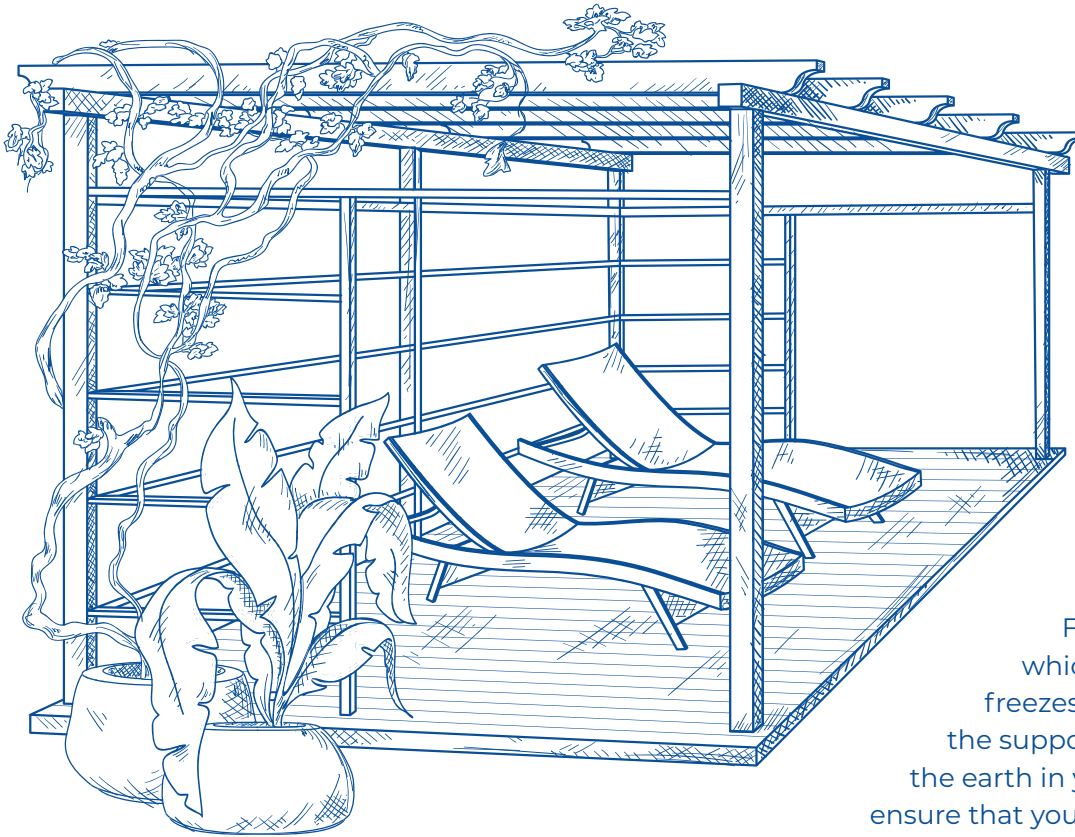


ADD PRIVACY TO YOUR BACKYARD

# BUILD A PERGOLA

A pergola is any outdoor structure with columns supporting a roofing grid that provides shade and partial protection for an outdoor living space. They can be added as an extension to your home or stand on their own. Either way, adding a pergola to your backyard is a great way to add privacy and shade to your space.

## 4 THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN ADDING A PERGOLA



### 1. Space

Make sure you have the space for this type of structure in your backyard. You'll want to place the structure in a spot where it'll be used, but also fits into the overall layout of your yard.

### 2. Check on Frost Depth in Your Area

Frost depth is the level to which the ground in your area freezes each year. When inserting the support beams of your pergola into the earth in your backyard, you need to ensure that you're going below the frost level. In Fort Collins, our frost depth is 30 inches.

### 3. Material

Picking the right material for your structure is very important. You want wood that can withstand pressure, rain, wind, snow and direct sunlight. It's best to spend more for high quality materials than try to save money here. We suggest: Red Cedar and Redwood, Tropical Hardwood, Modified Wood, Pressure Treated Wood.

### 4. Check Local Permit Requirements & Utilities

Pergolas aren't technically complete structures, so it's unlikely you'll be required to obtain a building permit, but it's worth your time to check what the requirements are for where you live, especially if you have an HOA. While you're at it, it's a good idea to contact your local utilities provider about electricity or gas lines. Digging into either of these can be dangerous and very expensive to fix.