

Show Gardens Design Brief 2025



All applications must be made online, at www.bordbiabloom.com/participate

Exhibitor/Designer's Name: _____

Title of Garden (Working Title): _____

Design Brief Information

To enable your garden to be constructed, and subsequently to be assessed and judged, you are required to produce a written brief. This will be used by the garden advisory group during the development of their responses to your exhibit and will also be used as the basis of the judging process.

The brief should describe and embody:

- the design intention - including concepts and proposed character
- the purpose and function of the garden*
- the assumptions made about the site and its situation
- the reasons for the inclusion of the garden's important elements including information on plants and materials and their design use.

*For Concept Gardens it is the theme or concept that must be communicated, as function may play a secondary role here. Moreover, Concept Gardens do not need to be functional.

The brief should not:

- include an in-depth description of the garden – assessors and judges will familiarise themselves with each garden based upon your main points
- indicate the complete plant list – assessors and judges are mainly interested in planting themes and structural planting
- describe construction and finishes in fine detail – assessors and judges aim to understand the thinking or concepts behind your garden
- be lengthy, verbose or overly 'poetic' – keep your information to the point!

Assessors and judges welcome the provision of challenging briefs and consideration may be given to those who aim high in their intentions. However, failure to fulfil the brief can result in lost marks. It is useful to take an objective view of the information you provide and to update your brief before the assessing teams receive this information. We will request a final brief from each designer four to five weeks before judging.

Design Brief

<p>1. Describe the purpose, theme or concept of your garden, including any intended use. (You may include the practical or functional aspects of the garden here and information on the sustainability or environmental impact of the garden and its materials may also be discussed.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words</p> <p>REQUIRED - Please Complete 1A (Show Garden) or 1B (Concept Show Garden)</p> <p>1a Describe the theme or concept of your concept garden. Explain your ideas and intentions paying specific attention to the way in which you feel visitors to the show can engage with the space.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words</p>
<p>2 Identify and describe the structures within the garden and the purpose they serve. Discuss how the boundaries of the garden relate to your design and/or to any assumed context.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words Please note that every designer/exhibitor is responsible for the construction of their own boundary treatment.</p>
<p>3 Describe or identify the soil characteristics, aspect, topography and any other prevailing conditions which would impact upon the design and specifically the planting within the garden.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words Please note that it is unlikely that these site conditions can be provided at the show!</p>
<p>4 Describe and explain the palette of hard materials and/or finishes used in the garden and the relevance of these materials or any other special features e.g. sculpture, water, etc.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words</p>
<p>5 Describe your choice of plants and specific or important associations, explaining how or why they relate to the themes and concepts of your garden. Identify key specimen or structural plants.</p> <p>Guide: 100 words Marks will be awarded for the successful use of locally-sourced (Irish-grown) plants</p>

