

Happy Gardens Design

Design Process

Once we agree you want to move forward with a design you'll complete a full design brief. The design brief paints a picture of all the things you need and want the garden to do, and how you want it to make you feel. This forms the basis for the Draft Design. It will include things such as: How the garden will be used and by whom. When it will be used. The look and feel you want - colours you like/dislike. The brief also covers logistics such as access to the property, parking restrictions, the location of service drains, pipes and wires etc. The design brief is filled in by you. At this stage, as it will take some time to measure the garden, research and prepare the design drawings, we enter into a contract with terms and conditions clearly laid out and you are invoiced 50% of the design fee. Fees are outlined on the Services page of my website.

Measuring up

First thing we need to do is measure up. For small to mid-size gardens measurements will be taken by me and possibly a member of my team (depending on size), including the gardens levels in order to prepare your design. For larger gardens a surveyor is recommended to prepare accurate measurements. I am happy to advise on choosing a surveyor.

Draft Design

A series of drawings are produced - birds eye view, perspectives, and where necessary, construction detailing drawings. We'll discuss what you think I've got right, what you'd like changed or tweaked - this will inform the finished design.

Planting plan and final design

Based on your final design a planting plan is developed which includes plant selection (consideration of soil, aspect, moisture, habit and level of care) and distribution. These are presented together to ensure you are happy with the final choices - or indeed, require any final adjustments. At this stage you will be invoiced for the balance of the Design fee and a fee for the Planting Plan.

Hard Landscape Construction – the build begins

I can recommend a contractor or if you've already chosen a contractor work with them to assess any final changes/impacts to the layout and design. The contractor will take their own measurements of the site to ensure everything is done to the proper scale.

Laying out and planting

Once the hard landscaping is complete, including the additional of new soil where necessary, the plants will be delivered to be laid out and planted according to the planning plan and final design.

Maintenance and After care

The level of maintenance will have been discussed and factored into the design of the garden. Your maintenance and After care plan will lay out, in detail according to the months and seasons, what your new plants require to keep them looking healthy and at their best for years to come. Fees for the Maintenance and After care plan are built into the fees for the Final Design.