

# Seats

**This is an old version of the page**

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For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#).

## Aim

Well-placed seats allow people to stop, rest and enjoy the view, and also provide resting places for elderly and disabled people dealing with gradients or difficult stretches.

A perch seat is a simple informal structure providing an individual leaning / semi-seated resting point by a path.

A bench seat provides a larger but still simple resting point.

## Eligibility

Any land is eligible. The seats should be close to an upgraded or new path.

## Requirements

Perch seat:

- may be constructed from treated timber, recycled plastic or steel
- seat should be placed close to the path
- seat should be planed and round-edged, and free draining, with galvanised screws or bolts countersunk
- main leg(s) should be sturdy, minimum 100x100 millimetre section if timber, in holes backfilled with well-rammed earth and stones, plus concrete if required, and with larger rocks wedged at toe and heel of the upright to prevent movement
- height of the seat should be between 550 and 750 millimetres above a firm, level surface
- you must take and retain for inspection dated photographic evidence of the construction phase, to include the works below ground level

For example, see [Countryside Access Design Guide sheet 7.2](#)

Bench seat:

- bench seat without backrest, of treated timber, recycled plastic or steel
- seat should be placed close to the path
- seat should be planed and round-edged, and free draining, with galvanised screws or bolts countersunk
- legs should be sturdy, minimum 75x75 millimetre section if timber, in holes backfilled with well-rammed earth and stones, plus concrete if required
- height of the seat should be between 450 and 520 millimetres above a level and firm ground surface
- you must take and retain for inspection dated photographic evidence of the construction phase, to include the works below ground level

For example, see [Countryside Access Design Guide sheet 7.3](#)

## Payment

You can claim:

- perch seat: £200 each
- bench seat: £350 each

## Inspections

The inspectors will check:

- the location and extent of the work

Perch seat:

- is constructed from treated timber, recycled plastic or steel, and is placed close to the path
- seat is planed and round-edged, and free draining, with galvanised screws or bolts countersunk
- main leg(s) is minimum 100x100 millimetre section if timber, in holes backfilled with well-rammed earth and stones, plus concrete if required, and with larger rocks wedged at toe and heel of the upright to prevent movement
- height of the seat is between 550 and 750 millimetres above a firm, level surface
- you have maintained a diary of photographic evidence of the construction phase, to include the works below ground level

Bench seat:

- a bench seat without backrest, of treated timber, recycled plastic or steel, placed close to the path
- seat is planed and round-edged, and free draining, with galvanised screws or bolts countersunk
- legs are minimum 75x75 millimetre section if timber, in holes backfilled with well-rammed earth and stones, plus concrete if required
- height of the seat is between 450 and 520 millimetres above a level and firm ground surface
- you have taken and retained for inspection dated photographic evidence of the construction phase, to include the works below ground level

## Recent changes

| Section                      | Change                                                                             |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Requirements and Inspections | Clarification of requirement regarding taking and retaining photographic evidence. |

## Previous versions

[Previous versions of this page](#)