

# How we design your landscape

plants, gardens, landscapes

CELEBRATING  
30 YEARS  
IN BUSINESS

Van Leeuwen Green has been creating gardens and landscapes in Melbourne's eastern and inner suburbs since 1995. We provide integrated design, construction and horticultural services that deliver long-lived, beautiful gardens to our clients. Good design is the foundation for the gardens and landscapes we implement.



van leeuwen green  
est 1995

## This information sheet describes the benefits of design and how our design service works.

All gardens and landscapes need design. Design simply means that expert thought goes into assessing the potential of a space. Design thinking helps you work through ideas, dreams and expectations, so that an agreed plan helps transform spaces into special garden places. The design process may be relatively informal; it may, for example, be based on a one-off site visit to discuss your ideas, with broad concepts sketched on the spot, combined with a quotation. Often, though, garden creation or renovation warrants engaging the services of a full time designer. The designer works with you over one or more visits, discussing and presenting concepts and plans that lead to a fully-fledged landscape master plan.

## When should I engage a Designer?

### **We strongly recommend that you engage a designer when:**

- You are unsure what you are after and want someone to come up with ideas, drawings and plans
- You seek an aesthetic vision beyond the norm, something cutting edge that tests the boundaries
- You know what you want but would like a designer to clarify your ideas and give you a graphic representation of the desired outcome
- The size and complexity of your site/spaces and the construction detail required needs several site visits and possibly engineering specifications
- You want a vision that integrates and harmonises the hard constructed elements with the living, dynamic soft elements of the landscape ie. the plants.

## What are the benefits of design?

Creating a new garden can be a complex process involving significant investment of time and money, with lots of possibilities. For example, a typical landscape project for a new garden might include a paved area for seating, turf areas, screening and garden beds. Utility elements such as a shed and clothesline or pathways and driveways are often added at the same time. The way these elements are laid out, and the materials and construction methods used can make the total cost, quality and usability of the final result vary greatly. A design ensures that the function of all these elements and their relationship with one another is carefully considered and specified.

### Design will make your garden look better

A design helps develop a coherent theme for your landscape. It takes into account important aesthetic features such as views and the way the garden relates to the style and form of the house. Through the design process, beautiful plants and hard materials are selected, creating exciting combinations of colours and textures. A design will ensure that the garden has an inviting sense of proportion and space.

### Design improves the functional elements of your garden

Through design, the location of practical elements will be convenient and appropriate in relation to such features as pathways, doors and windows. You will have easy access to the various sections of the garden, with shelter and privacy where it's needed.

### Design saves you money

Design makes sure that you avoid making mistakes that are costly to alter later, such as inappropriate location of paths, inadequate drainage or poor tree selection. Plantings will be long lived and require less maintenance.

### Design gives you flexibility and control in the construction of the garden

The design process allows clients to explore costs without being locked into immediate implementation. The final design also gives you a coherent blueprint for long-term landscape development. All quotations from Van Leeuwen Green for landscape installation are based on the specifications provided in the final design.

*To find out more go to [www.vanleeuwengreen.com](http://www.vanleeuwengreen.com), or to discuss your garden design needs call 03 9888 9988 or email [jody@vlghort.com](mailto:jody@vlghort.com)*



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