

Poppy & the Bee's design process

Step 1 Initial visit

On this visit, I'll meet with you to discuss your design requirements and your overall needs. This will allow me to determine the scope of the design and the level of detail required. I can bring examples of previous designs on request. After this visit, I'll prepare an accurate quote for the preparation of a plan.

Step 2 Consultation Process

I usually undertake a number of consultations in the development of a design, to ensure that we are both on the same page with the garden vision. The initial consult usually involves a detailed meeting to discuss what your needs and wants for your garden may be. Items to consider include; how you want to use the space, any practical limitations or functional elements to consider, your preferred aesthetic, particular plants you love, colour schemes etc. I provide a questionnaire to you prior to our first meeting, to get the neurons firing in the garden wishes department. Collecting images from the web, or creating a Pinterest page is also a great way to impart what you want for your garden.

Step 3 Site Survey & Analysis

I'll measure up and undertake a detailed survey of the site including all existing features and conditions. From this I'll develop an accurate base plan. Digital surveys can be arranged upon request at an additional cost and is recommended where existing site levels need to be resolved.

Step 4 Concept Development

The next step is the development of a concept plan that conveys an overall vision for the garden and which outlines the general atmosphere or feel of the garden. The plan will define areas and uses within the garden (play, entertaining, retreat, utility), movement throughout the space (paths and desire lines), as well as general colour schemes and planting styles. It will also identify the hard landscaping elements of the garden.

A detailed plant list is also developed at this stage of the process, and together with the concept plan, is discussed in the second consultation.

Step 5 Second Consultation

At this meeting we will discuss the concept developed for the garden, as well as the plant list. I usually develop a photo book of plants for this meeting. The plants that

we use in a design are the backbone of the garden so it's essential that you're happy with each species used.

Step 6 Planting Plan development

Following on from the concept plan, a detailed planting plan is then developed. This will indicate exact planting layout, species and quantities of plant materials used. The plan will also outline different garden areas and treatments. We'll then meet to discuss the final plan.

Final plans are usually provided in A2 format. All plans are hand rendered and clients will be provided with 1 hand coloured plan and 2 x B&W copies.