

CASE STUDY

**Driveway
in Beek Ubbergen**



**STRAIGHT LINES
AND ROUND
SHAPES MAKE
A POWERFUL
WHOLE**



A stately detached home, in a modern style with lots of clean lines: that cries out for a garden that's just as contemporary. At least, that's what you'd expect. But Jaap Sterk Exteriors demonstrates that precisely the contrast between clean lines and rounded forms results in a harmonious whole. Clean, modern lines and organic shapes plus the whimsical nature of the greenery all complement each other.

The façade of the house juts out a little at the entrance. The open structure and tall narrow windows give the entrance an impressive look. This is emphasised by the driveway that seems to continue along one line with the entrance. Jaap Sterk tells us that for this driveway, a conscious decision was made to use a small Schellevis® block paver. Laid in a herringbone bond, this not only creates a cast-iron construction, it also gives a distinctive

appearance. 'All those little block pavers together form a kind of carpet that flows from the home to the road. The clean lines of the driveway are effortlessly integrated into the organic environment that a garden should be. If you were to place two square plant containers here, something you see a lot of these days, it would detract from the home. But those round pots and pebbles, on the other hand, emphasise the clean, vertical lines of the house.'



A NICE CONTRAST GIVES A SMOOTH TRANSITION

There's gravel on both sides of the driveway. This too provides a pleasing contrast to the Schellevis block pavers. A fluid transition is formed between the clean lines of the architecture and the whimsy of the greenery. 'Gravel also gives an organic structure, actually, and the transition to the greenery is made more fluid this way. The layout of plants in this garden gives the appearance of being random. But in fact, a lot of thought went into it. The lack of symmetry and straight rows of trees or bushes mean that the surroundings really are connected with the home. You would expect the opposite to be true, but gardens with straight contours and recurring elements result in an uneasy whole.'



'The vertical lines so characteristic of the house - if you were to continue that theme, that would be repetition. That would actually detract from the design', Jaap Sterk explains. 'The patio, the steps, the veranda and the swimming pool are all modern in design, just as the house. So the entire routing of the garden is straight but that doesn't apply to the rest: the grassy mounds that cover the back garden, trees not regimented but apparently randomly placed. And all that only serves to make the modern elements look even cleaner and more powerful.'



This villa garden clearly bears the signature of Jaap Sterk Exteriors. It's the subtle contrasts that ensure a harmonious design. And to achieve that, Jaap Sterk has made extensive use of the Schellevis range.

The people living in this villa in Beek Ubbergen wanted their outdoor space to be more connected to the house's living space. The living area is on the first floor of the building. The raised patio is a lovely place to spend time but the distance from the large garden was too great. The steep old stairs were replaced with bigger ones, less steep. And the veranda and swimming pool areas were raised slightly. This has made the garden quite a bit more accessible. 'The vertical lines so characteristic of the house - if you were to continue that theme, that would be repetition. That would actually detract from the design', Jaap Sterk explains. 'The patio, the steps, the veranda and the swimming pool are all modern in design, just as the house. So the entire routing of the garden is straight but that doesn't apply to the rest: the grassy mounds that cover the back garden, trees not regimented but apparently randomly placed. And all that only serves to make the modern elements look even cleaner and more powerful.'








In this garden too, Jaap Sterk has implemented multiple solutions using the Schellevis® range. With a leading role for the block paver. And in doing so, Jaap Sterk has constructed a driveway that is both beautiful and functional. The entire design of the garden reinforces the impressive character of the home and its surroundings.



'The good thing about Schellevis® is that they make an easy material and in a vast array of formats. With a little bit of creativity, you can think up countless applications for the same material. We use it as coping for swimming pools, for the patio or we make stairs with it. Even suspended elements are possible thanks to the large format. The possibilities are endless.'



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