READING A LANDSCAPE PLAN

The first and foremost consideration when receiving a landscape design package is to work through the design with the overall mindset of understanding the intentions and outcome of the design. Only when you understand the end goal can you start to develop a plan to execute a project effectively to achieve that goal.

What are the design package components?

Title block - project name, project address, drawing number, drawing title, date, scale, drawing status, company logo, architect/designer

Project: 3600 Lakeshore Road	Client: Robertson Residence
Drawing Title: Landscape Plan	
Scale: 1/8 = 1' @ A1	Date: 15 /01/ 2022
Drawing No: L1	Status: Information
Drawn by: G Singh	Checked by: G Singh

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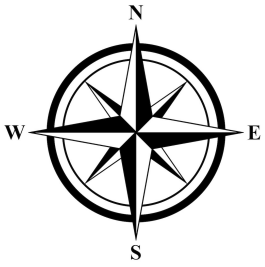
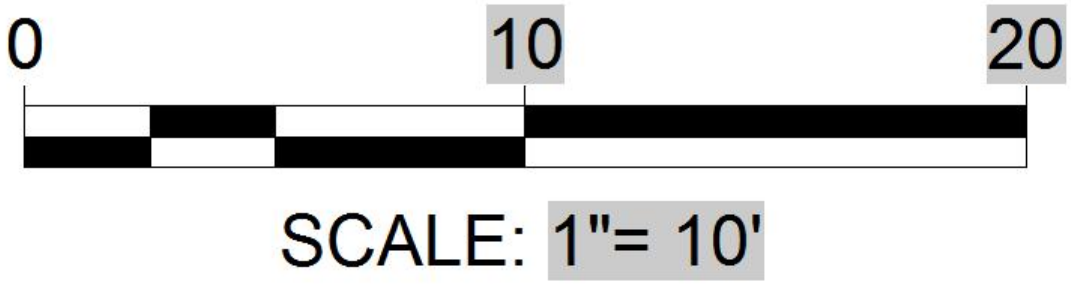
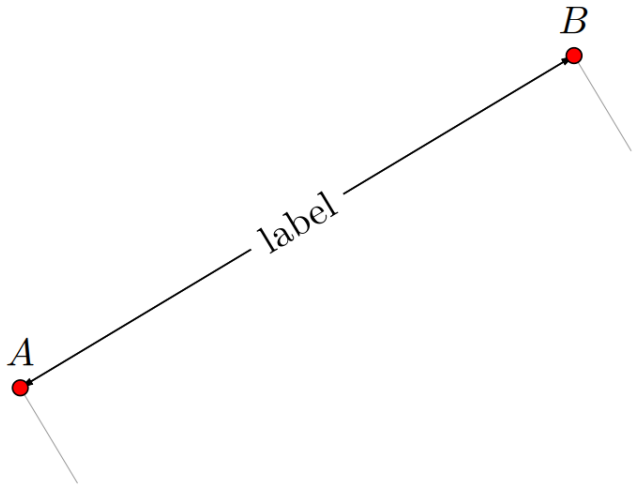
Compass Rose - Graphic symbol used to show north as a way of orienting yourself and the drawing onsite (can been shown in a variety of different symbol styles)



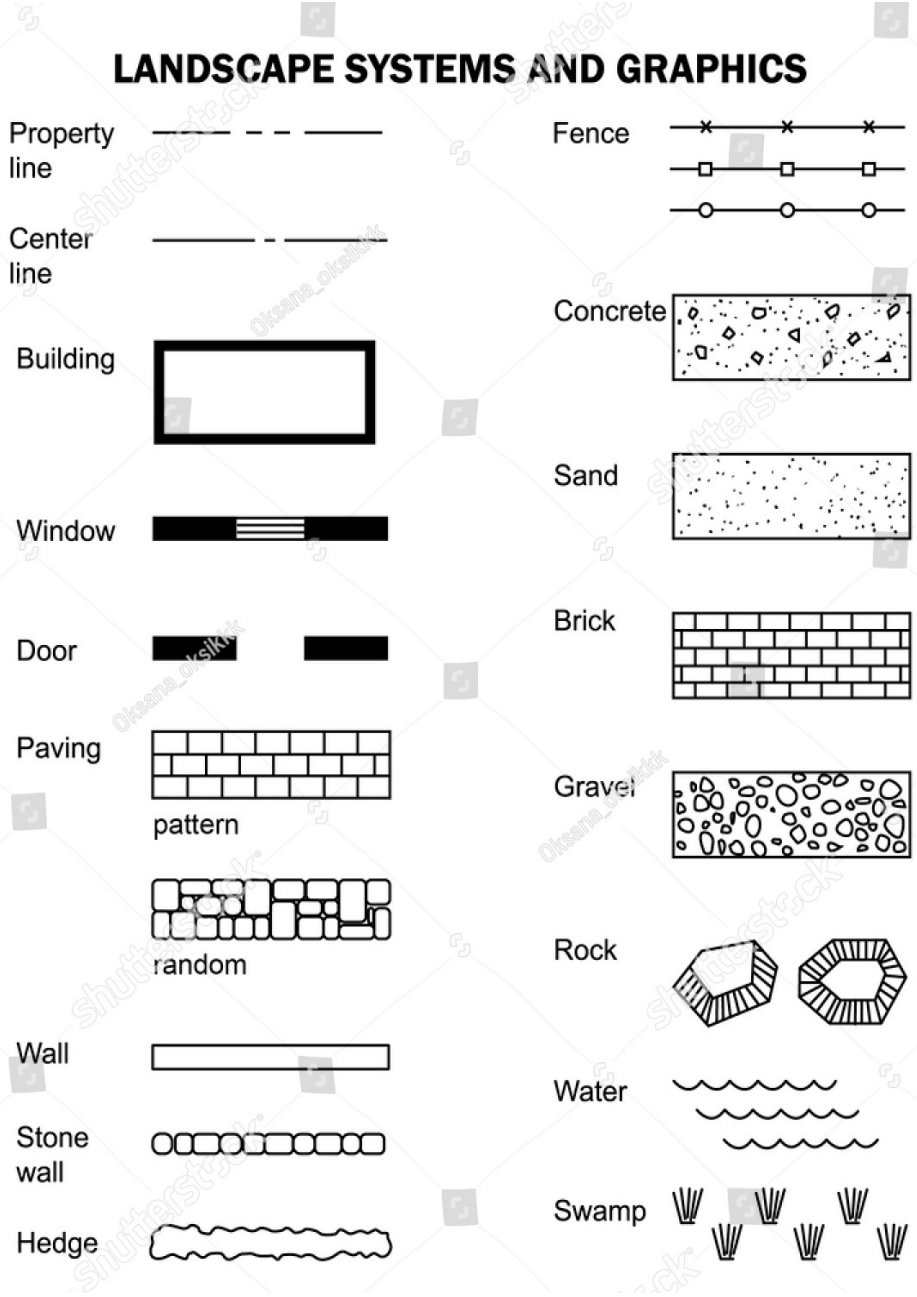
Scale Bar - used to show the current sheets scale allowing measurement of distances on the drawing to be transferred to the full scale while onsite.



Dimension labels - are used as a reference for laying out specific features and areas within the space



Legends - are used to show product finishes and materials as a reference within the landscape plan.



Symbols & Abbreviations - used as a reference to depict various elements within a landscape plan. These symbols are typically linked to a legend explaining what each symbol or abbreviation represents.

TOSG - Top of sub-grade

TOBG - Top of base grade

TOHS - Top of hard surface

TOFG - Top of finished grade

TOW - Top of wall

BOW - Bottom of wall

TOS - Top of stair

BOS - Bottom of stair

TODP - Top of Drain Pit

BODP - Bottom of drain Pit

TOD - Top of drain

G - Natural gas line

E - High voltage electrical Line

IT - Irrigation timer

VB - Valve Box

ML - Main Line

JP - Junction point

LT - Lighting Transformer

EO - Electrical outlet

CS - Curb Stop

EB - Electrical Box

SEW - Sewer cleanout

Keynote labels - are typically marked with symbols containing letters and numbers. These are accompanied by a legend for quick reference to what each label represents.

Keynotes

01 Masonry infill at existing window opening

02 New 6" limestone sill to match adjacent sill at front entry door

03 Translucent glass floor with steel frame per details

04 Patch existing wall at existing element slated for demolition, typical

05 New concrete slab with radiant heat per mechanical drawings. Locate bottom of new slab at bottom of existing footing. Contractor to review final elevation in field with architect

06 Retain and protect existing masonry opening from family room finished floor to header. Fill in door opening per structural drawings below family room finished floor

07 Provide insulated wall where plumbing occurs at exterior wall

08 New concrete stairs

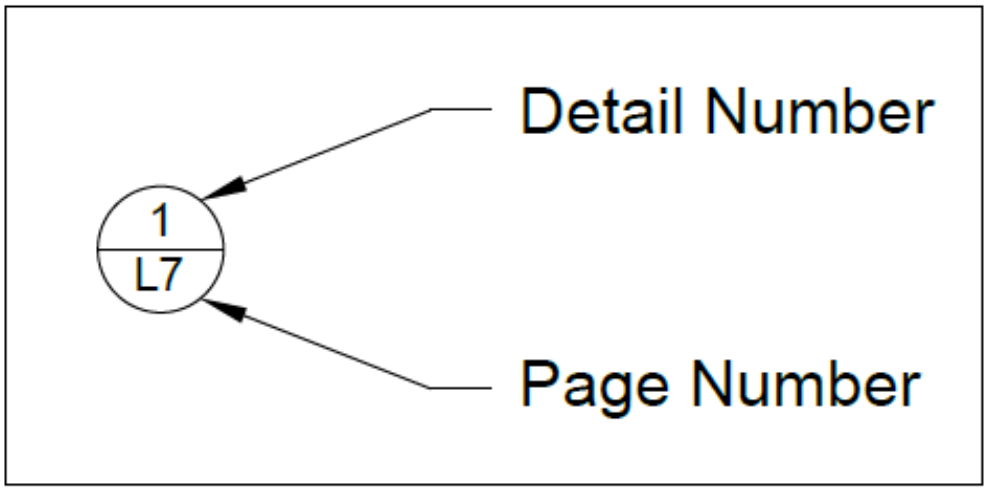
09 Coordinate location of sill at new opening with height of new basement slab

10 Infill roof opening per structural at existing dormer slated for demolition

11 New standing seam metal roofing

Sheet pages - These are different pages contained within a landscape package.

Section labels - symbols contain both a sheet reference and a section number. These labels reference another sheet and section that contain the finer install details of a specific area.
General notes - Contain standard and project specific details that are pertinent to the installation of the project.



CRL'S Typical Design Package

Understanding CRL's typical design package - what sheets will be included and what they contain (may be variations of these pages to show multiple sections i.e. L1.1 and L1.2)

L0: Cover Page
- Title Block
- Revision Block
- Drawing package Index
- Symbols and abbreviations legend (standard)
- Layout notes
- Project Notes
- Visual depiction of the intention or outcome of the landscape design and its features.

L1: Landscape plan
- 2D Color Plan View
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- Material Table of Contents
- Symbol and Abbreviation Table of Contents
- Keynotes Legend

L2: Demolition, Protection, & Staging Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Construction Limits (confinement of working space)
- Demolition Notes

L3: Setting out plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Dimension labels

L4: Grading Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Grading Legend
- Grading Notes
- Grading Labels

L5: Conduits & underground services
- Title block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Conduit and Material Legend
- Symbols and abbreviations legend
- Standard Underground Service Depths Legend
- Section Keynotes and Labels

L6: Drainage Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Drainage and Material Legend
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend
- Grading Labels for Drainage
- Section Keynotes

L7: Irrigation Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Pipe and Material Legend
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend
- Materials Table of Contents
- Section Keynotes and Label

L8: Lighting Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Wire and Material Legend
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend
- Materials Table of Contents
- Section Keynotes and Label

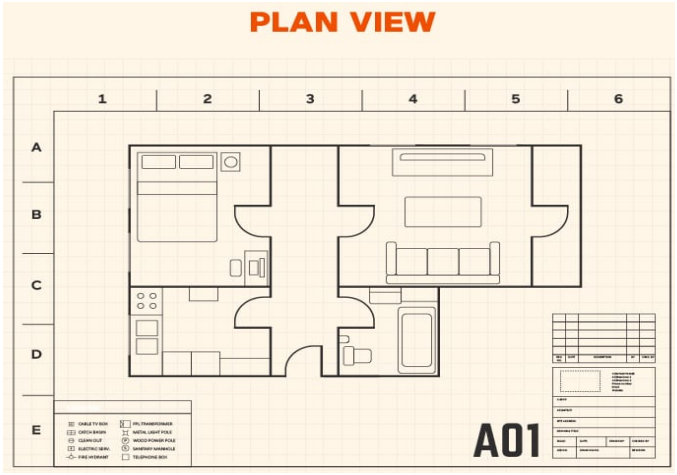
L9: Planting Plan
- Title Block
- Scale Bar
- Compass Rose
- 2D Black and White Plan View
- Plant Legend
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend
- Section Keynotes and Labels

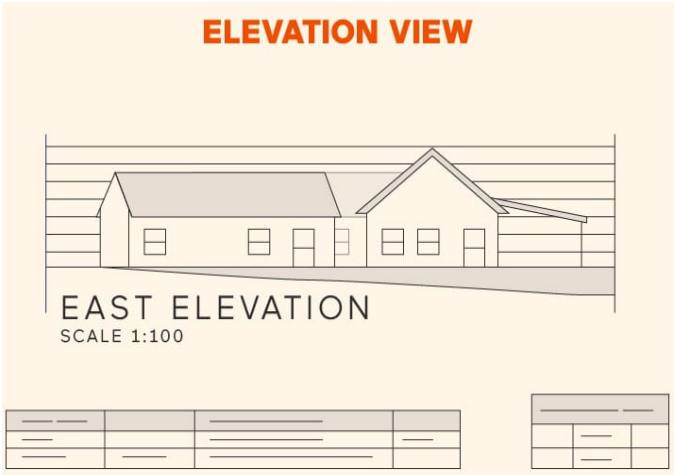
L10: Section Details
- Title Block
- Scale Bar - per section
- Section Keynotes and Labels
- Dimension Labels
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend

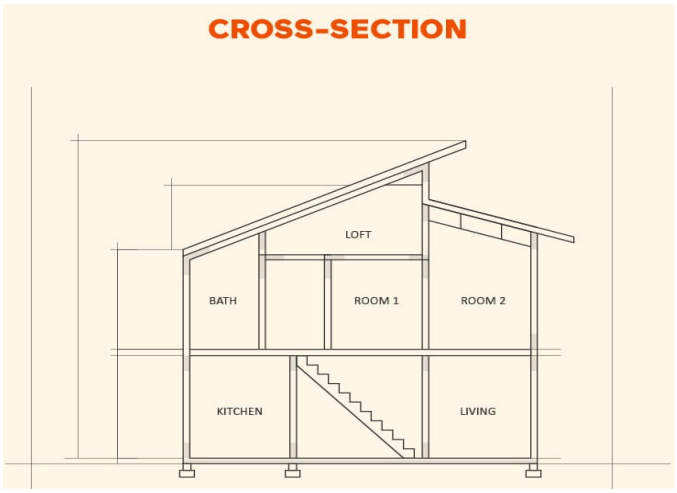
L11: Key Feature Specifications
- Title Block
- Scale Bars - per section
- Section Keynotes and Labels
- Dimension Labels
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend
- Materials Table of Contents

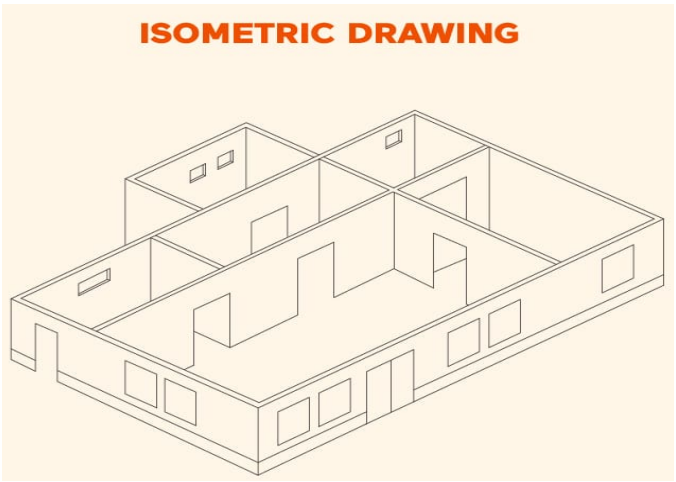
L12: Creative Roots Standard Details
- Title Block
- Scale Bars - per section
- Standard Section Labels
- Dimension Labels
- Symbols and Abbreviations Legend and/or Labels

Understand the 4 common perspectives you will see within a package:









Receiving a new landscape package

1. Begin with the title block
1. Study the legends and table of contents
2. Familiarize yourself with the symbols and abbreviations within our standard design packages
3. Find the blueprints scale and orientation
4. Study all the notes from the Architect/designer
5. Familiarize yourself with the package and various sheets included
6. Insert yourself into the physical space while working through some of these processes to ensure a solid understanding of the space

Using a tape measure to pull measurements off of a landscape plan:

1. Make sure you have a standard tape measure or ruler.
2. Determine the sheet scale that you are working with.
3. For accuracy avoid using the very end of the tape measure to make your measurements. Instead use an even point further down the tape measure such as the 1” or 2” line. Thi will allow more accuracy as well as allow the tape to sit closer to the sheet on its own.
4. Measure from your chosen starting point to the desired end point.
5. To get your length, take the difference between the two measurements and divide that by the scale of the sheet.
    a. For example if you use the 1” point on the measuring tape to start your measurement and your finished point reads 2.5” you would then take the difference between those two measurements and divide them by the drawings scale.
    b. Let’s say this drawing's scale reads ¼” = 1’.
    c. This means for every ¼” measurement on the landscape plan you would measure 1’ in distance onsite.
    d. The difference between your measurements is 2.5” - 1” = 1.5”. Divide this by the sheet scale 1.5 / .25 = 6’.
    e. When laying this measurement out onsite you would measure from the same starting point you used on the landscape plan out 6’ to the same end point you used on the landscape plan

To find center points or reference points of arcs, circles or other areas not clearly defined within your landscape setting out plan:

1. Pick 2-3 reference points on the landscape plan to measure from to you desired point with your tape measure
2. Convert those measurements by dividing the overall measurement by the scale of the sheet
3. Onsite measure from the same starting point used for your 2 - 3 reference points to your end point using the distance you calculated after your scale conversion.
4. You now have a new reference point to continue an area's layout or a center point to mark a radius.

Using CRL's standard details combined with design details to determine excavation area and depth of various sections within a landscape plan. (small block wall example)

1. Go to the sheet marked landscape plan (L1) in your package and review the materials legend to determine what product or material is to be used within the specified area.
2. Go to the setting out page (L3) within your design package
3. Use the provided measurements to layout the specified area using a tape measure, paint, string lines, stakes, and a zip level.
4. If the measurements are not shown clearly on the setting out plan, use the techniques shown in the above section to mark reference points within the space and then layout the area as described in the previous step.
5. Go to CRL's standards page (L12) and review the standards relating to the specific area in which you are working.
6. Using CRL's Standards determine:
    a. Width or area of excavation (including over prep if required)
    b. The depth to top of sub-grade within the specific area you are working
    c. Elevations in relation to the grading plans (L4) zero point
7. Move to the grading plan (L4) in your landscape package. Determine what the TOP (top of grades) are specified within your working area.
8. Using the product dimensions listed in on your landscape plan sheet (L1) and/or elevations and heights laid out within CRL's standards determine the depth of excavation required throughout your excavation area.

    EXAMPLE- block wall
    i. Go to the setting out page (L3) within your design package
    ii. Use the provided measurements to layout the front and back face of the proposed block wall using a tape measure and marking paint
    iii. If the measurements are not shown, use reference point techniques to layout the location of the front of the block wall and then mark out the back of the block wall from that line.
    iv. Go to CRL's standards page (L12) and review the standards for a block wall installation
    v. Using CRL's standards for block walls determine:
        1. Width of the base prep
        2. Depth of the base prep
        3. Depth first course of block is to be buried below final grade
    vi. Mark out the width of the base excavation using a tape measure and marking paint (be sure to account for the overprep that is specified within CRL's standards)
    vii. Determine the depth of our excavation so we can begin the installation of the wall.
    viii. Turn to the grading plan (L4) in your landscape package. Determine what grades are specified for TOW (top of wall) and (BOW) bottom of wall.
    ix. Using the product dimensions listed in on your landscape plan (L1) determine how many blocks with a cap you need to ensure the TOP wall

is as per plan while at the same time having the base block meet CRL's minimum standards for depth below finished grade (8"). To do this add the height of the cap and the blocks together to to meet the minimum depth

x. Let's say the specs on the plan show TOW is +34" and BOW is 0"
xi. The landscape plan (L1) specifies a valley stone block that is 18"w x 12"d x8"H and a cap that is 18"w x 12"d x 4"H.
xii. The total finished wall height above grade is +34" TOW - 0" BOW = 34"
xiii. We need to ensure our base block is buried a minimum of 8" below finished grade according to CRL standards. 34" + 8" = 42"
xiv. Now we can determine the amount of block we will need to ensure we meet CRL's standards while maintaining that +34 TOW once the wall install is complete.
xv. We know our caps are 4" high and blocks are 8" high. How many blocks plus a cap will it take to meet or slightly exceed that 42" minimum that we determined? 4" + 8" + 8" + 8" + 8" + 8" = 44" That is 2" more than we need. However, if we used one less block at 8" in height we would only have a total wall height of 36". This would put our base block only 2" below finished grade and would not meet CRL's standards of having our base block buried a minimum of 8" below final grade so we need to go one block deep to ensure this standard is met. Our new overall height of wall will now be 44" based on product specs and CRL standards.
xvi. We also need to account for 8" of road base that will make up the base that our block wall is built on as per CRL's standards. 44" + 8" = 52"
xvii. Now that we have these calculations we can determine our excavation depth and set our zip level for excavation.
xviii. We know that our TOW is to be +34" from the grading plans zero point. We now know our overall height from TOW to TOSG (top of subgrade) is to be 52". If we take +34 - 52" = -18" This will be the height we excavate to so that we ensure the wall both meets CRL standards and finished at the specified +34"

f. Now you can set your zip level to the landscape plans specified 0" point and start excavation to the width we have laid out as well as a depth of -18"
g. The same process can be used for any feature within the landscape plan such as pavers, shrub beds, post holes, etc. Do paver example now.