

Paving Stone Installation



Job Planning: Before excavating the area for your new paver installation, check with local utility companies to ensure that digging does not damage underground wires or pipes. Job site access by delivery vehicle should be established so that paver material can be placed in close proximity to the construction area. Mark the area to be excavated (depth for patio, walkways is 7 1/2"). This will provide room for a 4" compacted gravel base, 1" sand bed and 2 3/8" pavers. Once you excavate to the proper depth, inspect for organic material, rocks, roots and debris. This material should be removed, and replaced with clean backfill material. Also, any free standing water saturating the soil should be removed and these low wet areas should be stabilized with a layer of crushed stone.

Compacting Soil Subgrade: Compact your soil subgrade using a flat plate vibrator compactor (rented for usually \$40 per day). Work in a circular motion and compact the area at least twice.



Preparing your Base: For patios and walkways minimum base thickness is 4". For driveways please consult your paver supplier for proper installation. Like compaction of your soil, subgrade compaction on your gravel base in 2" lifts.

Compacting the Gravel Base: Use the flat plate compactor and work in a circular motion. Once your 4" of material is in place and compacted check the finished surface. It should be hard enough not to allow the bedding sand to migrate into it.



Building your Edge Restraints: Edge restraints are key to your installation. They provide lateral resistance which keeps your pavers from separating. Place your edge restraints on the compacted gravel base. Never place edging on the bedding sand. Secure the edging into the compacted gravel base using 10" spikes. Let the edging follow your patio or walkway perimeter design.



Placing the Bedding Sand: Concrete sand is recommended and should be spread and leveled to a consistent thickness of 1" and 1 1/2".

Placing the Pavers: Place your paving stones according to your chosen pattern. Chalk lines snapped on the bedding sand or string lines pulled across the surface of the pavers can be used as a guide to maintain straight lines.



Cutting the Pavers: Cut pavers should be used to fill gaps along edge restraints.

Compacting the Pavers: Once all pavers are placed, the area should be compacted with a vibrating plate compactor, which will drive the bedding sand up into the joints to create the interlock. Dry joint sand should then be spread over the paved area and swept into the joints. Run the compactor over the area. Complete this process until the paver joints are full. Finally, sweep the area of excess bedding sand. Final stage, protect your investment by applying one coat of sealer and sand stabilizer. Contact your paver supplier for product recommendations and installation guide.

