



Greenspace Design & Consultancy UK
Landscape Specifications

Old Market Street/Grant Close
Manchester
M9 8DX

S Edwards
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Specifications for Landscape Works.

1. All landscape works shall comply with BS 4428:1989.

2. Setting Out

- 2.1. Planting shall be set out as shown on the drawing and measured from existing fixed points.
- 2.2. Curved beds and paving shall be set out using radii scribed on the ground using two pointed stakes and a line between, or with site marker paint. The junction between convex and concave curves shall be cut to form a smooth and even flowing line.
- 2.3. Ensure that all setting out conforms to the plan before cultivation and planting works are carried out. Failure to do so may require amendment at the contractor's expense.
- 2.4. Ensure that all planting areas are free from concrete footings before planting. If the bed is sealed with concrete, then the landscape contractor shall contact the site manager to determine if footings are excessive and can be reduced.

3. Ground Preparation for soft landscaping

- 3.1. Pre-planting herbicide application shall be applied by suitable spraying apparatus using an approved translocated systemic herbicide to manufacturer's instructions and to *1997 Control of Pesticides Regulations* and *2003 COSHH* regulations on all beds, except those which are both weed free and are to receive geotextile sheet mulch.
- 3.2. Spray immediately if any weeds are present. If none are showing, but there may be a delay before planting or the area is to be seeded, spray after one month following cultivation, to allow dormant seed to germinate.
- 3.3. All spraying shall be carried out by skilled and qualified operatives, using protective clothing, in suitable weather (no wind) and any damage caused by spray drift, from incorrect usage or spillage, shall be rectified at the contractor's own cost. Repeat as necessary to ensure complete kill and rake off all dead material from site.
- 3.4. Carry out the following works to the existing topsoil on site to ensure it conforms to BS 3882:2015, being free from rocks larger than 50mm diameter, concrete, all roots, wire, brick, and have less than 20% clay. Allow for pre-application of herbicide as above.
- 3.5. Fertilise with 100g per metre square of Fisons "Neutrocote" slow release fertilizer or similar, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

- 3.6. For beds fork over thoroughly or machine rotovate soil to a depth of 300mm, ensuring that the subgrade and topsoil are completely broken up and free draining, relieving any compaction
- 3.7. Where grass is proposed, then the soil level shall be flush (maximum 10mm below - but never proud) of adjacent paved surfaces, to receive rainwater run-off. The landscape contractor is responsible for ensuring that the final product conforms to the specification. The landscape contractor shall allow for adjustment of levels, as specified above, including for re-grading subsoil and topsoil. Where beds are sloping, ensure that topsoil is graded to the specified levels below pavement & grass surfaces within 400mm of the edges of the bed. This is to allow for sheet mulch and bark or wood chip mulch so that mulch does not spill out on to pavements and also to allow surface water to drain on to planted areas.
- 3.8. Imported topsoil (where specified and sanctioned by the employer) for making up ground, shall conform to BS 3882: 2007, and be free from rocks (over 50mm diameter), concrete, roots, wire and brick, and have less than greater than 20% clay. Such soil shall be cultivated as set out above.

4. Planting

- 4.1. All planting must be carried out in accordance to the specification and schedule of quantities accompanying the landscape drawings. Refer to the specification for the preparation of existing topsoil and required depths for planting, turfing, and standard trees, and also for maintenance requirements.
- 4.2. No substitutions will be accepted without the prior agreement of the inspecting project manager. The contractor shall replace at once at his own cost any stock size, species or variety of plant which has not been specified on the planting plan and schedule, unless prior agreement to a substitution by the project manager has been received. All plants shall be true to size specified in the schedule of plants and associated notes.
- 4.3. Proposed large feathered or standard trees to be true to the species, variety and size as specified on the planting plan, to include 1.6m chestnut stake 600mm above ground and 1000mm below ground) and 1 No. tie with spacing device positioned 25mm maximum from the top of the post.
- 4.4. Turf to be of cultivated grade such as Rowlawn "Medalion", or other of similar quality and source, approved by the project manager. The contractor shall replace at once any turf rejected by the project manager at his own cost.

5. Ground Preparation for hard landscaping

- 5.1. All paths and edgings shall be set out properly to lines and radii, with all curves scribed on the ground using pointed pegs and string or site marker paint, achieving flowing natural arcs. Setting out shall be agreed with the landscape contractor and subsequently the project manager
- 5.2. Hard surfaces shall be constructed after suitable base courses have been laid, taking full account of local site conditions, soft spots and substrate.
- 5.3. All materials and workmanship shall be in accordance with the construction details and the layout plan.
- 5.4. Prior to laying sub-base or base courses the surface shall be treated where necessary with approved translocated systemic herbicide to manufacturer's instructions and to *1997 Control of Pesticides Regulations* and *2003 COSHH regulations*
- 5.5. Base layer to be of suitable type, depth and method in relation to the type of surfacing material to be used
- 5.6. All paving to have suitable crossfalls so that surface water runs easily to either proposed drainage system or to soft landscape surfaces without obstruction

6. BS Codes

- 6.1. All workmanship and materials shall conform to the following codes:-
 - i) General landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces) - BS 4428:1989.
 - ii) Trees in relation to construction- BS 5837:2012.
 - iii) BS 3998:2010 (recommendations for tree works) unless otherwise specified.
 - iv) Arboricultural Association - GN 8 Framework for tree work contracts - standard conditions of contract and specification for tree works 2008.
 - v) BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape. Recommendations
 - vi) Nursery stock in accordance with latest horticultural trade association nursery stock specification entitled "National Plant Specification 2001".
 - vii) Turf - BS 3969:1998- recommendations for turf for general purposes.
 - viii) Seeding - EEC Regulations 1974. Use blue labelled certified varieties to EC purity and germination regulations. When requested, submit an official seed Testing Station Certificate of germination, purity and composition.
 - ix) Topsoil - BS 3882:2007
 - x) Pesticides: Control of Pesticides Regulations 1997; The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974; the

- xi) COSHH Regulations 2002
- xii) Control of Pollution Act 1974;
- xiii) Hedgerow ACT 1997
- xiv) Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- xv) Highways Act 1980
- xvi) BS 7533 Series - Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers:
 - BS EN 1338 Concrete Paving Blocks
 - BS EN 1339 Concrete Paving Flags
 - BS EN 1340 Concrete Kerb Units
 - BS EN 1341 Natural Stone Flag Paving
 - BS EN 1342 Natural Stone Setts
 - BS EN 1343 Natural Stone Kerbs
 - BS EN 1344 Clay Pavers

7. General Notes for the Developer

- 7.1. Work should not be carried out in periods of excessively wet or hot weather
- 7.2. Top soil spread from on site should be to the following minimum depth:-
 - I. Grass areas 150mm. allow for excavation of 415mm of the subgrade for shrub beds to leave beds 65mm below finished pavement or grass areas in order to receive sheet and bark mulch, (90mm below where sheet mulch is not to be used).
 - II. Tree pits will be as per BS 8545:2014.
 - III. Topsoil shall be spread for grass areas flush with any areas of paving and after settlement, the soil level should be no greater than 10mm below paved areas to allow for turf. For areas to be grass seeded, the soil level shall be flush with any finished paved surfaces after settlement (or to a maximum of 5mm below) to allow for rainwater to drain onto soft surfaces. Settlement shall be no greater than the tolerances given or problems will be encountered with mowing (the blades in danger of touching concrete edgings) or where soil is proud of pavements, then drainage problems will be encountered.
- 7.3. Existing topsoil and imported soil shall conform to BS 3882:2007, and be free from compaction, rocks/bricks greater than 50mm diameter, concrete, wire, roots, debris, oil, cement and builder's rubble.
- 7.4. Soil shall have a clay content of less than 20%