



# Careers information sheet

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## Landscaping

### What do Landscapers do?

Landscaping is an expanding industry employing people in the design, construction and maintenance of public and private landscaped areas.

Work can include both hard landscaping (building walls, laying pavements) and soft landscaping (planting).

Landscape design is part of Amenity Horticulture which includes the design and construction of parks, gardens and nature reserves. It needs a good understanding of plants and their growth.

(Source: Sparsholt College/loH)

There are several different pathways to become a qualified Landscaper.

- ROUTE 1 - Work based learning
- ROUTE 2 - Vocational learning
- ROUTE 3 - Traditional route

Go to the Key Routes web pages for interactive versions of these routes – <http://www.keyroutes.org.uk/areas/lanenv/opt-landscap.aspx>

Adults with relevant interest and experience can join vocational courses – check individual institutions for details.

### What else should I be doing?

It would help your Landscaping career to:

- develop your decision making and problem solving skills
- develop your negotiation and analytical skills
- take business studies courses to develop your commercial awareness
- choose work experience where you will gain practical horticulture skills
- practise your freehand drawing skills as well as drawing and graphics packages
- maintain an interest in the landscape and environment
- become an Affiliate member of the Institute of Horticulture or a student member of the Society of Garden Designers
- take an evening class in garden design
- start your own design portfolio
- visit flower shows such as Chelsea or Hampton Court

## **Useful links**

The Institute of Horticulture is the professional organisation for those working in Horticulture in the UK and has career information on different jobs.  
<http://www.rhs.org.uk>

The Royal Horticultural Society offers short courses for amateurs or adults wanting to work in the industry and for those already working in related areas. The Master of Horticulture M Hort (RHS) is a degree level equivalent for professionals. All the courses can be taken by distance learning.  
<http://www.rhs.org.uk>

In the South East, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew offers a range of courses including the Kew Diploma at degree level.  
<http://www.rhs.org.uk>

The Society of Garden Designers is a membership organisation  
<http://www.sgd.org.uk>

The British Association of Landscape Industries  
<http://www.bali.org.uk> is the trade association for the UK.