

EARTH DESIGN  
LANDSCAPING  
AND CONSTRUCTION










# LANDSCAPE DESIGN GUIDE



"I DON'T HAVE A DESIGN, AND I'D LIKE TO GIVE  
IT A GO"










This guide will help you design your landscaping to perfection.

-  Step 1 - Budget
-  Step 2 - Inspiration
-  Step 3 - Plan
-  Step 4 - Basic Outline
-  Step 5 - Refine Detail
-  Step 6 - Areas of concern
-  Step 7 - Site Photos
-  Material Guide
-  Next Steps



# SUMMARY

-  Step 1 - Budget  
Get clear on your budget. What would you ideally like to spend, and what would you be willing to spend?
-  Step 2 - Inspiration  
Create a Pinterest board and get creative!
-  Step 3 - Plan  
You will need an overview plan of the house so you can create your basic outline. Get this from your builder, or from Google Maps.
-  Step 4 - Basic Outline  
Draw your ideas over the top of the plan. What would you like and where?
-  Step 5 - Refine Detail  
Choose the materials you'd like to use for each component of your landscaping. Use the material guide, your Pinterest board and your budget to help you.
-  Step 6 - Areas of concern  
Make known areas of concern, ie: poor drainage, no sunlight etc.
-  Step 7 - Site Photos  
Take photos / videos of your site.



# Step 1 - Budget



Landscaping is a lot more expensive than you may think. Before anything, it's really important to get clear on what you'd like to spend before you get creative. This will help you when deciding on your project outline and what materials to choose.

If you're stuck, choose two figures.

1. What you'd like to spend and
2. What you'd be willing to spend.

Eg: I'd like to spend \$30k, but I'd be willing to spend up to \$36k.

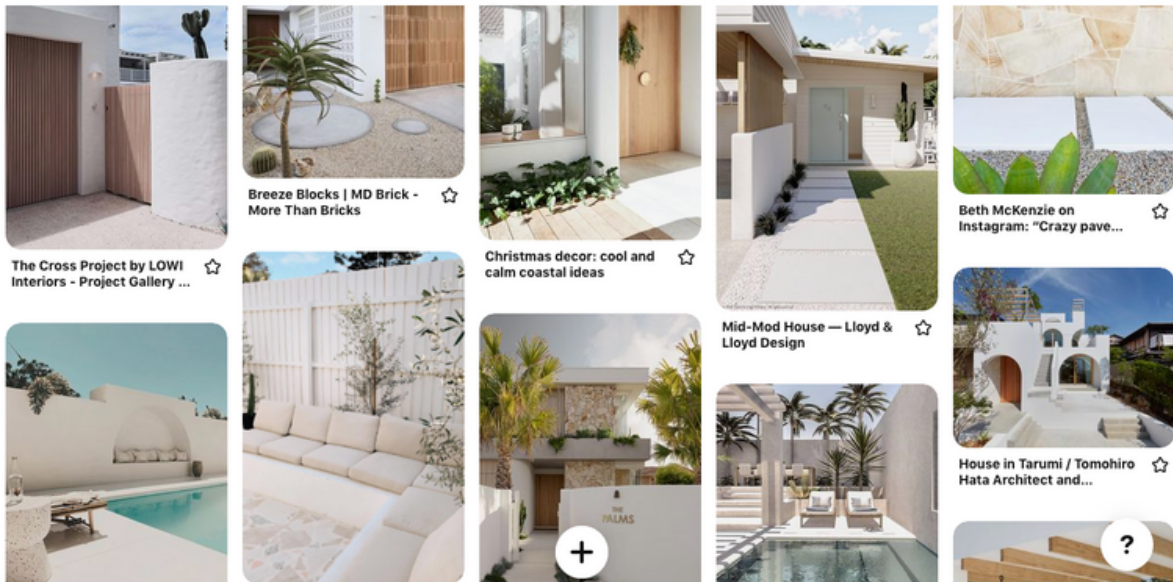
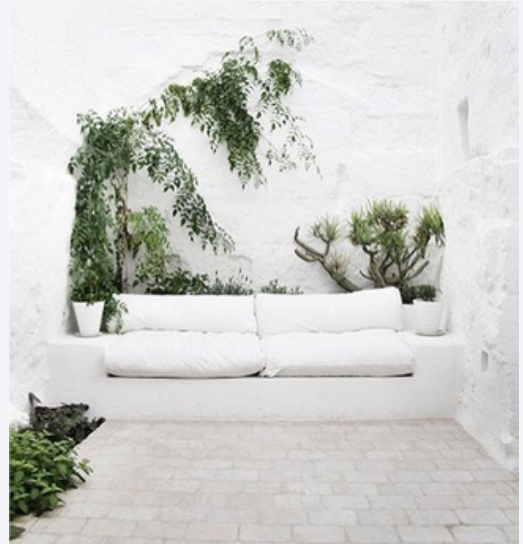
Many people are uncomfortable sharing a budget with a contractor. The discomfort comes from the fear that the contractor will do what they can to charge you the highest amount for their benefit. The reason we ask for a budget is this; your desired design is likely to cost more than your budget allows. If we know your budget, we can help you achieve your desired design, but with affordable materials, or otherwise make suggestions based on our experience and knowledge how best to achieve your goals within your price range. We are honest from the get go; if your budget doesn't support your design, we will tell you. This is a conversation that needs to be had at the start of a project so all subsequent steps & efforts are not wasted.



## Step 2 - Inspiration

Pinterest -  
Instagram -  
Google Images -

This is a KEY step in designing your landscaping. Jump onto Pinterest, create an account, and start searching for ideas. Get excited and get creative!



Save images to your own Inspiration board. You will use this as a guide for designing your landscaping. Share this board with us so we too can get a clear idea on your expected vision and preferred style.



## Step 3 - Plan

You will need to get a site plan of your home. This document is necessary for quoting. If your home is a new build, you will be able to get these documents from your builder. Otherwise you can use a google maps image of your home and draw your ideas over the top.



If you prefer a clean and clear sheet of paper, you can lay a sheet of paper over your google maps image and get the outline of your boundaries and home before drawing your design.

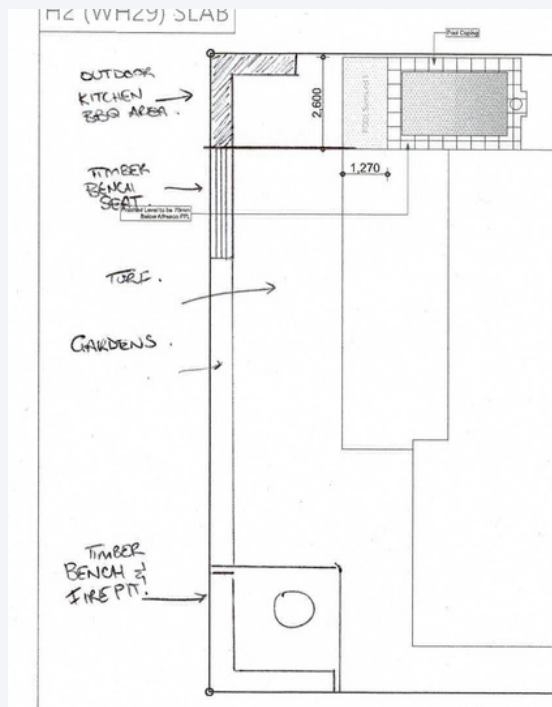
Another option is to measure up your boundaries & home and draw it onto grid paper.

Exact measurements are a requirement for quoting.



## Step 4 - Basic Outline

This process involves drawing a basic outline over the top of your plan of what you'd like each area to be used for, and where they will be best situated.



For example:

BACK RIGHT - Outdoor kitchen / BBQ area near pool with timber bench seat.

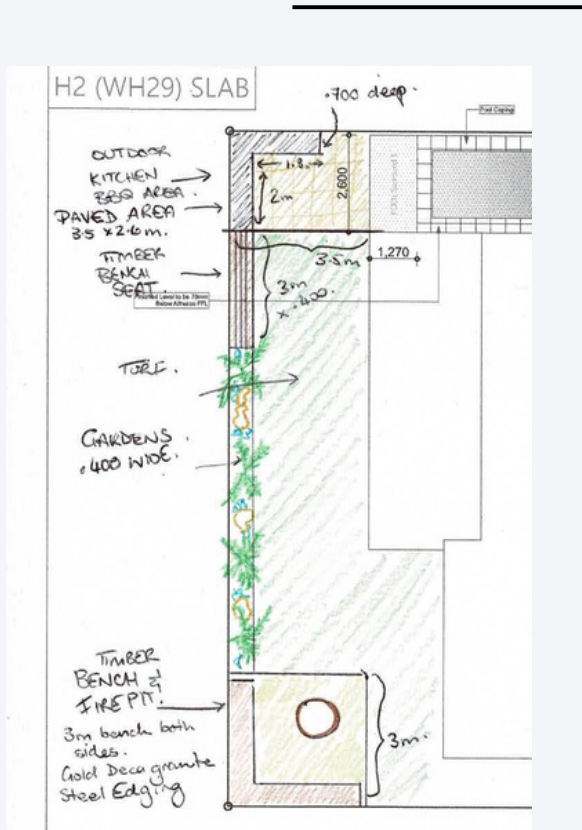
BACK BOUNDARY - Gardens  
BACK LEFT - Timber bench seat in fire-pit area.

Keep in mind direction of sun, drainage, privacy, surrounding trees, and adjacent rooms in the house. (Eg: Playground right outside Mum and Dads window might not be the best idea!)

Get clear on what areas are the most important / your priority. For example if your budget doesn't allow for both the fire pit and the BBQ area, which will you keep and which will you let go of?



## Step 5 - Refine Detail



This process involves refining your design details.

Using your Pinterest board, material guide and budget to help you choose what materials you'd like to use and how 'big' you want your areas to be.

Measure out **exactly** where you would like everything to go and make that clear on the plan or in your design description.

Eg:

### Fire Pit Area

3m x 3m. Steel edging all around filled with gold deco granite. 3m custom built timber bench seat on both sides.

### BBQ Area

3.5m x 2.6m paved area with .600x.400 travertine stone paving.. Custom built concrete bench top for BBQ, timber battens across front to screen underneath with gate for gas bottles. 2m + 1.8m bench seat, .700 deep. on back boundary, adjacent to BBQ bench.

### Turf & Gardens

90m<sup>2</sup> Sir Grange Zoysia. 4 x Foxtail palms, feature rocks & small shrubbery/succulents.





## Step 6 - Areas of concern



If there is a particular section you are worried about, please make this known.

This may include lack of sunlight, privacy, drainage, sloping land etc.



## Step 7 - Site Photos



Take photos of your site. Label the photos with location specific references or otherwise add them to a word document with captions.

Eg:

- Front Left facing to front
- Right and side blindsides, facing to back

Videos are fantastic too. You can walk around the site, narrating both the position on the site, plus your ideas and what you'd like done.



# Material Guide

	AFFORDABLE	MIDDLE RANGE	LUXURY
<b>RETAINING WALLS</b>			
TREATED PINE	✓		
HARDWOOD TIMBER		✓	
CONCRETE SLEEPERS		✓	
SANDSTONE LOGS		✓	
MASONRY BLOCK		✓	
BLOCK RENDERED RETAINING WALL			✓
BLOCK STONE CLADDED RETAINING WALL			✓
<b>PAVING/TILING</b>			
PORCELAIN	✓		
CONCRETE	✓		
TRAVERTINE			✓
LIMESTONE			✓
GRANITE		✓	
MARBLE			✓
BLUESTONE		✓	
<b>PEBBLES/GRAVEL</b>			
CRUSHED GRANITE		✓	
DRAINAGE AGGREGATE	✓		
DECORATIVE PEBBLES			✓
RIVER STONE			✓
<b>TURF</b>			
COUCH	✓		
KIKUYU	✓		
BUFFALO		✓	
ZOYSIA			✓
<b>FENCING</b>			
TREATED PINE	✓		
HARDWOOD TIMBER		✓	
COLOURBOND	✓		
ALUMINIUM SLAT			✓
BRICK COLUMNS WITH SLATS			✓
GLASS BALUSTRADE		✓	
<b>GARDEN EDGING</b>			
TREATED PINE	✓		
HARDWOOD		✓	
ALUMINIUM STEEL		✓	
CORTEN EDGING		✓	
BRICK PAVING		✓	
SANDSTONE BILLETS			✓
<b>STAIRS</b>			
TREATED PINE	✓		



	HARDWOOD		✓	
	SANDSTONE LOGS & BILLETS			✓
	TILES/PAVED			✓
DECKS				
	HARDWOOD TIMBER		✓	
	TREATED PINE	✓		
	COMPOSITE DECKING		✓	
PERGOLAS				
	TREATED PINE	✓		
	HARDWOOD			✓
	ALUMINIUM			✓



## Next steps...

Collate all of your information, plans, drawings, Pinterest images, job descriptions & site images and send it through to us for quoting. The clearer and more concise your information, the quicker you will get your quote!

We are here to help if at anytime you need assistance at any stage of your designing process.

[info@earthdesignlandscaping.com](mailto:info@earthdesignlandscaping.com)