

# Building Curves & Serpentine

## Basic Steps for Transitioning in and out of Curved Wall Sections

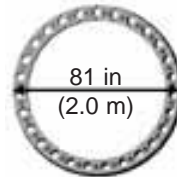
Courtyard  
Collection™



The Courtyard Collection is designed to let you easily build curved and serpentine walls. See How-to sheet #120 for building on soil.

When building curved walls it is best to build the first two courses at the same time. This helps align the blocks so additional courses continue to stack properly.

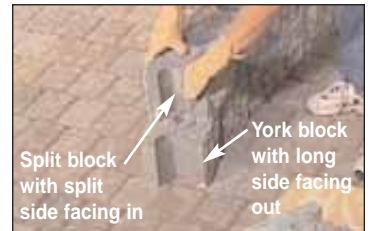
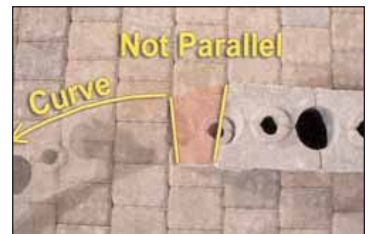
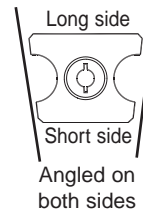
A pre-designed diameter is 81 in. (2.0 m).  
 It takes 28 York blocks to make a complete circle.



**York Block**

To build a larger radius, see *How-to sheet #200*.

York blocks come with a built-in angle on both sides of the block, making it easy to create curves and circles. When building with both straight and curved sections, a Dublin center-split block will need to be used on every other course to transition between them.



**York Block**



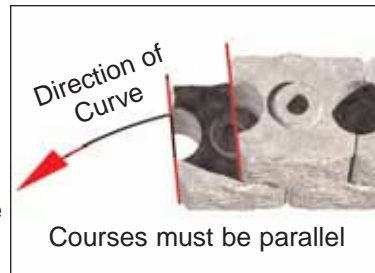
**Dublin Block**

### Step 1: Build to the Curve

Install the first two courses of wall panel up to the approximate location where the curve will begin. *Building the first two courses at the same time ensures proper alignment.*

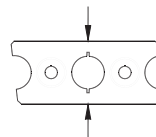
### Step 2: Make Adjustments

Before beginning the curve, check to make sure that both courses are angled correctly. Both courses need to be parallel with each other and angled toward the direction of the curve. If one block is angled the opposite direction, remove the last block and slide the entire course over one block to correct.



### Step 3: Start of the Curve

On the first course, install a York block by placing the long side of the block facing the outside of the curve. On the second course, split a Dublin center-split block and place one half of it with the split side against the previous block. When the wall changes from a curve to a straight section, a Dublin center-split block is split to fill the gaps at the transition on every other course. See *How-to sheet #210 for information on splitting blocks.*



**Dublin center-split block**

### Step 4: Build the Curve

With the curve started, stack additional courses using the York block and placing all of the blocks with their long sides facing the outside of the curve.



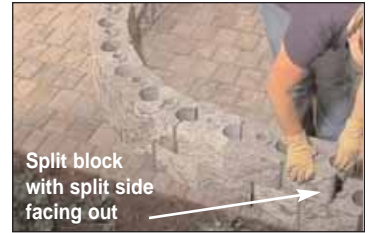
allanblock.com

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### Step 5: End of the Curve

On the first course at the end of the curve, turn the York block around so the short side of the block is facing the outside of the curve to change the direction back to a straight wall. On the second course the other half of the Dublin center-split block will be placed with the split side facing out and toward the next section of the wall panel.



### Step 6: Additional Courses

Repeat this same process as described in Steps 2-5 for additional courses. Every odd and even numbered course will be laid out with exactly the same block layout and split blocks.



### Step 7: Finishing

Finish the wall with Wall Caps. On curved walls, place the long end of the Wall Caps facing the outside of the curve. For proper alignment, start capping the wall at the curve and place the Wall Cap centered over two York blocks with their long ends facing out. To transition the Wall Caps back to a straight section, alternate the direction of the Wall Cap. Secure the Wall Caps in place with a bead of masonry adhesive along both sides of the raised rings and along the side of each Wall Cap (adhesive optional).

