

Basic Drawing Materials

To execute a simple landscape plan you need the following materials, which can be found at art supply stores.

Graph Paper - Decide on the scale you will draw your design and purchase paper with the same 'scale' of grid. Paper with 5 or 4 squares per inch will work for 1"=10' or 1"=8' scales. Paper can be purchased in single sheets or tablets and comes in a variety of sizes. Make sure your property will fit on the paper. For example, if you decide to use a 1" = 10' scale and you know your property is 80' x 130' you will need 8" x 13" to draw your property on the page. Also, remember you will want room for notes at the edges. In this case you would probably want an 11" x 17" pad of graph paper with 5 squares per inch.

Tracing paper - Paper can be purchased in rolls (least expensive option) or single sheets. You may want to purchase one piece of very sturdy tracing paper for your final drawing.

Pencil and eraser - A standard pencil will do, or you can purchase drawing pencils. In general the softer leads (2B) are good for sketching and the harder ones (2H) are better for detailed work.

Marking pens - Choose a few different widths of black markers to use for your final drawing - thickest pens for structures, walls, etc. and thinnest for details.

Tape - Use tape to hold the tracing paper over the graph paper.

Triangles - Use triangles to draw straight lines and angles.

Scale or ruler - Make sure that you get one that matches the scale you will use for your drawing.

Circle template (or compass) - Circle templates are easiest for the planting plan. You will use your scale to find the circle that matches the mature size of the selected plant species.