

Kirman Design checklist for guidance notes on how to choose a landscaper.

You have a project to do in your garden. There are hundreds of landscapers out there to choose. Who is right for you? Below is a list of considerations that you may wish to have in mind if you are in the position of hiring a landscaper. This checklist should be used in conjunction with the notes on this page: <http://www.kirmandesign.co.uk/choosing-a-landscaper/>. Firstly, do your homework and check them out online before you approach them in person.

Name of company:

No.	Query	Notes	✓	✗
1	What is their web site like?			
2	What are your first impressions of the company?			
3	Association of Professional Landscapers members?			
4	British Association of Landscape Industries members?			
5	Are they 'TrustMarked'?			
6	What are their reviews like?			
7	Consider the depth and breadth of their work?			
8	Have the company got an office?			
9	Have they won any awards?			
10	Do they have a good reputation?			
11	Do they interact professionally with social media?			

You have committed to contact a select number of landscapers. How can I decide who to choose from there?

No.	Query	Notes	✓	✗
12	What are your 2nd impressions (in person rather than online)?			
13	Are they perceptive and interested in your project?			
14	Is your quotation or estimate on company letterheaded paper?			
15	Are the costings clear as to exactly what they are actually for?			
16	Which specifications have been used to price the works?			
17	Have you been asked for all the money up front?			
18	Have you been supplied with a client brief?			
19	Is there a scaled plan to go with any costings?			

No.	Query	Notes	✓	✗
20	Do they have the correct insurance to complete the job?			
21	Have the company have a current waste carriers' licence?			
22	Have they offered you got a contract for the works?			
23	Have CDM regulations been discussed?			
24	Has health and safety of the job been thought about?			
25	Do the company just work from a mobile number?			
26	Do they provide welfare facilities for their staff?			
27	Can they supply you with references?			
28	Are the company VAT registered?			
29	Are you dealing with 'one-man band' or larger company?			
30	Can they do the job 'Straight away'?			
31	Are the landscapers responsive to your needs?			
32	Are you collecting bids from different landscapers?			
33	Do you like them?			
34	Have they done what they said they were going to do?			
35	Do they have exceptional customer service?			
36	Have you checked them out on www.gov.uk web site?			
37	Are they reliable?			
38	Can I check their details out with Companies House?			
39	What is your gut feel?			
40	Don't take risks!			

Having membership of the Association of Professional Landscapers (APL) and the Society of Garden Designers, Kirman Design are experienced in both landscaping and garden design. We are based at Bents Garden & Home, Glazebury, Cheshire and are open 7 days a week.

If you have a project in mind, please give us a call, or pop in and we can discuss your plans and how we can help you over coffee.

w: <http://www.kirmandesign.co.uk>

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