PAVING STONE INSTALLATION GUIDE

1. CREATE OUTLINE
   - Take your completed design and transfer it onto the ground where you will be installing your patio
   - Use spray paint to mark the outline
   - Use a garden hose for guidance on the curved areas and long boards for the straight areas

2. SET ELEVATIONS
   - 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.)
   - Set your stakes and string lines to mark the top of finished patio

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 levelled 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
   - Ensure 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 CONCRETE BEDDING SAND (LIMESTONE SHOULD NOT BE USED)
   - 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.
   - 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 complete, pull out the screed guides and fill voids with sand
   - Smooth out 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.

Proper Planning
Before digging, contact your local utility for location and depth of pipes, cables and conduits.
9. KEEP PAVERS SQUARE

- Use a string line running in both directions as your guide.
- Measure out lines in multiples of 3, 4, and 5 with the line marked “three” remaining stationary during the squaring process.
- 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 extra steps. See instructions.

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Paving Stone CROSS SECTION

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**CALCULATION FOR BASE MATERIALS:**

Length x Width divided by 80 = cubic yards needed per 4 inch compacted gravel depth. Length x Width divided by 120 = cubic yards needed for 1 inch bedding sand.

**WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

- Expocrete Paving Stones
- Base Materials
- Sands
- Edge Restraints
- Level
- Stakes
- String Line
- Screeding Tools
- Compactor
- Broom