



“With your garden planned, now you can really **bring it to life...**

employing a landscaper to build your garden can be an **easy**, and sweat free option.”



### Landscaper Checklist...

If you decide to contact a landscaper for a quote, it is important to cover certain subjects involved in the project during this meeting - they may also want to confirm some basic dimensions and take some photographs to refer to.

1. Confirm hard landscaping materials.
2. Estimate duration of the build phase.
3. Highlight access for machinery.
4. Discuss areas for material storage.
5. Confirm what state the site will be left by the end of each day.
6. Ask to arrange to view some of their previous construction projects.
7. What guarantees do they provide for hard and soft landscaping?
8. Confirm all levels are suitable with the plan. (Retaining walls required?)
9. Cover any possible drainage issues.
10. What working hours will they work?
11. If the project is large, can the quote be broken down into areas of work which may be phased?
12. Their earliest possible start date?
13. Payment terms and conditions.
14. Quote to supply, prepare the site and install the planting.
15. Confirm the maturity of the soft landscaping to be planted.



First identify suitable landscapers in your area to build your garden, our 'Find a Landscaper' directory is a good place to start. You must also decide what work you require a quote for;

- @ Entire project (hard & soft landscaping - supplied & fitted)
- @ Hard landscaping only (you will deal with the planting)
- @ Phased hard landscaping (a quote phasing the hard landscaping for financial reasons)

Within a week or so of your meeting, you should receive a written quotation.

This should outline the project and all the associated costs involved. Assure yourself that this has covered all your points from the meeting. If not, ask the landscaper to send further written confirmation on any points not already addressed.

Carry out this process in an identical fashion for all quotes you ask for, so a direct comparison can be made. Once you have received your quotes, you must decide on which landscaper is most suitable, not only on the 'bottom line figure' of how much they quote, but also on their quality of work, available start date and project duration.

The best company is not necessarily the cheapest quote, or the earliest start date!

Remember, if you are unhappy with how the work is developing, then speak to your contact and outline your concerns in a balanced manner - don't become emotional. You need to maintain a good working relationship until the conclusion of the project at least. Draw up a list of problems

For more detailed advice on landscaping and our 'Find a Landscaper' directory, visit [www.applegategardens.co.uk](http://www.applegategardens.co.uk)

### You must also remember;

Ensure you contact your chosen company as soon as you make the decision - good landscapers work schedules fill up very quickly, and the start date they quoted a week ago may already be filled.





Use this sheet to compare landscapers

CONTRACTOR 1 - DETAILS		CONTRACTOR 2 - DETAILS	
COMPANY DETAILS	CONTRACTOR 1	CONTRACTOR 2	
Company contact name:			
Contact telephone number:			
How long trading?			
Member of any Trade Associations?			
Hard landscaping guarantees?			
Soft landscaping guarantees?			
Payment terms and conditions:			
Hard/soft landscaping qualifications?			
View previous projects?			
PROJECT DETAILS	CONTRACTOR 1	CONTRACTOR 2	
All hard landscaping materials confirmed?			
Material storage location confirmed?			
Machinery access discussed?			
Working hours/days confirmed?			
Site condition after working day confirmed?			
Elec/water access required?			
Who will be my daily contact?			
Estimated project duration?			
First available start date?			
QUOTATION DETAILS	CONTRACTOR 1	CONTRACTOR 2	
Provided copy of Garden & Planting plans?			
All building reg's covered?			
All levels suitable?			
Existing drainage adequate?			
Phase the hard landscaping on the quote?			
Quote to supply/install soft landscaping?			
Maturity of soft landscaping when planted?			
How long to prepare this quotation?			
Any confirmation photo's/dim's required?			