



How Do I Choose a Landscape Designer?

Is there a difference between designers? Yes, a tremendous difference.

First it is important to ask yourself: What are you looking for?

People who call themselves designers may be amateur or professional. It's important to evaluate their qualifications beforehand so that you know what you're getting yourself into. A designer's qualifications can be measured on the basis of their tangible & intangible skills:

Tangibles - are education and experience. What kind of skill set can this person bring into your spaces? Do their services offer a variety of ways of assisting you, depending on your needs?

The following page provides information for assessing tangible skills.



Intangibles - for example, knowledge; or do you have a sense that you can trust their guidance? Are they understanding what you are saying, and are you understanding what they are saying? Are they advocating you and gently helping you, even in early communications? Artfulness, depth and common sense also come into play.

Examine your own feelings as you look upon examples of a designer's work. Do you feel a sense of warmth or invitation? Does it look like it belongs? Answers to these types of questions will give you clues to a designer's intangible skills and the degree of finesse in their work.

A competent designer is one you feel you could work with to bring invitation, finesse and belonging to your outdoor spaces. Look for balance in a designer's tangible and intangible skills and expect a cost/quality connection.

Landscape designs give back to the owner for decades. You are hiring an expert who combines your thoughts with their keen, artistic eye and their knowledge of landscape installation and plants (bloom times, size, soil and light requirements), and to create a design that is professional, unique, and seamlessly integrates with your outdoor spaces. A professional designer is purposeful and justified in the plan they produce because they understand the technical and human aspects in the remarkable plans they produce. A professional designer also knows how to design so that their plan can be properly installed by landscape construction companies or an eager and capable owner.

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This diagram demonstrates the wide-range of qualifications that a landscape designer could have. When choosing a landscape designer, look for balance in a designer's tangible & intangible skills.

The radiating lines from our logo point to the wide range of experience, education, and services that (Anaya) Jean Webb offers through her company Amitola Design Concepts.

