

Paver Installation Guidelines

Installing pavers is quite systematic. Natural stone and Travertine pavers can be installed using the procedure outlined below.

Planning: Layouts and Paving Stone Requirement

Determine the outline of the area you wish to pave and mark an 8" allowance outside the outline. Ensure that the area has a slope, to avoid the formations of puddles, after rainfall, which may damage the pavers overtime.

Now, proceed to measure and multiply the length and width of the outlined area, i.e., length times width, to get the area (in sq. ft). Obtain the size (in sq. ft) of a single paver desired and divide your space's square footage by a single paver's square footage to obtain the number of pavers needed. If the total comes out to include a decimal, round up one. Add a 5-10% allowance to the total of pavers, to accommodate for any pavers that may be cut or break during installation. Extra pavers can be kept for future replacement pieces.

For example, if you are paving a space that is 428 sq. ft and a single paver you like covers 3 sq. ft, then you will need 143 paver pieces. Adding a 5-10% allowance means that you should purchase 151 to 158 pavers.

Excavation

Determine the allowable height for the pavers, bearing in mind that for every 4ft, a one-inch slope should be given for water drainage. Place and mark stakes around the parameter and use strings wound around the stakes to show height to follow. The total depth to excavate should be 5-7" plus paver's thickness, dig out and compact with a compacting machine. Temporarily board rectangular areas indicating slope and height.

Base Material and sand bedding

Choose a base material, preferably moistened $\frac{3}{4}$ minus gravel with sharp edges to make compacting easier. Spread your crushed gravel evenly to a desired thickness, atop the sub-base area. Thickness layers may vary, depending on intended use of the area.

Use a plate compactor to compact severally to appropriate level, slope and height.

A layer of bedding sand is spread over the base material before the pavers are set. To do this uniformly, place a 1" diameter PVC at intervals across the base material. Sand-fill the spaces in-between to 1" level.

Edge Restraints

Edge restraints are maintenance measures which can be metal, wood, pre-cast concrete, and plastic that are installed to brace pressure and severe weather conditions. They are applied to the sides of paved area to keep the pavers intact and keep them from separating and shifting.

Laying Pavers

Draft a desired design and pattern and lay the pavers to fit. If a need to cut arises, make use of a diamond saw or masonry chisel. After layering, set the pavers into the sand bedding using a mechanical plate compactor.

Maintenance: Sand Joints and sealants

Sweep dry, fine-grained paver sand, which compacts better, over dry paver stones to sand fill the joints in-between pavers. Apply sand binding sealant over already cleaned pavers, to prevent weed growth and loss of sand joints. Also, this will allow you to easily clean-off any form of stain that may taint the pavers overtime.

Subsequently, after installations you should sweep the pavers regularly, and clean with mild cleaning solutions. It is also recommended to occasionally reapply sealants to maintain the pavers' appearance.