

MEASURING THE SITE LAYOUT

To enable me to prepare accurate, scaled plans for your garden, it is important that I have the necessary information to work from.

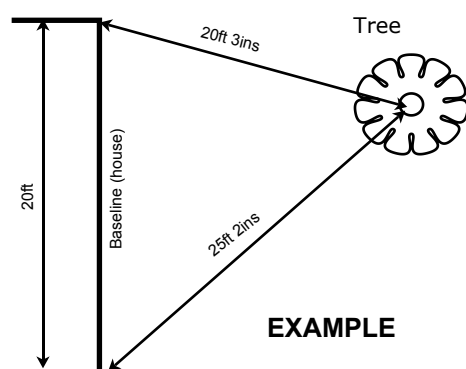
I shall need:

1. All the measurements of the house. I must know the exact positions of doors and windows. This will help me to align paving with the doors and I will not suggest planting tall shrubs and climbers outside your windows.
2. The boundaries. The length of each boundary and it's position relative to the house; height and material, for example, 6ft brick wall or 5ft larch-lap fence
3. The position and size of inspection covers.
4. The position of any trees and shrubs that you wish to retain. (*Perennials can be moved during the winter months, so, if you would like any included in the design, please include your list.*)
5. Show any changes of level by showing 'high points' and 'low points' and the difference between them.
6. **North Point.** Without this it is impossible to sensibly plan the planting.

Draw up a plan and include all the measurements you have taken either in metres or in feet and inches.

Tips for measuring.

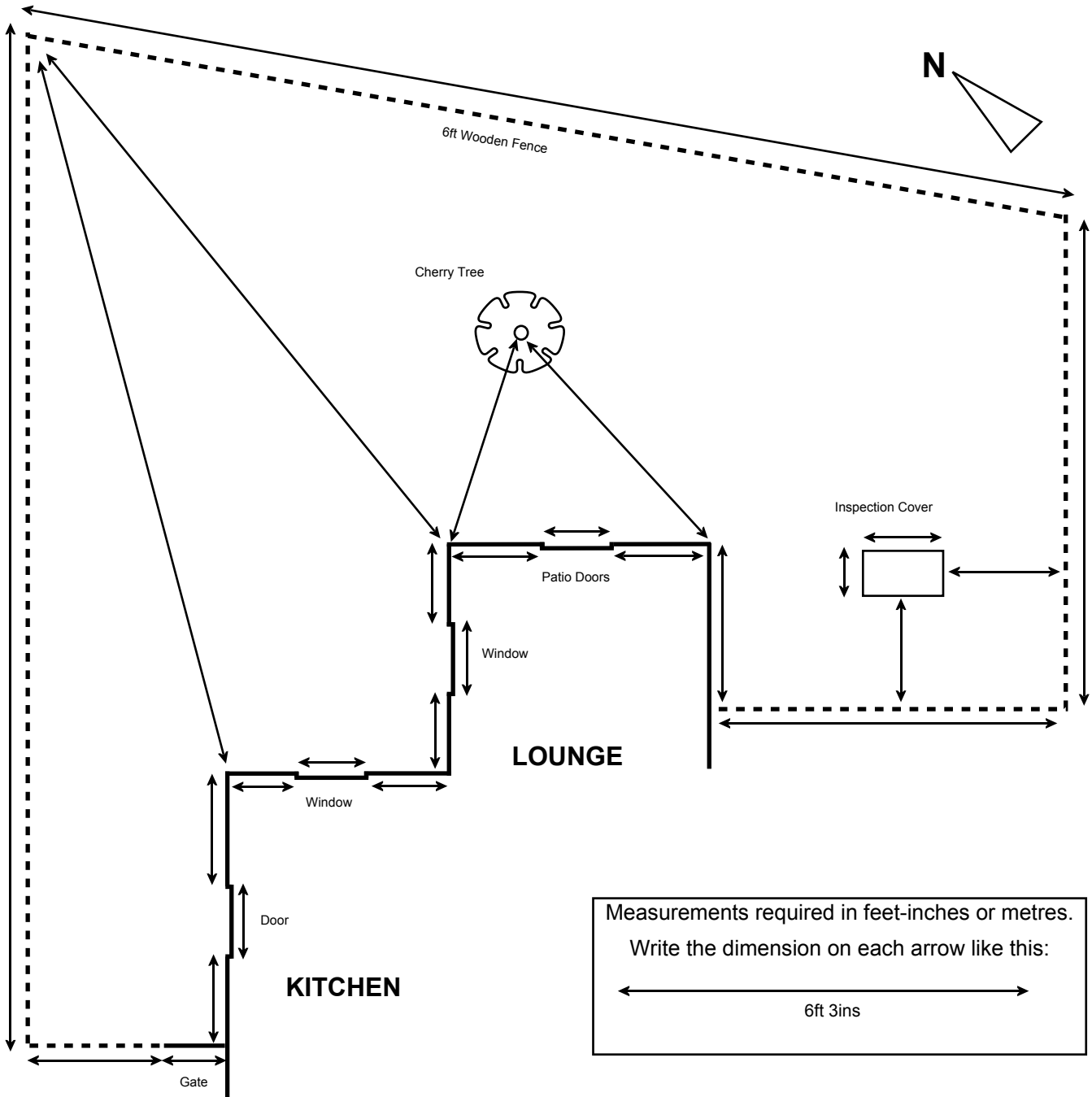
Use the principle of triangulation. What this means is, you can define a point on a triangle relative to a fixed baseline. So if you use one side of your house, or a section of it, as your baseline and measure that, then from each end of it, measure the distance to, say, a tree or the corner of your boundary for example. You will then have a triangle of measurements which fix the point you wish to define relative to the house.



Scroll down to page 2 to see a simple illustration of how it's done.

Most gardens have multiple points to be defined on the plan, and to show all the measurements on one sheet of paper results in a very cluttered drawing. The best way is to use several copies of the house plan and put a few objects and their measurements on each.

Your plan may look similar to this sample



IMPORTANT

As long as your measurements are accurate and you have written them all on the plan, it is not necessary to draw the plan to scale.