Using Drawing Tools

Landscape Design

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Purpose of Drawing Tools

- Designers usually start with sketches.
- Tools are used to take designs from fuzzy ideas to final presentations.
- More realistic to predict cost and actual construction.
Purpose of Drawing Tools

- **Draw to scale**
  - Represents actual dimensions and placements
  - Helps create and image of how the landscape will actually look and what it will be like to live in.

- Makes plan look more professional and put together
Tools of the Trade
and their Uses
T-Square

- Long straightedge
- Name comes from its shape.
- Can be used as a base support for other tools
T-Square

- Used to draw horizontal lines on the drawing sheet.
- Used to draw vertical lines and slanted lines with the help of additional equipment basically 45° and 60° triangles.
- Draw lines only against the upper edge of the blade.
- Make sure the head is held against the left edge of the drawing board to guarantee parallel lines.
- Use a T-square to align the drawing paper to the drawing board, and to draw parallel horizontal
Drawing Board or Table

- Flat surface for drawing
- Four 90 degree corners
- When paired with the T-square straight lines can be created
  - Common uses include representation of property lines, roads and drives, fences, utility lines, and borders around drawings
Drawing Pencils

- Most frequently used
- Wood pencils or lead holders
- Can require special sharpeners
  - Sand paper pad
  - Lead pointer.
**Drawing Pencils**

- Lead comes in different hardness’s
  - Harder leads have an H rating
    - Thin lines
    - Lighter shades
    - Holds a point longer
  - Softer leads have a B rating
    - Darker
    - Thicker lines
    - Easily smudged
    - Requires more sharpening
  - Designers typically use 2H-3H lead
Wooden Pencil Grades
Technical Pens

- Ink
- Sharper line definition
- Greater permanency
  - Hard to correct errors
- Can be disposable or refillable
- Come in a variety of widths
Lettering Guides

- Creates stenciled lettering
- Used in combination with the T-square.
- Stiff uniform lettering
  - Ames lettering guide.
    - Produces light guidelines for hand lettering
    - Can create a variety of sizes and widths
Triangles

- 30-60-90 or 45-45-90
- Can be used in combination with the T-square to create straight edges and angles.
- Can be used as support for other tools
Adjustable Triangle

- Combines the functions of the triangle and the protractor.
- As a right triangle, the hypotenuse can be set and locked at any desired angle to one of the bases.
- The transparent protractor portion is equivalent to a protractor graduated in 1/2° increments.
- By holding either base against a T-square, you can measure or draw any angle between 0° and 90°.
- It is recommended that this tool be used for drawing angular lines that cannot be made with the two standard triangles. The adjustable triangle is **not** as accurate as the solid triangle.
Point Compass

- Used to create circles
- Circles are used for a variety of symbols
- In order to get the proper size the diameter must be cut in half.
  - Example – 4 inch diameter circle would have a compass set at 2 inches.
The other type of compass is the bow compass.

Many experienced draftsmen prefer the bow compass over the pivot joint compass.

The bow compass is much sturdier and is capable of taking the heavy pressure necessary to produce opaque pencil lines without losing the radius setting.

Most compasses have interchangeable needle points.

The conical or plain needlepoint is used when the compass is used as dividers.
Extension Bars

- Extension bars are available for large bow compasses to draw large diameter circles.
Protractor

- Measures the relationship between two joined lines (Angles)
- Creates angles
How to Use a Bow Compass

Figure 1-20 Drawing a circle with a bow compass
Curves

- French curve
- Bendable curves
- Used to create Flowing lines for design
Scale

- Tool used to represent actual dimensions in a reduced size
- Engineer’s or Architect’s
- Dimensions or property in relation to paper size will determine scale
- 6 different measurements
- Each unit = one linear foot
When using an engineer’s scale, you must multiply the value you have by 10.

Small lines between the whole numbers represent individual feet.
The scale marked “16” is a standard ruler.
You must learn to read from left and right.
Before the “0” the numbers fractions of one foot.
Templates

- Circle templates can help with symbolization and smaller circles
- Irrigation templates
- Burnish guides used to create texture
Erasers

- Plastic erasers – most used
- Kneaded erasers – soft and pliable
- Special purpose – remove ink, remove marks created by copy machines
Eraser Shield

- Metal or plastic shields
- Helpful when removing sections of line or marks on the design
- Protects the surrounding design or words
Drafting Powder

- Prevents smudging
- Keeps drawing clean
- Absorbs oil
Drafting Tape

- Low adhesive paper tape
- Used to hold down landscape plan without tearing.
- Transparent mending tape.
  - Used to repair tears
Rolling Ruler

- Straight edge on a roller
- Used to create a series of parallel lines
- Can be used to create circles or curves
Rendering Tools

- Colored pencils, markers, water colors
- Commonly used when preparing the design for presentation
The End

Questions?