

Technical Specifications

Strive to avoid **REDUNDANCY** especially between drawings and specifications!

- When there is a conflict between drawings and specifications:
Specs govern
- When there is a conflict between numbers of materials called-out on a drawing (ie: plant list) and the actual number of those items shown on the drawing (layout as in circles for plants):
The actual number of items (plant symbols) ON THE DRAWING governs

The nature of specifications:

Organization – remember CSI Format

Characteristics

Language is legalese, but UNDERSTANDABLE

Precise - GRAMMAR, meaning of words is important

Correct/Current practices - not horse manure

Specific to each project

Structure

Types

STRUCTURE OF SPECIFICATIONS

I. General

II. Materials / Products

III. Methods / Execution

TYPES OF SPECIFICATIONS

- Prescriptive or Descriptive

Spells out in detail what must be done and how to do it. It includes materials and their installation.

- Performance

Specifies result, lets contractor decide how to get there, but requires some kind of testing.

- Proprietary

Defines a product to use

May be **closed** (no alternate) or **open** (or approved equal)

Who approves?? - Owner (LA)

- Reference

Refers to another authority such as ASTM (Am. Soc. For Testing & Materials)

Or National Bark and Soil Producers Association (NBSPA) (www.nbspa.org)