

# Rating the 'scapes

Ever wonder how your projects might hold up under someone else's rating system? Give this one a try to see how you're doing.

**T**he accompanying tally sheet allows you to "grade" your landscape projects.

It may give you a good idea of what is missing or what needs to be enhanced in a particular plan.

Landscape professional Frederick Campbell of Gnome Landscapes, Design & Masonry, Gloucester, Maine, has co-written *Landscaping Makes Cents* with Richard L. Dubé of Environmental Information & Design, Inc., Lexington, SC. Dubé devised the rating system.

"There is a great deal of value to a landscape," says Campbell. "We put together a model and scale that makes sense, based on our experience."

Evaluate elements (based on your own feelings and the definition of each term) on a scale of 1 to 10. Take that number multiplied by the ranking (provided) and you have your score for that criterion. Then, add the scores together:

0-260 = poor

261-440 = fair

441-540 = good

541-620 = very good

621-660 = excellent □

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## HOW DO YOUR LANDSCAPES RATE?

Formula: Rating x Weighting Factor = Score

Element	Your rating (0-10)		Weighting factor	=	Score
First impression	_____	x	11	=	_____
Sustainability	_____	x	10	=	_____
Function	_____	x	9	=	_____
Visual flow	_____	x	8	=	_____
Context to architecture	_____	x	7	=	_____
Context to site	_____	x	6	=	_____
Balance	_____	x	5	=	_____
Depth	_____	x	4	=	_____
Color	_____	x	3	=	_____
Framing	_____	x	2	=	_____
Contrast	_____	x	1	=	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>					_____

## LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT SAMPLE RATING

Formula: Rating x Weighting Factor = Score

Element	Sample rating (0-10)		Weighting factor	=	Score
First impression	9	x	11	=	99
Sustainability	9	x	10	=	90
Function	7	x	9	=	63
Visual flow	9	x	8	=	72
Context to architecture	7	x	7	=	49
Context to site	8	x	6	=	48
Balance	9	x	5	=	45
Depth	8	x	4	=	32
Color	9	x	3	=	27
Framing	8	x	2	=	16
Contrast	8	x	1	=	8
<b>TOTAL =</b>					549