

# CANTERBURY LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

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# **Decorative Mulches**

## 1. Why should I use mulch?

Mulching your garden is the perfect way to help stop weeds growing. It also improves water retention in your soil, and as it starts to break down will provide organic matter, which helps improve the structure of your soil.

## 2. What is the best mulch for my garden?

The choice of which mulch to use relates to personal preferences. Fine mulches tend to suit more formal gardens, and colourful mulches are preferable in gardens with many foliage plants and fewer flowering plants, as the mulch offers a strong contrast to the foliage.

#### 3. How deep should I mulch?

Mulch should be applied to a depth of 100mm. This will provide an effective weed-suppressing layer, and retain maximum moisture. Should you wish to apply less than 100mm, we recommend using weed mat prior to mulching. Weed mat is porous so that air and water can move into and out of the soil, yet it hinders weed growth.

## 4. How long will mulch last?

Mulches vary in lifespan from approximately 12 months - 3 years depending on where it is situated. A 'top up' may be required after this time. These figures assume 100mm depth of mulch is applied.

# 5. As mulch decomposes does it take nutrients from the soil?

As mulch breaks down, some nutrients are lost from the soil and consumed by the soil micro flora. To compensate for this, we recommend the application of fertiliser prior to mulching.

# 6. What should I put under play equipment?

Premium Nuggets is the recommended grade. However if it needs to be a certified grade, you will have to use Bounce Bark