

Planting Specification

Trees and shrubs planted shall comply with BS.3936 (Specification of Nursery Stock) and shall be planted in accordance with BS.4428 (General Landscape Operations) and BS8545:2014 ' Trees from nursery to dependence in the Landscape'. New trees to have a UK Plant Passport.

Avoid use of herbicide and pesticides in planting preparation and maintenance regimes.

Engineer to refer to soft landscape proposals when undertaking drainage and foundation design. Contractor to familiarize themselves with location of underground services using routing plans, CAT scans and onsite survey prior to planting and excavations.

Bare root and root-balled stock to be planted in the dormant season. All planting stock to be clearly labelled on delivery with the full botanical name. Plant stock to be approved prior to delivery to site and planting and trees be set out by Landscape Architect. All topsoil to be of good quality AS-DUG in accordance with BS 3882.2015. Depths of topsoil (Turf -150mm), (Shrubs- 300mm), Hedgerows (350mm) over free draining subsoil. Minimal topsoil coverage to be used on areas to be seeded and managed for wildflowers and wild-grasses. Use thin layer of topsoil only to provide initial seed bed if required.

Organic soil improvement compost to be dug into all planting areas and used at 1cubic m per 10m2. All planting beds and hedgerows to be mulched to 75mm depth immediately after planting. Medium grade bark mulch to be used to ornamental planting. Rain gardens to be mulched with mixture of 20-40mm slate and pebbles. Pebbles to be used as feature and around open inlet and outlet channels to minimize soil erosion. Allow 50mm clearance of mulch around plant stems. Ensure correct depth is used across the planting beds. Use a spade to 'throw' soil up from the edges of the planting beds and level soil prior to mulching. This will help ensure mulch doesn't spill onto neighbouring areas. Any imported soil, growing medium or compost shall be free of peat.

If very wet or very dry conditions are found in proposed planting areas the landscape architect shall review planting locations and/or species.

Tree pits

Ensure adequate rooting space and soils are provided per tree. Minimum 4.5m3 for trees with a mature canopy diameter of 3m/ 11m2 for trees with a mature canopy diameter of 5m and over 20m2 for tree large trees. This can be reduced by 20% for linked tree pits. Ensure tree pits are free draining prior to planting.

- Tree Pit to be dug 400mm larger than rootball in any direction. Side and base of pit to be forked over to aid drainage help root establishment. Tree pit to be back-filled with a mix of:
- 1 part 'Melcourt topgrow' (or similar) peat free, tree planting compost;
 - Mycorrhizal Fungi; and
 - 3 parts good quality, as dug sub and top soils to similar profiles as existing (Preferably use the excavated soil if of suitable quality and free draining) .

Minimum 1m2 area surrounding tree to be level (cut into bank on sloping ground). Medium grade bark mulch to be placed at the base of each trees to a depth of 75mm. Mulch to be maintained at size and depth for at least two growing seasons.

Hedgerow Planting (Whips and Transplants)

All existing vegetation to be removed from 1.2m wide strip. Plants to be double staggered and spaced at 5/ lin m into min 300mm depth topsoil with free draining subsoil beneath. Whips to be randomly planted in areas shown on drawings. Group 3 or 5 of the same species together. Do not plant whips within 1m of proposed standard trees. 1no. 600 x 50mm Treebio Biodegradable Spiral Guard and cane to be used for each plant and 1no. 600x 150mm Bio-Earth Biodegradable Plastic Free Shrub Shelter Guard and cane to be used for holly. Medium grade bark mulch to be placed at the base of hedgerow at a width of 1.0m and 75mm depth immediately after planting. Mulch to be maintained at size and depth for at least two growing seasons. Timber Post, Struts and 3 lines of strained galvanised wire to be erected in the centre of the hedge (where no other fencing type has been proposed) to protect the hedge during establishment.

Tree Stakes (Standards)

3no. stakes and 3no. hessian/ rubber ties system to be used on each tree over 8cm girth. Stakes to be 75mm diameter tanalised softwood, pointed at one end. Top of stake to be 600mm above ground level . Stakes to be driven firmly into ground, position stakes at time of planting.

Tree Stakes (Maidens/ Fruit Trees)

Trees to be single staked. Stakes to be 75mm diameter tanalised softwood and pointed at one end. Top of stake to be positioned 300mm under first branch and fixed to tree with 2no. suitable Hessian or 25mm rubber ties and spacers. Stakes to be positioned firmly in ground, at time of planting and on the side of prevailing winds.

Stakes to remain in place until trees have a strong upright form. If ties are adjusted regularly the stake can remain in place until it rots off.

Tree strimmer guards to be used on all trees within grassed areas.

Tree Irrigation

Monitor trees in growing season and provide water to ensure healthy establishment. Tree irrigation system (for example 'RootRain' Urban by Green, Blue Urban) to be provided to all trees. Trees to be watered during the first three growing seasons. Watering to be based on weather and ground conditions. As a general guide, 75L of water to be provided to each tree every 2 weeks.

Alternatively use 75L Treegator Watering Bag by Green Tech to provide slow release of water to new planted trees. Ensure bags are regularly topped up with water, checking every two weeks. Also check bag is in good condition and not effecting tree health or tree growth. Use bags for at least 2 years, reposition or replace bag if required.

Any queries in relation to planting schedules, layout or planting stock to be raised with Landscape Architect.

Suitable tree root barriers to be used on boundaries with hard-standing, walling, services, proposed and existing buildings.

Maintenance of Species Rich Grassland and Meadows

Meadows should be cut once (late July - August) or twice (February) per year, to a minimum height of 10cm. The cuttings should be left for a couple of weeks to seed before being collected. The cuttings can either be piled in one corner of site to allow to decompose (these provide habitat for a range of species) or taken to a licenced site to be disposed of. A small patch of meadow each year could be left uncut to provide for wintering insects; this can be rotated each year.

Project:
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