

Guidance – How to Assess Your Land

There are various approaches you can take to make an assessment of your land. We list a few suggested methods below:

Pace out

This method may be useful if you just want to get the roughest idea of the size of your area for use on our estimator.

If your area has a simple shape ie; Rectangular or square then simply pace out the length of the area and multiply by the width. It would be a good idea to check the length of five of your paces against a five meter tape first to ensure that you are able to do paces that are approximately one meter long. If the area is more complex then try to visually break it down into smaller simple shapes, calculate the area for each shape and then add them together to get the total area.

Google Earth

With Google Earth, you can enter your address into google earth and print out a photograph of your property, don't worry too much about the clarity of the image as long as you include the scale legend. When you have printed the image out you can draw on the shape of the new driveway or patio and using the scale you can estimate the area.

Measure and draw up on graph paper

This will be the most accurate way to survey the site.

Choose an appropriate scale to suit your requirements; you can print out graph paper with bold lines at 1cm intervals and faint lines at .2cm intervals at our website. For nearly all of the projects that we carry out I use a scale of 1cm to 1m (1:100). Therefore each cm on the graph paper represents a meter on the ground and you will be able to fit a complete project site measuring 19 meters wide by 28 meters long. If your project is larger than this then it would be wise to purchase a larger sheet of graph paper so that you are able to put a reasonable level of detail on your drawing.

Step 1; mark the position of any walls, or buildings that are adjacent or close to the area that you want to pave. Most buildings have walls that are square or parallel to each other so drawing the buildings first will help you to position the new paved area and give you sight lines to help you make other measurements.

Step 2; mark the position of the boundary of your property. You can use the image from google earth to help check the shape of your boundary or if you have a copy of the property deeds or any planning permissions these will contain a scale drawing of your property.

Step 3; choose the shape of your new drive or patio and sketch it onto your graph paper, count the complete larger squares on your graph paper that fall within the boundary of your patio or driveway and then estimate how many large squares could be made from the pieces that intersect the boundary lines. This will give you a reasonable estimate of the area concerned.