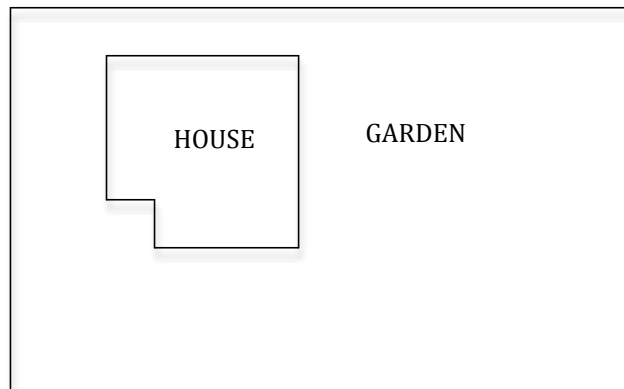


How to Measure Your Garden

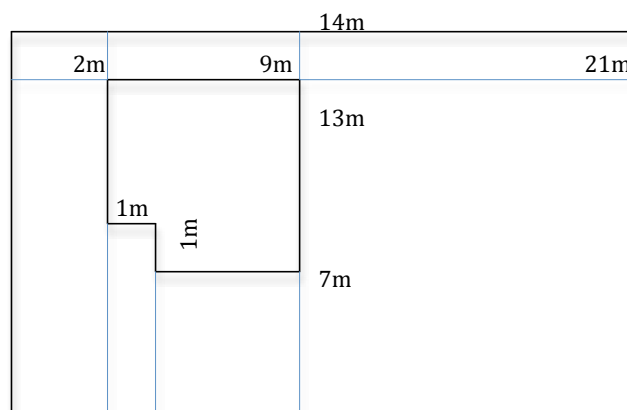
This guide will help make measuring easy for you. The more accurately you measure your garden, the more closely your garden design will suit it.

1. If you have a large complicated garden, for example one that slopes several ways, it may be best to get a professional survey done. If you have a simpler garden, follow the steps below.
2. First make a **rough sketch plan** of your garden and house, which you can use to put your measurements on. This is a '**bird's eye view**' of the garden. It doesn't have to be to scale.



3. **If your garden is rectangular and flat**, measure down each side of the plot and enter the distances on your sketch plan. (If you have a paneled fence all the way round your plot, then instead, you can measure the width of one fence panel and add them up.) Measure up your house (and garage) and put them onto your sketch, showing where they are in relation to the boundaries.

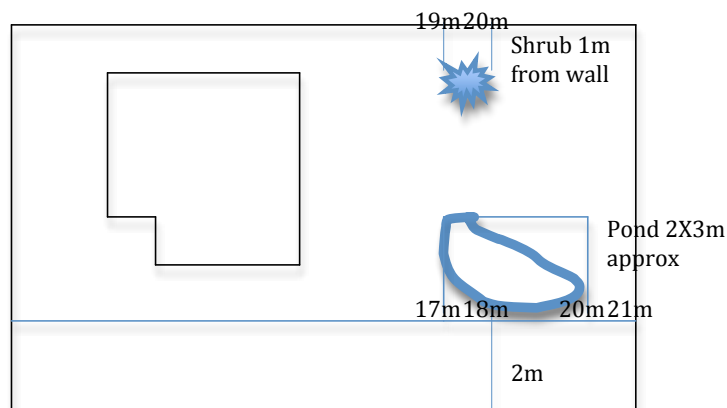
To do this, measure lines at 90 degrees to the house, from the house to the boundaries. For the sketch plan below, I have put the measurements on showing a cumulative total, so I'd be able to measure totals as I go along the plot. So the plot below is a total of 21m wide and 14m deep.



4. **If you have angled boundaries**, use the 'triangulation method' described in 7. below.

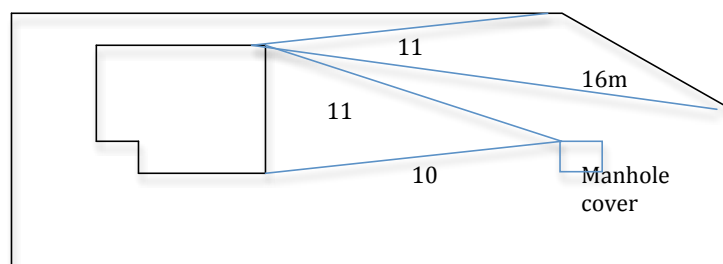
5. For **curves and features in the middle of the garden**, choose a straight line in the garden from which to measure them easily. This could be a boundary, the house wall and continuation into the garden, or a diagonal across the garden and is referred to as the 'baseline'. Measure the distance from the line to the feature (at intervals for large features/boundaries), at 90 degrees to the line. The right angles can be guessed at, or if not, use the 'triangulation' method at 7. below.

Include fixed features such as drains, trees, shrubs and buildings, which you want to retain in your new garden plan. You will also need to include the size of these, such as the spread of a tree.



6. For **irregular features** such as ponds, measure a rectangle around it, at right angles to your baseline, to make it easier to measure. Measure the size of the rectangle, then the distance from the rectangle to two straight lines (see pond above).

7. If it's hard to measure at right angles/ 90 degrees from the baseline, use the 'triangulation' method. This just means measuring the feature, or boundary, from 2 fixed points: two corners of the house are ideal. For angled boundaries, use this method in reverse, measuring the distance from the 2 ends to one of the house corners.

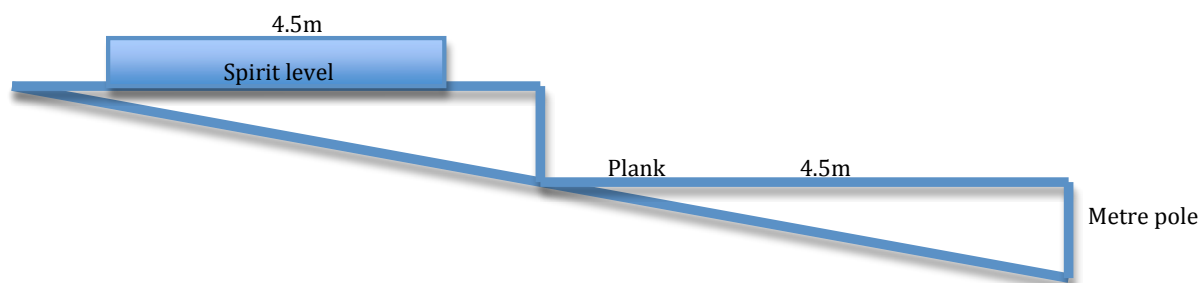


8. Slopes

If you have a wall down the side of your slope, then measure a triangle, using a spirit level and stick, to calculate the depth of the slope. If you have bricks, just count the number of bricks. Do this at intervals so you can tell me any changes in the amount it slopes.

If you do not have a vertical surface next to the slope, you will need to measure the gradient another way. You need a pole exactly one metre long, a plank and a spirit level.

Start at the top of the slope. Rest the plank on the ground at the beginning of the slope. Prop it up horizontally using the metre pole, sliding it along under the plank as necessary and using the spirit level to keep it flat. The slope falls a metre over the distance from the anchored end of the plank to where it meets the meter pole. Measure this distance. If you have not reached the bottom of the slope, repeat the process, moving the end of the plank down to the mark of the first metre stick. Add the vertical measurements and then the horizontal ones to find the overall gradient.



The slope descends by a gradient of 1 in 4.5.

If you have any problems with this, please call or email me and I will help. I can also fit in any extra measurements that come up, during the design.

Good luck! I look forward to receiving your information.