

What to Expect on the Day

A guide to your measured survey

Thank you for booking your survey with us. This sheet explains what happens when our surveyors visit your property or site, what we will need from you, and what to expect once the fieldwork is complete. A little preparation helps us work quickly and accurately, and keeps any disruption to a minimum.

In short:

Our surveyors will arrive within the agreed time window, set up specialist measuring equipment, and record the building or land in detail. Most of our work is non-intrusive, but we will need safe access to the areas being surveyed. The finished drawings, data, or report will follow by email after the visit.

Before we arrive

We will confirm the appointment date, the expected arrival time, and roughly how long we anticipate being on site. Please let us know in advance of anything that may affect our visit, such as:

- Locked gates, alarm codes, key safes or parking restrictions.
- Tenants, pets, or other occupants we should be aware of.
- Areas you would prefer we did not enter, or that require special permission.
- Any known hazards – for example fragile roofs, asbestos, unstable ground or live machinery.

If our planned arrival time becomes inconvenient, contact us as early as possible and we will do our best to rearrange.

Our team and equipment

One or more qualified surveyors will attend, depending on the size and complexity of the job. We employ a range of professional equipment which may include any of the following:

- A total station mounted on a tripod, used to measure angles and distances precisely.
- GNSS (satellite positioning) receivers to tie the survey into a national or local coordinate system.
- A 3D laser scanner, which captures millions of measurement points whilst rotating on a tripod.
- Handheld laser distance meters, measuring tapes, and digital levels for detailed internal dimensions.
- Push-rod cameras or a robotic crawler to record state condition of drainage.
- Ground penetrating radar (GPR) push carts and electromagnetic tracing equipment to trace and measure location of buried services.
- Temporary line marking paint – this will deteriorate naturally.
- A camera to record reference photographs of features and finishes.

On some projects a drone (UAV) may be used for roof or large-site capture. Where this applies we will discuss it with you beforehand, and all flights are carried out by a certified pilot in line with Civil Aviation Authority requirements.

A note on lasers and scanning: The laser scanners and measuring tools we use are eye-safe and pose no risk to people, pets or furnishings.

What we will need from you

To carry out the survey safely and thoroughly, please help us by arranging the following where possible:

Access	Safe entry to all rooms, floors and external areas included in the survey, including lofts, basements, outbuildings and roof spaces where relevant.
Clear sightlines	Where practical, please move large or fragile items away from walls and windows so dimensions can be taken. We will work around anything that cannot be moved.
Parking	A nearby place to park, as we carry heavy equipment. Please let us know about permits or restrictions in advance.
Services	Access to power is occasionally helpful but rarely essential - our equipment is battery powered.
A point of contact	Someone available on site or by phone who can answer questions about access and the building.

You do not need to stay with us throughout the visit, although you are very welcome to. If the property will be empty, just make sure we can get in and out safely.

What happens during the survey

Once on site, our surveyors will typically:

- Carry out a brief walk-round to understand the layout and confirm the scope of work.
- Set up control points – fixed reference positions that everything else is measured from.
- Record the exterior, including elevations, levels, boundaries and surrounding features as required.
- Measure internal rooms, openings, ceiling heights and key features floor by floor (if required).
- Capture underground services locations and or drainage conditions (if required).
- Capture additional detail by scanning or photography where the brief calls for it.

You may see us placing small temporary targets or markers on walls, floors or the ground. These are removable and leave no damage.

We generally photograph everything we survey; the photographs help when we are processing the survey, providing us with a visual record of site conditions at the time of survey, and help us check the job when finished. If you would prefer us to not take photographs please let our surveyor know. Similarly, if you would like to look at what we have photographed just ask the surveyor before they

leave. The photographs take sit on our secure server alongside the other data recorded on site. If they have been requested as part of the survey brief, say by an architect, then they will be provided as a deliverable alongside the completed survey drawings.

Our surveyors are always happy to explain what we are doing if you are curious.

How long it will take

Duration depends entirely on the size and complexity of the property or site.

We will have given you an estimate when booking. If we discover on the day that the job is larger or more involved than expected, we will discuss this with you before carrying out any additional work.

Health, safety and disruption

Our surveyors are trained to work safely and will carry out a point of work risk assessment on arrival. They may wear high-visibility clothing, hard hats or other protective equipment depending on the environment. To keep everyone safe, we ask that you:

- Keep children and pets clear of tripods, equipment and any areas being worked in.
- Make us aware of any hazards specific to your property.
- Allow us to pause or postpone work if conditions become unsafe.

Our work is generally quiet and non-intrusive. There is no drilling, no mess and no need to switch off services. Normal daily activities can usually continue around us.

Weather and conditions

Internal survey work can go ahead in almost any weather. GNSS positioning and drone flights however can be affected by heavy rain, high winds, snow or poor visibility. If conditions on the day would compromise safety or the accuracy of the results, we may need to reschedule part or all of the visit. We will always talk this through with you and agree a new time that works.

After the survey – what happens next

Once the fieldwork is finished, the real processing begins back at the office. Our team turns the measurements and scan data into the drawings, models or datasets you have requested - for example floor plans, elevations, sections, topographic plans, or 3D models.

Typical turnaround: Finished deliverables are usually issued within a few working days to a couple of weeks, depending on the size of the project. We will confirm the expected timescale with you. Drawings are normally supplied electronically (PDF and/or CAD), with other formats available on request.

When you receive your survey, please do check it over. If anything looks unclear or you spot something that needs revisiting, let us know promptly and we will put it right.

A few common questions

Do I need to be present?

Not necessarily – we simply need a way to access the areas being surveyed. Clients are welcome to attend, and some clients find it useful for discussing the scope.

Will the equipment damage anything?

No. Our methods are non-intrusive. Any temporary targets or markers are fully removable and leave no trace. Control points will leave small nails in the ground or wooden pegs in fields – let us know if this will be a problem.

Is the laser scanning safe around people and pets?

Yes. The scanners and measuring tools we use are eye-safe. Terrestrial scanners create a whirring noise when operating but this is not generally regarded to be disruptive.

Can you survey while the building is occupied or in use?

Usually, yes. We work around occupants and normal activity wherever possible and will coordinate with you on the day.

What if it rains?

Internal work continues as normal. We may reschedule external scanning or drone work if the weather affects safety or accuracy.

Questions or changes?

If you need to discuss your appointment, arrange access, or ask anything about the process, please get in touch – we are glad to help.

Telephone: 01926 330 123

Email: info@interlocksurveys.co.uk

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 0830h – 1700h

We look forward to working with you.