



New build garden makeover

THE CHALLENGE

A nice new build bungalow with a open front garden that slopes down to the quiet cul-de-sac on which it is located.

Local planning regulations prohibit the building of boundary walls at the bottom of the garden because the new build is in an open plan environment.

The proud owners are keen gardeners, but both work full time with demanding jobs that leave them little leisure time.

The bungalow occupies a fairly large plot, all of which requires landscaping on a modest budget, because the new build cost more than originally anticipated.

The bungalow is due to host a wedding reception for one of the daughters of the owners, and the completion of the build has been running late.

THE SOLUTION

The garden requires some focus and structure within it. The large sloping plot has no real, natural shape or feel to it, and is somewhat bland and featureless in appearance.



The gentle slope from the cul-de-sac up to the bungalow gives some privacy, but this also needs to be improved.

Rather than attempt a complex landscaping design that incorporates the whole of the plot, the owners went for a simple but somewhat clever solution.

They created a stunning but manageable focal point within the garden, defined and shaped by using an Anchor Aspen Wall.

Positioned to give some privacy, whilst not being too imposing, the terraced garden sits in harmony with the driveway, emphasizes the slope of the plot and gives the new bungalow a more mature and settled look and feel.

The ability to curve and flow the wall maximises the opportunity the slope gives to add depth and shape to the front of the plot, and overall costs were kept down by contrasting the terraced garden with a simple, low maintenance lawned area.

Longer term maintenance is reduced, with regular gardening, other than cutting the lawn, occurring in one manageable location.

The low overall height of the walls has enabled

the owners to use Anchor Wall Aspen Stone (similar to the Croft Stone in the UK), which meant the trench and preparation work was minimal - involving a trench depth of only 100mm below the ground level, combined with only 25mm of compacted fill as a levelling pad.

The curves have meant very little block cutting was required and the total construction time was days, with planting being completed within the week.



The owners chose a natural stone looking colour from those available, to contrast with the brick used in the bungalow and decided that a cap would give the completed wall the professional finish they wanted.

The wall and garden were completed ahead of time and below budget, allowing a bigger spend on the planting and foliage.

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