Important park features for adults 19-64 years

A study with adults 19-64 years to identify the park features they consider to be most important for their park visitation, park-based physical activity and social interaction (2017-2021)

27 adults completed a walk-along interview in a park to discuss park features
232 adults rated photos of 43 different park features
260 adults completed a survey to identify the relative importance of park features

FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE ADULTS TO VISIT PARKS

1. Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people
2. Good park maintenance and cleanliness
3. Peaceful and relaxed setting
4. Lots of shady trees
5. Manicured gardens
6. Lots of birdlife
7. Quiet, secluded seating areas
8. Water feature like a pond, lake or creek
9. Large grassy open space
10. Large park size

FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE ADULTS TO BE ACTIVE IN PARKS

1. Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people
2. Concrete, smooth, sealed path
3. Clean toilets
4. Good park maintenance and cleanliness
5. Lots of shady trees
6. Large grassy open space
7. Large park size
8. Native bush/vegetation
9. Lots of birdlife
10. Water feature like a pond, lake or creek

FEATURES THAT ENCOURAGE SOCIAL INTERACTION IN PARKS

1. Sense of safety from strangers and undesirable people
2. Good park maintenance and cleanliness
3. BBQ with picnic tables
4. Lots of shady trees
5. Peaceful and relaxed setting
6. Cafe
7. Good variety of activities/amenities/things to do
8. Manicured gardens
9. Lots of birdlife
10. Water feature like a pond, lake or creek

"For me, the perfect park would have lots of trees, lots of open space, safe for people, particularly if they're on their own, and opportunities to play group sport. A community garden would be nice actually. That kind of vibe is good."
– female, 32 years

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