

# Planning your landscaping project

## with **The Cambridge Landscaper**

Top design starter tips

How to calculate the costs

Our process

Client questionnaire

Next steps

Why gardens can be special



01223 852 054  
info@cambridge-landscaper.co.uk  
*"We create beautiful spaces"*



# Contents

Top design starter tips	3
How to estimate the costs	4-7
Our process	8-9
Client questionnaire	10
Next steps	10
Why gardens can be special	11

# Top design starter tips

## Keeping it simple

- Don't be afraid to go with an idea - if you like it, be 100% with it
- A blank piece of paper on a table, with the family passing around a pencil drawing shapes, sketches, writing word bubbles is a great exercise for brainstorming
- Layout and practical function should serve the primary focus such as size appropriate for table and chairs and long term use
- Interest such as veg beds in the front, animal feeding troughs for planting make interesting use of space
- Playing with light in and shadows in pergolas or sunrise and set.
- No more than 3 curves for smaller spaces
- Be appropriate for the setting
- Use colour wheel rules such as analogous (in the same quarter) and contrasting (opposite).

## The planning process

- Play with a scale drawing and cut out shapes to push around
- Pinterest boards or Google image search are useful for brainstorming
- New ideas will come from revisions if you plan over a few days
- Be realistic about what will fit into your garden, simple is usually better
- Don't forget about dressing; one feature and complimentary dressing with furniture, or pots works well
- Elevations and drainage must be managed early
- Use the costing rules of square and linear meters provided to manage your budget and expectations early
- Use the client questionnaire and the FAQ's on our website to inspire or reveal potential issues or factors

# Costing

Every project has different requirements in terms of materials, waste, design and labor which is why we offer our free quote service.

As a theme our experience tells us most larger projects in average sized gardens cost between £3,000 and £6,000 and has been charged per square meter or linear of work undertaken plus costs of general groundwork's preparation, clearnace and plant hire.

There is also a design fee we charge of usually £300-£1000 depending on requirements that is refunded back into larger projects. Prices are subject to VAT, surcharges applied for smaller space where relevant

## Turf



£25 / square meter

## Artifical grass



£60 / square meter

## Cobble edgings



£20 / meter

## Sandstone



£120 / square meter

## Porcelain



£160 / square meter

## Outbuilding bases



£145 / meter plus edgings

## Composite deck



£160 / square meter

## Wood deck



£120 / square meter

## Bark



£10 / square meter

Bespoke design



£300-1000

Soft landscaping



£60-100 / square meter

Wi-Fi Illumination



£500 - £1500

Feather edge



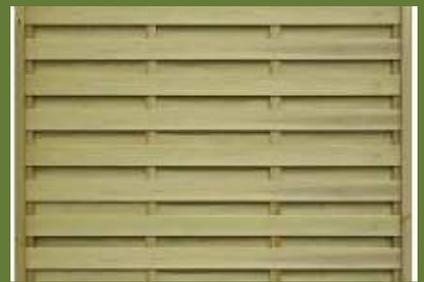
£60 / meter

Concrete fence



£120 / meter

High end fencing



£130 / meter

Galvanised hoop



£100 / meter

Hit and miss



£110 / meter

Resin surface



£60 / square meter with no preparation

Resin surface



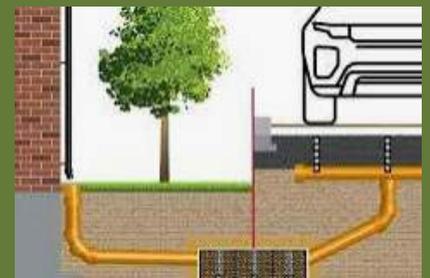
£150 / square meter with sub base preparation

Man hole



£100-250

Soakaway



£500-750

## Cobbling



£160 / square meter

## Sleepers



£40 / meter

## Soil regeneration



£50 / square meter

## Bespoke work



£250 / day / skilled operative + materials

## Gabion



£POA

## Fruit tree



£120 plus labour

## Standard tree



£150 plus labour

## 3x6x2m Smart pond



£19,000

## Standard gate



£450

## Outbuildings



£500 - £25,000

## Concrete breaking



£30 / square meter

## Cobble steps



£300-£750

Rendered walling



£240 / square meter

Green Pergola



3x3m £3000  
3x6m £4500

Oak Pergola



3x3m £4000  
3x6m £6000

Brindle Block



£100 / square meter

Tegula Block



£120 / square meter

Root Removal



£250-£500

Mature Hedging



£220 / meter + labour

Gravel Path



£60 / square meter

Gravel Driveway



£100/square meter

Walling & Coping



£180 / square meter

ACO Drain



£60 / meter

Slot Drain



£100 / meter

# Our process



## 1st site visit: Discovery & directions

After your initial site meeting to understand your visions and essential requirements, we will attend again if you wish to go forward using us to conduct a more detailed survey, and get into a deeper understanding of the specifics potential options you like and dislike.

## 2nd site visit: Measurement & survey

Soil assessment, orientation of the site, photos of all relevant elements and overview of the garden. Its very important for a survey to be correct to prevent any surprises during execution of construction and helps us quote correctly. Here we also take things into account such as where the sun sets and rises, and any placement of functional areas which means its clear for us to work with the space correctly.

If a design service has been used we create base plan of the site with elevations if necessary. A visual representation really helps you realize what the plan and potential finishes could look like. This helps us at an early stage of planning to be able to push ideas around the planning documents and work with you to get the best from creative concepts. Any design is a creative process and new ideas rise from existing ones and inspiration comes from many places over time -, so please revise the ideas as many times as you want as this is the point of this stage.

Creating the concept plan(s) with moodboard of materials and potential planting and 1-2 perspective view drawings. Once we create a formal plan, we usually attend again to run through our ideas with you after we have workshopped them as a team in house. This is a good stage to get the final design signed off.5. Final design with all relevant supporting specifications that includes pricing and agreed materials. This is the final stage when we have agreed a design, we build a technical specification and draw up our materials list, planting schemes and include the final costs assessment,

## Deposits, payments and contracts

We take 5% on debit or credit card to confirm your space in the diary and e-sign a simple contract. We then take 45% via bank transfer upon arrival and the remaining 50% upon satisfactory completion with 7 days. Please be prepared for your date to slightly move due to over runs and weather. We update our clients in our calendar system and you will receive updates from the project manager.

## The build (the fun part)

This is when all the planning and hard brain racking pays off. Our skilled team will implement your project in a logical and systematic manner and maintain great communication with you throughout.

# Client questionnaire

Please use the web form on our website - this will help drive conversation

[www.cambridge-landscaper.co.uk/clientquestionnaire/](http://www.cambridge-landscaper.co.uk/clientquestionnaire/)

## Next steps

Please get in touch for your site visit or discovery conversation.

Phillip Ellis

01223 852 054

[info@cambridge-landscaper.co.uk](mailto:info@cambridge-landscaper.co.uk)

# Why gardens are special

Gardens are a special place and can be a space for family, reflection, peace, community and getting in touch with your body and mind through physical activity.

A special place where relationships form with ourselves, people, nature and the fascinating universe - becoming more in balance from the ever revolving world of our modern lifestyles.

I truly believe this and part of me connected with something deeper in this life when I started working in gardens and I hope we can bring this joy to others that we work with.

