



## Why use a Garden Designer?

People are increasingly recognising the value of the garden: as a pleasurable asset in its own right and as a place to entertain and relax or cultivate favourite plants or vegetables. For the inexperienced, however, creating a useful and attractive garden can be a fraught process: inappropriate or incompatible plants are chosen; materials used for paving and seating are unsuitable; maintenance becomes a lengthy chore.

The whole project becomes time-consuming and costly without ever beginning to fulfil the basic needs, let alone the dreams, of those who embarked upon it. The result? A disappointing garden which adds to the owners' woes instead of offering a refuge from them...

Qualified garden designers use their technical knowledge and creative insight to incorporate all the required functions of the garden into a practical and pleasurable outdoor space - preventing costly mistakes in the process.

### The role of the Garden Designer

After assessing the site with regard to such considerations as soil type, climate, surrounding landscape and existing features and planting, the Garden Designer's job is then to interpret the client's ideas and needs and to produce designs to fulfil these requirements and enable the garden to be constructed within the budget available.

The designer may then suggest landscape contractors able to construct the design, and monitor progress. (Sometimes clients may choose to build the garden themselves. Some designers offer an in-house construction and planting service; many, 3G included, specialise in design but are happy to oversee the implementation of the approved design.)

### The design process

The design process can be broken down into simple stages, available as individual services or as a combined package.

- Consultation and brief
- Site analysis and line and level survey
- Preparation of outline plans
- Planting plans and schedules
- Specifications and construction drawings
- Monitoring of construction and planting



### **Costs**

Charges are made for each stage of the process, the fees being dependent on the nature and complexity of the work. Precise costs vary considerably, but as an indication, getting from initial consultation to presentation of detailed plans would cost a few hundred pounds for most small to medium sized gardens.

### **Designers**

Designers each have their own distinctive style, but all will endeavour to provide a friendly, professional service and a cost-effective solution to your particular garden design requirements. At 3G we serve a discerning clientele who are often design-literate, though not necessarily in the garden context.