

# Laura Harvey

Professional Gardener & Horticulture Specialist

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## Professional Summary

I'm a dedicated and passionate gardener with over 7 years of professional experience in horticulture, garden maintenance, and soft landscaping. Having worked both independently as a business owner and as part of professional teams, I understand what it takes to manage and execute gardening and landscaping projects to a high standard.

My work stems from a genuine obsession with horticulture and the physical nature of the work. I've successfully managed gardens for residential properties, commercial sites, and prestigious locations including Parliament and Victoria University. I pride myself on fostering positive client relationships, delivering quality results, and maintaining high standards across all aspects of garden care.

I'm eager to continue learning and growing in the industry by exposing myself to diverse projects and challenging work. Whether working independently or as part of a team, I bring dedication, horticultural knowledge, and a strong work ethic to every project.

## Employment History

### Gardener

Summerset Kenepuru 📍 Wellington, NZ March 2025 – October 2025

As part of a professional four-person gardening team, maintained the extensive grounds and gardens of a retirement village, ensuring high standards of presentation and resident satisfaction.

#### Key Responsibilities & Achievements:

- **Comprehensive Garden Maintenance:** Performed all aspects of garden care including weeding, mulching, composting, and garden renovation to maintain beautiful outdoor spaces for residents.
- **Lawn & Grounds Care:** Managed mowing schedules, lawn maintenance, and hard surface cleaning to keep the property pristine.
- **Specialised Services:** Conducted hedge trimming, spraying programmes, window washing, and house washing to maintain both gardens and building exteriors.
- **Garden Cultivation:** Cultivated new garden areas and renovated existing beds, improving the overall landscape aesthetic.
- **Team Collaboration:** Worked effectively within a four-person team to coordinate daily tasks, manage large property areas, and deliver consistent quality across the entire site.
- **Professional Standards:** Maintained high standards of workmanship in a retirement village setting where resident well-being and property presentation are paramount.

Hedge Trimming Garden Maintenance Mowing Weeding Mulching Spraying Team Work Property Care Composting

### Gardener / Soft Landscaper / Business Owner

Harvey Gardens (Self Employed) 📍 Tawa, Wellington, NZ May 2021 – March 2025

Founded and operated an independent gardening and soft landscaping business, managing a diverse portfolio of residential and commercial properties throughout the Wellington region.

#### Key Responsibilities & Achievements:

- **Large-Scale Installation Projects:** Successfully managed and installed lawns and gardens for a new build development of 5 townhouses, including laying 100m<sup>2</sup> of ready lawn and establishing complete garden systems.
- **Regular Property Maintenance:** Built and maintained a client base of 15-20 properties, providing comprehensive garden care services including weeding, planting, garden design, shrub and tree trimming, and pest and disease management.
- **Property Preparation:** Specialised in preparing houses for sale and managing rental property gardens to maximise property presentation and market appeal.
- **Soft Landscaping Services:** Delivered comprehensive soft landscaping solutions including section clearing, large-scale planting jobs, and garden establishment work.
- **Client Relationship Management:** Fostered positive, long-term relationships with clients through reliable service, clear communication, and quality workmanship.
- **Business Operations:** Managed all aspects of business operations including scheduling, budgeting, client communications, and maintaining a work vehicle (flatdeck truck).
- **Garden Design:** Created small-scale garden designs tailored to client needs, site conditions, and budget constraints.

Business Management Lawn Installation Garden Design Property Maintenance Soft Landscaping Client Relations Section Clearing

Planting Tree Trimming

# Gardener

Bark Ltd Wellington Central, NZ November 2017 – March 2021

Worked as a professional gardener with Bark Ltd, maintaining gardens and grounds for high-profile commercial and institutional sites throughout Wellington.

### Notable Sites & Responsibilities:

- Victoria University Campus:** Maintained campus gardens and green spaces, contributing to a positive learning environment for students and staff.
- Parliament Precinct:** Performed gardening services for New Zealand’s parliamentary grounds, maintaining the prestigious gardens to the highest standards.
- Premier House:** Maintained gardens at the official residence of the Prime Minister, requiring attention to detail and professional presentation.
- Residential & Embassy Properties:** Provided garden maintenance services for various residential properties and embassy grounds throughout Wellington.
- New Zealand Police College Grounds:** Maintained the extensive grounds of the Police College, ensuring well-kept outdoor spaces for training and operations.

### Key Skills Developed:

- Working to high standards on prestigious sites
- Professional conduct in sensitive and high-profile environments
- Team coordination and time management
- Comprehensive garden maintenance across diverse site types
- Adapting gardening techniques to different site requirements

Commercial Grounds Institutional Sites Garden Maintenance Professional Standards Team Collaboration Site Diversity High-Profile Work

# Checkout Assistant

Thorndon New World Wellington, NZ November 2014 – March 2017

Worked as a checkout assistant at Thorndon New World, developing strong customer service skills and work ethic during university studies.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Provided friendly and efficient customer service at checkout
- Handled cash and electronic transactions accurately
- Maintained a clean and organised workspace
- Assisted customers with inquiries and product information
- Worked flexible shifts including weekends and evenings

### Skills Developed:

- Customer service and communication
- Cash handling and accuracy
- Time management and reliability
- Working under pressure during busy periods
- Team collaboration in a fast-paced retail environment

Customer Service Retail Experience Cash Handling Team Work

# Professional Skills

**Horticulture & Garden Maintenance**

- Weeding & Mulching
- Planting & Garden Design
- Lawn Installation & Maintenance
- Shrub & Tree Trimming
- Pest & Disease Management
- Composting & Soil Management

**Landscaping**

- Soft Landscaping
- Section Clearing
- Garden Renovation
- Site Preparation
- Property Presentation
- Hard Surface Maintenance

**Equipment & Tools**

- Mowing Equipment
- Hedge Trimmers
- Spraying Equipment
- Gardening Hand Tools
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Flatdeck Truck Operation

**Business & Client Relations**

- Business Ownership & Management
- Client Relationship Management
- Project Management
- Property Maintenance Scheduling
- Budget Management
- Quality Assurance

**Work Style & Attributes**

- Team Collaboration
- Independent Work
- Physical Stamina
- Attention to Detail
- Problem Solving
- Reliability & Punctuality

**Knowledge Areas**

- Native & Exotic Plants
- Seasonal Garden Care
- Sustainable Practices
- Site Assessment
- Health & Safety
- Weather Adaptation

# Education & Qualifications

## National Certificate in Amenity Horticulture: Horticulture - Level 4

Primary ITO New Zealand | November 2017 - February 2020

Comprehensive qualification covering practical and theoretical aspects of amenity horticulture, including plant care, garden maintenance, pest and disease management, and professional horticultural practices.

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## Bachelor of Fine Arts - Honours


Massey University, New Zealand | February 2014 - October 2017

Developed creative thinking, attention to detail, and project management skills that translate well to garden design and landscaping work.

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References available upon request.

## Personal Interests

Gardening & Plant Cultivation  Outdoor Activities & Nature Sustainable Living & Composting DIY Projects  
Art & Creative Expression Native NZ Plants Garden Design Inspiration Family Time