



# Landscapes 4U

Well designed landscapes make being in your home and garden enjoyable. Poor landscaping, on the other hand, will eventually cause more work and additional costs which takes away from the appeal and enjoyment of your garden. Here are a few helpful tips to keep in mind when you are planning a landscaping project.

## 5 Ways To Avoid Costly Landscaping Mistakes

1. Become familiar with your likes and dislikes and what style/look you are trying to achieve. Visit local hardware store displays or display homes for ideas and inspiration. This can be a real eye opener and sometimes what you thought you wanted isn't the right fit for you or it looks different in person to what you were expecting. Remember to put some thought into your colour palette – what colour plants do you like? If you're having paving done, what colour/style pavers do you like? If you're planning a new deck, what colour stain do you like the look of?
2. Research, research, research before choosing your landscaper. Do they have experience doing the type of project you are after? Have they done these types of jobs before? Check out their Facebook page, Instagram and website and look for testimonials. Don't be afraid to ask questions about their experience and expertise.
3. Once you have chosen your landscaper, be sure to communicate clearly what your likes/dislikes are, what result you are hoping for and what expectations you have. This will ensure you and your landscaper are on

the same page and you won't be disappointed with the end result. A great landscaper can take the above information and offer suggestions that are in line with your style choices but can also offer solutions for problems you may not have even considered. Be sure to ask for any thoughts that they may have to improve on your initial ideas.

4. Let them know your budget!! It can be so disappointing to meet with a landscaper, discuss fabulous ideas, excitedly await a quote, only to receive a quote that is well beyond your budget. A good landscaper can offer cost effective solutions, if you are open and honest about what your budget is.
5. Always request a mud map/detailed drawing if you're embarking on a large project. A mud map allows you to visualise what your end result will be and ensures you and your landscaper are on the same page, preventing disappointment.

We hope this has been informative and will help you to avoid costly landscaping mistakes in the future!