

6A and 6B Nutley Terrace NW3. Soft Landscape Specification.

BRITISH STANDARDS:

Where the tender documents do not fully detail the quality of the Works, comply with current good practice as defined by:

- BS4428 '*Recommendations for General Landscape Work*' and other relevant British Standards.
- Any other code issued by a relevant Trade organisation.

UNDERGROUND SERVICES:

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to locate the position of any underground services and to protect these during the course of the works.

SETTING OUT:

The Contractor shall set out the works and notify the Designer of any discrepancies. Work shall not commence prior to approval of setting out by the Designer.

EXCAVATION AND FILLING:

Ground works shall comply with *BS4428 Code of Practice for general landscape operations* and *BS8000 pt 1 clause 3.1-3.3* for excavation and filling.

EXISTING TOPSOIL:

Is to be removed from areas of hard landscape and areas to be re-graded. Store in heaps < 1m high.

SUB-SOIL:

Store clear of topsoil in separate heaps. Soil in excess of requirements or deemed unsuitable for back filling to be removed from site.

IMPORTED TOPSOIL:

To be a medium loam with a pH value to match that on site. Free of sub soil and weed, with stone size to pass a 40mm sieve. Stone content to be < 10%.

Where stated ericaceous soil to be pH 4.5-5.5, free of sub soil and weed, with stone size to pass a 40mm sieve. Line base of bed with permeable membrane.

SPREAD TOPSOIL:

Grassed areas: 150mm deep.

Shrub areas: 450mm deep.

Tree pits: 900mm x 900mm x 900mm min dimension but must exceed root ball by 105mm to sides and base.

CONSOLIDATION OF FILL:

Spread and consolidate approved fill in layers not exceeding 200mm deep. General levels to be within 50mm of design levels. Finished levels adjacent to hard landscape features to be within 20mm of design levels after settlement.

GRADING:

All grading to be to even levels and falls and to marry to existing levels.

TURF:

Prior to cultivation apply an approved weed killer.

Rotovate to a minimum depth of 150mm, remove all debris exceeding 50mm in any dimension. Rake to form a firm and level surface, reduce top 30mm of soil to a fine tilth not exceeding 10mm particles.

Dress with N7:P7:K7 fertiliser at a rate of 50g/m² and work into the top 30mm of tilth 7 days before seeding/turfing and water in well.

TURF:

Top quality lawn turf such as Rowlawn Medallion, a sample of which to be submitted for approval. Delivery to be scheduled to ensure laying within 48 hrs of lifting.

LAYING TURF:

Transport turf over close butted boards. Lay turf in consecutive rows, close butted and breaking the joint in alternate rows. Lay turf standing on timber boards laid to protect previously laid turf. Use only whole turves at margins.

Consolidate lightly with wooden beaters and brush in finely sieved topsoil to all joints. Peg turves on slopes exceeding 30 degrees. Ensure final surface is 20mm above any adjacent hard surface.

Ensure well-watered using an approved lawn sprinkler system.

PREPERATION OF PLANTING BEDS:

Rotovate ground and remove stones over 50mm in any dimension. Apply and lightly dig in well-rotted farmyard manure or approved general tree and shrub compost at a rate of 5kg/m². Leave beds raked without dips and hollows and to even grades. Incorporate bone meal at a rate of 70gm/m² into the topsoil.

PLANTS AND PLANTING:

Supply true to named variety and from a named nursery/supplier.

PREPERATION OF PLANTS:

Remove inorganic containers. Check for damage, disease or pest infection and carefully prune any minor root damage.

Saturate the root ball of container plants before planting.

PLANT:

Plant in position shown on the drawings and space evenly. Plant in holes large enough to allow adequate root spread and tease out congested root balls of container grown plants. Excavate holes at least 75mm below the root system and 400mm for climbers.

Backfill with topsoil and ensure it is evenly worked around the roots and well-heeled in.

Thoroughly water plants immediately after planting.

REPLACEMENTS:

Any plants that die within the first growing season to be replaced like for like using named varieties and to match specification.

LAWN AFTERCARE:

Your Rowlawn Medallion® turf was conditioned to a cut height of 25mm. With new Rowlawn turf you may need to mow it 2-3 days after it is laid. If this is the case, make sure that the turf is well rooted

before you use a rotary mower, because the draught created by a rotary mower could lift the turf. You should try and mow your turf whenever it is over 30mm long.

Mow the grass as often as it needs it throughout the year. Your lawn will grow at different rates as the temperature changes, after you fertilise or water, and so on. If you are mowing properly you should not see much clippings on the turf. You cannot damage your turf by mowing it every day or even twice a day.

It is not necessary to collect your clippings unless they cover the grass and block the sunlight from reaching the lawn. Grass clippings are rich in nutrients, and by returning them to the turf in small amounts you are actually creating a healthier turf. Grass clippings do not contribute to making thatch. In fact, by adding them back to the turf your thatch will form slower. On the other hand, you can collect the clippings if you want to. Clipping removal causes no significant loss of nutrients. Clippings are only a problem if you mow your grass improperly.

The best type of mower is one that you maintain well, keep sharp and use regularly. The type of cutting action makes only a minor difference. A sharp mower is most important. A dull mower will damage the leaves, allow for more disease development and make the lawn look shabby. Both cylinder and rotary types of mowers work well. To select the mower that is right for you, consult the brochures of the leading manufacturers, chat with your neighbours or the grounds staff at sports clubs in your vicinity.

Planting Aftercare:

An aftercare schedule has been prepared via Shoot Gardening and this will email you directly (or nominated representative) each month with detailed operations that need to be carried out during the coming four weeks.