

Standard Specification
For
Landscape Works

For

New House

At

For

Mr. and Mrs.

Martin Critchley, Chartered Architect

7 North Street,
Havant,
Hampshire,
PO9 1PW

May 2009

1.0 Material and Workmanship

1.1 Work is to comply with British Standard as per the attached Appendix.

Chemicals:

1.2 Chemicals which are not listed in the Ministry of Agriculture's "Agricultural Chemicals Approved Scheme" current list of approved products are not to be used. Strict adherence to Manufacturers' Instructions is absolutely necessary.

Cultivation of Planting Areas:

1.3 The ground to be planted, as indicated on the Contract Drawings, is to be cultivated to a minimum depth of 150mm and clear of all weeds, stones, scrub roots and any other unsuitable material.

Watering:

1.4 The Contractor shall allow for adequate water to be available during the Contract Period, and must allow in his estimate for transport of water to the planting areas. During the growing season all trees shall be watered as necessary or directed to ensure healthy growth. Drought or unavailability of water shall not release the Contractor from his obligations to replace all plant losses.

2.0 General Planting Operations

2.1 All plant material shall be supplied exactly true to name as shown in the schedule. No variations from the schedule of plants will be acceptable, except on written instructions from the Architect. Grafted material shall not be acceptable.

2.2 All plant shall be guaranteed for a period of 1year from the date of Practical Completion against death, deformation, or disease. The Contractor shall not be responsible for malicious damage.

2.3 Protection shall be given to plants during delivery to site to prevent drying out of roots. All bare-rooted trees shall have a damp Hessian and straw wrapping to the root system. Plant material which cannot be planted immediately shall be heeled into the ground until it is planted.

2.4 All planting material shall be planted between November and March inclusive, unless the Architect direct otherwise. Planting shall not take place in frosty,

snowy, or waterlogged conditions. Damaged roots shall be pruned off cleanly prior to planting.

- 2.5 At the end of the growing season, whilst still in leaf, plants shall be inspected jointly by the Contractor and the Architect. Any plants which have died or are not in thriving condition shall be replaced by the Contractor at the earliest opportunity in the following planting season. All replacements shall be agreed in writing.
- 2.6 All plant material and grassed areas shall be maintained by the Contractor for a minimum period of 12 months in accordance with 2.2 above until certification of Final Completion.

3.0 Planting of Trees

- 3.1 The description and Specifications as set out by the British Association of Landscape Industries, in association with the Horticultural Trades Association, are to be adhered to.
- 3.2 All stakes shall be straight, round sectioned with a minimum diameter of 75mm of treated softwood with a non0toxic wood preservative.
- 3.3 The length of the stake above ground level shall be a minimum of 1/3 the height of the tree. All trees to be light standards, 60-80mm girth, 1500-1800mm stem height, 2500-2750mm overall height above ground level.
- 3.4 Tree ties shall be black plastic, or rubber buckle type with cushioned spacers, and shall be fixed to the stake by a single flat-headed galvanised nail.
- 3.5 Excavated tree pits shall be of sufficient size to comfortably accommodate the root spread of the plant material. The bottom 150mm of the tree pit shall be well broken up. A 75mm layer of well-rotted farmyard manure shall be spread at the bottom of the tree pit.
- 3.6 The trees shall be set upright with the soil ring at the same level as in the plant nursery. The tree roots shall be spread out and the backfill returned to the pit, shaking the tree gently to enable all fibrous roots to have close contact with the soil. The roots shall not be allowed to come into direct contact with the manure at the base of the pit. After planting the soil shall be well firmed in around the base of the tree, and a 1m dia. Circle kept clear of weeds, grass and rubbish.

3.7 The Contractor shall for 12 months, or until successful handover, carry out the following maintenance:

- (i) Keep tree bases clear of weeds, grass and rubbish.
- (ii) Replace or refix any broken stakes or tree ties.
- (iii) Prune out any broken, dead, or diseased branches.
- (iv) Firm in and frost lifted trees.
- (v) Water all trees as necessary or as directed by the Architect.
- (vi) All losses shall be made good in accordance with 2.2 above.

4.0 Planting of Shrubs and Climbers

4.1 All plants shall comply with paragraph 2.1 British Standards and shall be in accordance with the height set out on the schedule of plants.

4.2 Immediately prior to planting, cultivate shrubs beds to a depth of 300mm and remove all weeds, rubbish, and stones exceeding 50mm diameter arising, and remove from the site.

4.3 Shrubs shall be planted exactly as shown on the approved drawings, and at the centres shown on the drawings, so as to achieve a natural appearance. Planting holes shall be 150mm wider than the root spread, and care shall be taken to avoid breaking, bending or cramping of the roots. Top soil shall be firmed in layers around the roots ensuring no voids. Set plants upright and at the same depth as grown in the nursery. All root wrappings and containers shall be carefully removed prior to planting.

4.4 Climbing plants shall be planted as for shrubs and shall be at least 150mm away from the fence. The plant shall have the supporting cane carefully removed and the stem intertwined into the fence.

4.5 The Contractor shall for 12 months, or until successful handover, carry out the following maintenance:

- (i) All shrub beds shall be hoed or forked regularly, removing all weeds and rubbish and leaving the soil open and the surface cultivated.
- (ii) Prune out any broken, dead, or diseased branches.

- (iii) Firm in any frost heaved plants.
- (iv) Water all shrubs and climbers as necessary or as directed in accordance 1.4 above.
- (v) All losses shall be made good in accordance with 2.2 above.

Martin Critchley, Chartered Architect

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Appendix A:

British Standards Applicable to Landscaping Works

BS ISO 257: 2004	Pesticides and other agrochemicals. Principles for the selection of common names.
BS 1722: Various	Fences.
BS 3882: 2007	Specification for topsoil and requirements for use.
BS 3936-1: 1992	Nursery stock. Specification for trees and shrubs.
BS 3936-2: 1990	Nursery stock. Specification for roses.
BS 3936-3: 1990	Nursery stock. Specification for fruit plants.
BS 3936-4: 2007	Nursery stock. Specification for forest trees, poplars and willows.
BS 3936-7: 1989	Nursery stock. Specification for bedding plants.
BS 3936-9: 1998	Nursery stock. Specification for bulbs, corms and tubers.
BS 3936-10: 1990	Nursery stock. Specification for ground cover plants.
BS 3998: 2010	Tree work. Recommendations.
BS 4428: 1989	Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces).
BS 5551: Various	Fertilisers.
BS 5709: 2006	Gaps, gates and stiles. Specification.
BS 5837: 2012	Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations.
BS 5930: 1981	Code of practice for site investigations.
BS 6031:2009	Code of practice for earthworks.

BS EN ISO 11091: 1999	Construction drawings. Landscape drawing practice.
BS EN 13556: 2003	Round and sawn timber. Nomenclature of timbers used in Europe.