

INSTALLATION GUIDE

1. Create Outline

The first step is to take your completed design and transfer it onto the ground where you will be installing your patio. You can use spray paint to mark the outline, using a garden hose for guidance on the curved areas and long boards for the straight areas.

2. Set Elevations

Next, use a 2x4, stakes and level to set the slope of your patio (a slope of approximately 1" to every 8 ft. is usually ideal.) Now, set your stakes, and string lines to mark the top of finished patio. Please refer to the Depth Estimation Chart.

3. Excavate

Using your grid work for stakes and guide strings, excavate material below the string lines to the depth needed. To determine depth, refer to chart. Note: Before any digging, contact your local utility companies for the location and depth of pipes, cables and conduits.

4. Spread Granular Base

You are now ready to spread and compact the coarse granular base.

5. Compact Base

The granular base should be leveled and compacted (use a plate compactor) in layers of not more than 4". Wet, but do not soak the gravel base while compacting. Level the base to approximately 3" below the desired surface level. Make sure the base is level and conforms to the shape and elevation of the finished job by measuring down from the string lines.

6. Install Edge Restraint

To prevent lateral movement of the pavers, edge restraints should be installed on compacted base along all edges which would otherwise be unrestrained. If possible install edging only on one of two sides of the paving area. After pavers have been placed, install remainder of edging so as to avoid unnecessary cutting.

7. Spread Bedding Sand

Begin screeding (spreading) a 1" layer of sand; this layer is called the sand bed. Use a large grained sand such as concrete sand. Lay screed guides (1" pipe, electric conduit or wood strips) onto the compacted base. Now fill the area with sand and slide the 8 and 10 foot screen board along the guides causing the sand to become smooth and level. Once this is complete, pull out the screed guides and fill voids with sand. Smooth out this sand with a trowel or small board. Do not walk on or work from the screeded sand.

8. Lay Pavers

After screeding the sand you can begin laying your pavers, using the area's straightest edge as your starting point. Pick a starting point where you can make the pavers fit against the longest straight edge or the longest combination of straight edges as long as they are at right angles to each other.



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9. Keep Pavers Square

Use a string line running in both directions as your guide. This is easily done by measuring out lines in multiples of 3, 4, and 5 with the line marked “three” remaining stationary during the squaring process. (See diagram below.) Line “four” should be moved until “four” and “five” intersect, causing a right angle in the “three-four” corner. If your pavers start to get off square, you can get them into proper position by gently tapping them towards the string line.



10. Cut To Fit

Many of the pavers that butt into the soldier course (strip of pavers all facing the same direction) will need to be cut to fit properly. Using a concrete saw or guillotine splitter, cut each paver separately – marking it, removing it, cutting it and placing it – before proceeding to the next one. Install the soldier course as you go along.



11. Compact Patio

Sweep off the surface completely and use the plate compactor to tamp the pavers to a uniform level. Run the compactor in a parallel direction, across the pavers, overlapping on each pass. Make a second series of passes in a perpendicular direction.



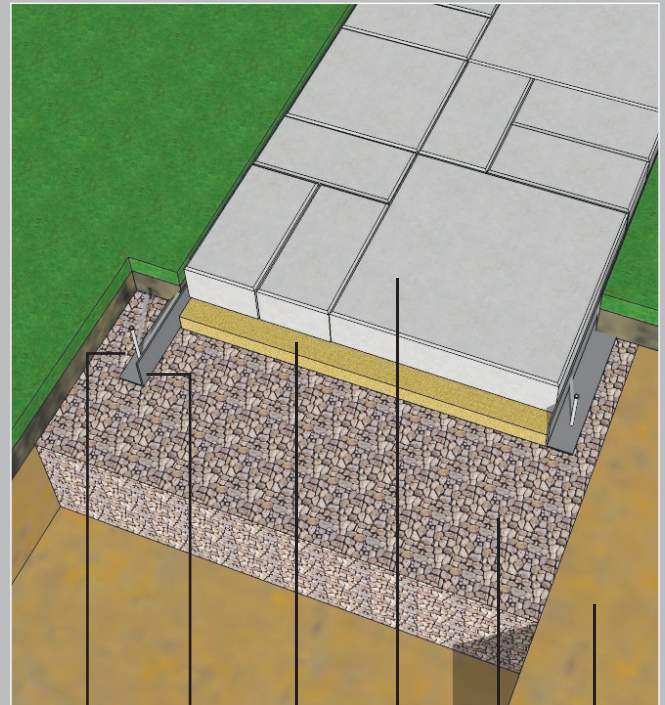
12. Spread Sand

Sweep dry concrete sand* or polymeric jointing sand** into all spaces between the finished pavers, repeating the process until all joints between the pavers are filled. Repeat this process with more dry sand in a few days.



*Do not use masonry or fine sand.

**Polymeric jointing sand requires a few extra steps. Please contact your local dealer for more information.



10"–12" Nails
Plastic Edge Restraint
1" Sand Bed
6 cm Paving Stone
Compacted Sub-Base
Undisturbed Soil

What You Will Need

- Pavers
- Base Materials
- Sands
- Edge Restraints
- Level
- Stakes
- String Line
- Screeding Tools
- Compactor
- Broom

Depth Estimation

	Pedestrians (walkways, patios)	Light Vehicles (driveways)
Expocrete Pavers	2.38"	2.38"
Sand	1"	1"
Gravel Base (compacted)	4"–6"	8"–12"