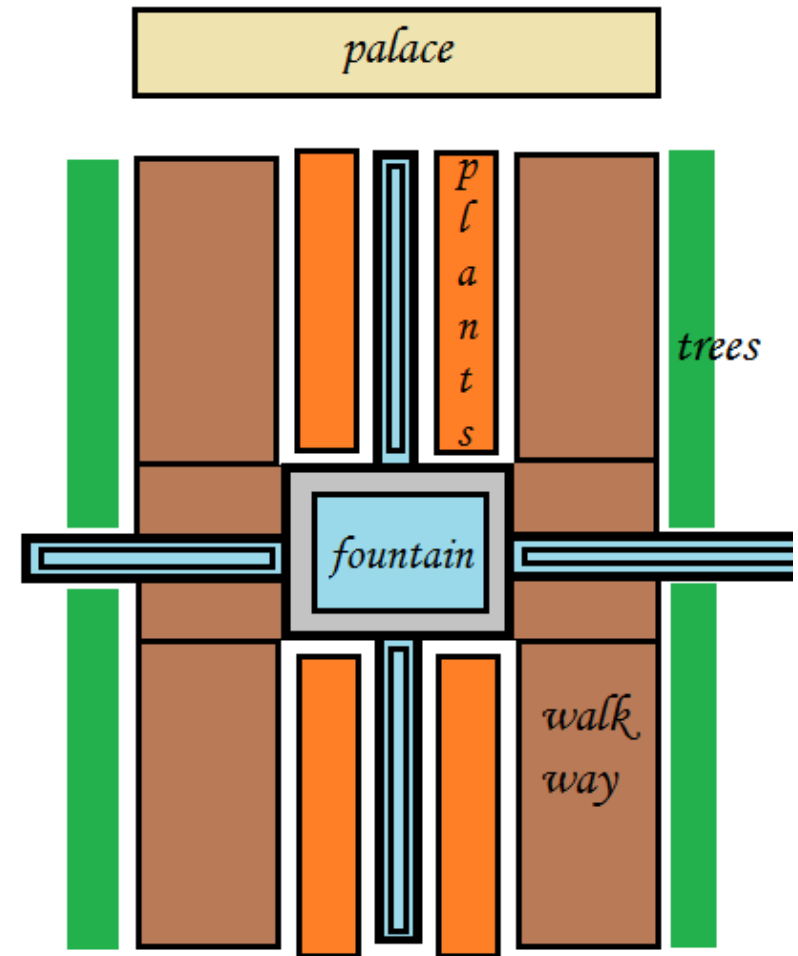
### **EVOLUTION OF PERSIAN GARDEN**

□ The Persian garden was an answer to the aridity of the local climate where the high walled garden and the shady trees with its air cooled by streams and fountains, was a simple recipe for paradise. Mediterranean and hence all Western Gardens have their origins in Egypt between three and four thousand years ago. Since Egypt is a natural desert depending on the Nile for its fertility, its gardens were planted along reservoirs and irrigation canals.

□ Two main waterways divided the garden into four – representing it as the four quarters of the universe. The centre of the cross was often a brimming tank lined with blue tiles. In larger gardens subsidiary canals subdivided the garden. Small jets of water made sounds such that water was heard and seen

## ELEMENTS OF THE PERSIAN GARDEN

- ❑ **Sunlight** and its effects were an important factor of structural design in Persian gardens.
- ❑ Textures and shapes were specifically chosen by architects to harness the light.
- ❑ Iran's dry heat makes shade important in gardens, which would be nearly unusable without it. **Trees** and **trellises** largely feature as biotic shade; **pavilions** and **walls** are also structurally prominent in blocking the sun.
- ❑ The heat also makes **water** important. A form of underground tunnel below the water table, called a qanat, irrigates the garden and its environs.
- ❑ Well-like structures then connect to the Jannat, enabling the drawing of water wheel.
- ❑ The Persian style often attempts to integrate indoors with outdoors through the connection of a surrounding garden with an inner courtyard.
- ❑ Designers often place architectural elements such as vaulted arches between the outer and interior areas to open up the divide between them.



- ❑ The key to the gardens of the Islamic world was the idea of an oasis. All around stretch bare hills in the burning sun. Within the garden wall, the essentials are cool shade and the sight and sound of water.



## MUGHAL PERIOD

Babur → Humayun → Akbar → Jahangir → Shah Jahan → Aurangzeb.....  
..... Bahadur Shah Zafar



- ❑ The Mughal architecture flourished in the Indian subcontinent during the Mughal rule (1526-1857).
- ❑ It was a combination of **Indo, Islamic and Persian style of art.**
- ❑ The use of running water in their palaces and pleasure resorts was a special feature of the Mughal garden.
- ❑ The Mughal Gardens introduced by Babur to India was used extensively used to decorate the surrounding of these buildings.
- ❑ A notable feature of the Mughal architecture was the use of red sandstone.

## MUGHAL GARDENS

- ❑ Mughal gardens are a group of gardens built by the Mughals in the Islamic style of architecture.
- ❑ This style was influenced by Persian gardens and Timurid gardens.
- ❑ Significant use of rectilinear layouts are made within the walled enclosures.
- ❑ Some of the typical features include pools, fountains and canals inside the gardens.
- ❑ The famous gardens are the Char Bagh gardens at **Taj Mahal**, **Shalimar Gardens** of Lahore, Delhi and Kashmir as well as **Pinjore** Garden in Haryana.





## MUGHAL LANDSCAPE-ORIGIN AND CONCEPT

- ❑ The description of paradise in the 'Koran' served as the basis for design of gardens all over the Muslim world.
- ❑ The most famous description of paradise is found in Suratar Rahman. "Gardens under which rivers flow" is a phrase used in the Koran more than 30 times to describe Paradise.
- ❑ The Muslim rulers of subsequent times tried to create manmade reflections of the Koranic images of Paradise on earth. Cool pavilions, flowing springs, rivers, gushing fountains, shady and fruit trees, mentioned in the Koranic description of Paradise, are essential features of Mughal gardens like Islamic gardens elsewhere.



## CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH LANDSCAPE DEVELOPED

❑ The founder of the Mughal empire, **Babur**, described his favourite type of garden as a **Charbagh**. This word developed a new meaning in India, because as Babur explains, India lacked the fast-flowing streams required for the Central Asian charbagh. From the beginnings of the Mughal Empire, the construction of gardens was a beloved imperial pastime.

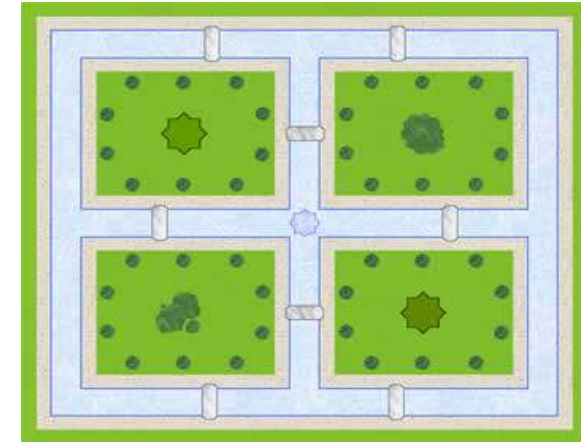
❑ Babur, the first Mughal conqueror-king, had gardens built in Lahore and Dholpur. Humayun, his son, does not seem to have had much time for building—he was busy reclaiming and increasing the realm—but he is known to have spent a great deal of time at his father's gardens.

❑ Akbar built several gardens first in Delhi, then in Agra. These tended to be riverfront gardens rather than the fortress gardens that his predecessors built. Building riverfront rather than fortress gardens influenced later Mughal garden architecture considerably. Jahangir's son, Shah Jahan, marks the apex of Mughal garden architecture and floral design.



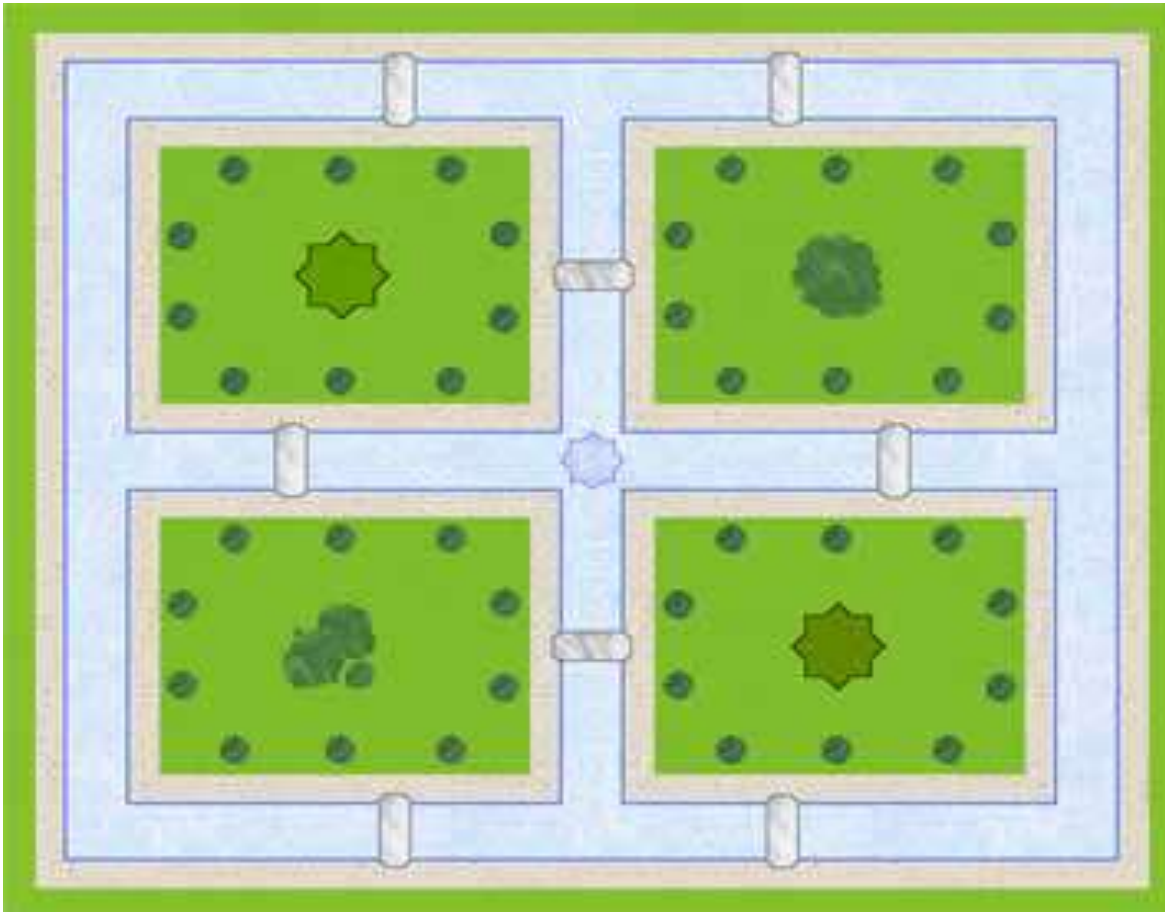
## SALIENT FEATURES

- Site and Style of Design
- Walls
- Gates
- Terrace
- Canals of running water,
- Fountains
- Baradari or pavilion
- Mosque
- Tree, flowers and birds



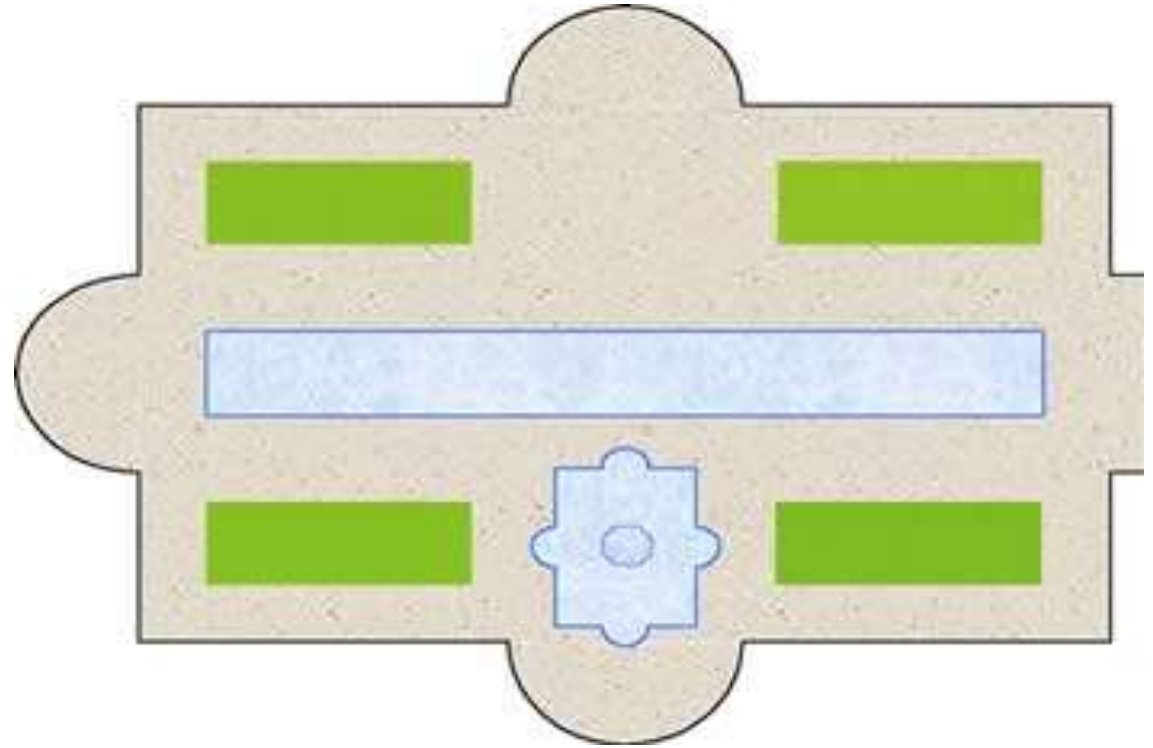
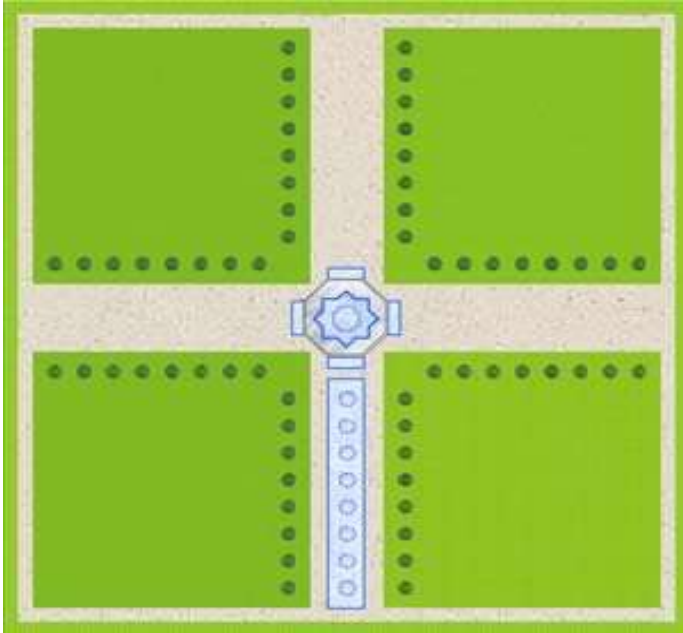
## PLAN 1

Complete, ideal Char Bagh with four channels of water flowing out from fountain in the centre to channels round edge of garden. The garden is divided into four parts, linked by bridges over the water channels.



## PLAN 2

Only one arm of this Char Bagh is a water channel. The other three arms are tree-lined paths, plus little pools on the edge of the central pool. But the garden is still divided into four parts.



## PLAN 3

Another Char Bagh plan which does not have the full four water channels. This plan is from a famous medresse in Isfahan, Iran.



## PLAN 4

This garden is divided into four parts entirely by paths, not by water channels. There is a fountain pool in the centre.

