

BC DESIGN JUDGING CRITERIA

Note: half points are acceptable. Where criteria does not apply disregard and adjust total accordingly.

DESIGN CATEGORY - 35 TOTAL POINTS	Description	Outstanding to Excellent (9 to 10)	Good (7 to 8)	Fair (1 to 6)	TOTAL VALUE	
	a) Overall first impression/general appearance	OUTSTANDING Aesthetic Impression	GOOD Aesthetic Impression	FAIR to POOR Aesthetic Impression	10	
		Excellent proportion and scale achieved with balanced integration of well chosen hardscaping and softscaping elements	Average proportion and scale achieved with balanced integration of good hardscaping and softscaping elements	Proportion and scale not achieved; little or no balance between hardscaping and softscaping elements		
		Impeccably clean and weed free overall	Moderately clean and weed free overall	Untidy appearance; debris and/or weeds.		
		Ideal suitability and creative application of design for site and purpose	Appropriate suitability and application of design for site and purpose	Lack of cohesiveness; inappropriate application of design for site and purpose		
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE	
	b) Degree of difficulty/uniqueness of situation	Excellent ingenuity and unique approach and to landscape issues and challenges	Good ingenuity and approach to landscape issues and challenges	Average ingenuity and approach to landscape issues	5	
		High degree of difficulty with outstanding success	Moderate degree of difficulty with good success	Little or no degree of difficulty		
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE	
	c) Harmony of design elements	EXCELLENT harmony and unification of hardscape and softscape design elements	GOOD harmony and unification of hardscape and softscape design elements	POOR harmony and unification of hardscape and softscape design elements	5	
		Excellent execution of design style and use of space	Good execution of design style and use of space	Fair execution of design style and use of space		
		Excellent attention to form scale and balance/repetition	Good attention to form scale and balance/repetition	Average attention to form scale and balance/repetition		
		Excellent spatial composition with consideration of use, circulation, traffic flow	Good spatial composition with consideration of use, circulation, traffic flow	Fair spatial composition with consideration of use, circulation, traffic flow		
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE	
	d) Integration of hard and soft materials	EXCELLENT attention to design style and appropriate selection of corresponding and appropriate materials	GOOD attention to design style and appropriate selection of corresponding and appropriate materials	POOR attention to design style and appropriate selection of corresponding and appropriate materials	5	
		Combination results in an aesthetically pleasing expression	Combination results in an moderately aesthetically pleasing expression	Combination is not aesthetically pleasing		
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE	
	e) Inclusion of unique hardscape ornamentation features: statuary, fountains, fences, decks, gazebos, lighting	EXCELLENT innovative use of additional elements that contributes to spatial design and the 3rd dimension	GOOD innovative use of additional elements that contributes to spatial design and the 3rd dimension	FAIR innovative use of additional elements ; no major benefit or contribution to spatial design and the 3rd dimension	5	
		Excellent creativity and judgment in selection, (scale and proportion) and placement according to the design style and site	Good creativity and judgment in selection, (scale and proportion) and placement according to the design style and site	Poor creativity and judgment in selection, (scale and proportion); placement need improvement according to the design style and site		
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE	
	f) Ecological balance between hard and soft areas	EXCELLENT use of hard and soft materials that work well with each other and match design style	GOOD use of hard and soft materials that work well with each other and match design style	AVERAGE use of hard and soft materials that work with each other and match design style	5	
		Evidence of environmental practices and efforts towards installation of sustainable landscaping	Some evidence of environmental practices and efforts towards installation of sustainable landscaping	No evidence of environmental practices and efforts towards installation of sustainable landscaping		

HARDSCAPING CATEGORY - 35 TOTAL POINTS

	Outstanding to Excellent (9 to 10)	Good (7 to 8)	Fair (1 to 6)	TOTAL VALUE
a) Overall impression and quality of materials	OUTSTANDING Aesthetic Impression	GOOD Aesthetic Impression	FAIR to POOR Aesthetic Impression	10
	High standard of quality workmanship in installation evident of hardscape features, including: natural or aggregate rock, stone, pavers; and structures such as fences, decks etc	Adequate standard of quality workmanship in installation evident of hardscape features, including: natural or aggregate rock/ stone/pavers; and structures such as fences, decks etc	Unsatisfactory standard of quality workmanship in installation evident of hardscape features, including: natural or aggregate rock/ stone/pavers; and structures such as fences, decks etc	
	Excellent proportion and scale achieved with balanced integration of well chosen hardscaping elements relative to the site	Average proportion and scale achieved with balanced integration of good hardscaping elements relative to the site	Proportion and scale not achieved; little or no balance of hardscaping elements relative to the site	
	Ideal suitability for site and purpose	Appropriate suitability for site and purpose	Inappropriate for site and purpose	
	Excellent quality in all hard landscape materials selected, and ideal placement	Good quality in all hard landscape materials selected, and appropriate placement	Fair quality in all hard landscape materials selected, however placement needs improvement	
	Outstanding to Excellent (18 to 20)	Good (14 to 17)	Fair (1 to 13)	TOTAL VALUE
b) Construction and Installation techniques and correctness of all hard surfaces and design elements (wooden, natural or fabricated)	OUTSTANDING high quality of workmanship in construction techniques and placement of hard landscaping materials	GOOD quality of workmanship in construction techniques and placement of hard landscaping materials	FAIR quality of workmanship in construction techniques and placement of hard landscaping materials	20
	Excellent attention to detail in finished quality of hard surfaces: such as solidity and stability (rock or paver); consistency in joint filling between stones; absence of unacceptable waves	Good attention to detail in finished quality of hard surfaces: such as solidity and stability (rock or paver); some inconsistency in joint filling between stones; some unacceptable waves	Poor attention to detail in finished quality of hard surfaces: such as solidity and stability (rock or paver); inconsistency in joint filling between stones; unacceptable waves	
(criteria dependent on quality of image submitted with application)	Excellent attention to detail in finished quality of structures: proper assembly of wood structure, precision cuts and absence of waves in lumber respect of construction details and job finish	Good attention to detail in finished quality of structures: proper assembly of wood structure, precision cuts and absence of waves in lumber respect of construction details and job finish	Poor attention to detail in finished quality of structures: proper assembly of wood structure, precision cuts and absence of waves in lumber respect of construction details and job finish	
	Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE
c) Capability with surroundings	Hardscape elements work well into the existing landscape; serves a purpose/function	Hardscape elements work into the existing landscape; serves a purpose/function	Hardscape elements do not work well into the existing landscape; no purpose/function served	5

SOFTSCAPING CATEGORY - 30 TOTAL POINTS		Outstanding to Excellent (9 to 10)	Good (7 to 8)	Fair (1 to 6)	TOTAL VALUE
	a) Overall impression /Quality and health of materials	EXCELLENT quality of plant material; excellent establishment rate; new season growth recognizable	GOOD quality of plant material; good establishment	FAIR growth habit; some plants struggling	10
	pest free plant material	Absence of deadwood and leaves/broken branches; free of disease and/or insect pests	Some evidence of deadwood and leaves/broken branches; minor if any incidence of disease and/or insect pests	Evidence of deadwood and leaves/broken branches; some symptoms of disease and/or insect pests, but within threshold levels.	
	cultivated /weed free/low weed pressure planting areas	OUTSTANDING degree of weed elimination; high attention to detail on weed eradication through cultural or mechanical means	GOOD degree of weed elimination; good attention to detail in removal of weeds	POOR degree of weed elimination; high incidence of weed pressure	
	Unique use of plant material	Presence of broadleaf weeds do not detract from appearance of turf; weed pressure is acceptable for site	Presence of broadleaf weeds somewhat detract from appearance of turf; weed pressure is high for site	Presence of broadleaf weeds detracts from appearance of turf; weed pressure is not acceptable for site	
		EXCELLENT selection of unique or diverse plant material suited to the site, design and the relationship with hardscaping features	GOOD selection of diversity plant material suited to the site, design and relationship with hardscaping features	AVERAGE selection of commonly used plant material suited or somewhat suited to the site and design and hardscaping features.	
		Outstanding to Excellent (13 to 15)	Good (10 to 12)	Fair (1 to 9)	TOTAL VALUE
	b) Installation techniques and correctness	Excellent attention to proper horticultural practices in site preparation, planting (depth and alignment) and aftercare, including plant supports where needed	Good attention to proper horticultural practices in site preparation, planting (depth and alignment) and aftercare, including plant supports where needed	Fair to poor attention to proper horticultural practices in site preparation, planting (depth and alignment) and aftercare, including plant supports where needed	15
	(image supplemented with notes from application)	EXCELLENT attention to appropriate selection and proper application of mulch to the required depth, suitable to the site	GOOD attention to appropriate selection and proper application of mulch to the required depth, suitable to the site	FAIR attention to selection and proper application of mulch; depth may not be suitable for the site; improvements required to the required	
		No evidence of overcrowding crowns with mulch; Tree wells are wells (not volcanos), if mulched	Some mulch needs to be appropriately redirected; Tree wells need some modification, if mulched	Depth of mulch not consistent or improperly applied; Tree wells require proper application, if mulched	
		Outstanding to Excellent (4 to 5)	Good (2 to 3)	Fair (1)	TOTAL VALUE
	c) Turf/ground cover Installation techniques and correctness	OUTSTANDING condition of well groomed healthy turf/groundcover	GOOD condition of well groomed healthy turf/groundcover	FAIR condition of turf/groundcover; shows signs of stress	5
		Excellent attention to proper turf/groundcover cultural/installation requirements	Good attention to proper turf/groundcover cultural/installation requirements	Fair attention to proper turf/groundcover cultural/installation requirements; improvement necessary	
	Quality/condition of turf and/ or ground cover areas	Flat/even surface; no holes or evidence of wear patterns	No apparent evidence of wear patterns	Some wear patterns in high traffic areas	
		EXCELLENT even colour, no signs of stress; evidence of proper water and nutrient requirements and application	GOOD even colour, no signs of obvious stress; evidence of good water and nutrient requirements and application	FAIR colour, shows signs of stress; evidence of lack of or improper water and nutrient requirements and application	

BONUS POINTS: These can be distributed as one point for each statement below or any combination there of at the discretion of the judge, up to a max of 5 Total Bonus Points.

Landscape clearly has a dynamic “wow factor” and incorporates innovative selection / use of softscape and hardscape materials.
The design demonstrates exemplary creativity in implementation or achieves success in overcoming site challenges.
The design and/or installation/construction promote a concerted effort in sustainability or environmental stewardship.
The landscape permits universal accessibility. (no barriers to accessibility for wheelchairs, strollers etc)
There some evidence of use of recyclable materials, water conservation methods, or other like innovations.