

Landscape Wall Installation Guide Up to 6 ft. (1.8 m)



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Base Preparation

- To start your layout, place stakes to represent the location of the front of the wall. Using a string line or paint, mark out the entire length. A garden hose is an excellent tool to use when laying out curved walls.
- Excavate the area by removing all surface vegetation and organic materials from the area. **These cannot be used as backfill material.**
- If your wall is taller than the heights shown in the chart below, reinforcement will be needed. If needed, excavate behind the wall to accommodate the design length of the geogrid. Refer to your approved plans for exact length.
- Starting at the lowest point, dig a base trench the length of the wall 24 in. (600 mm) wide.
- The depth of the trench will be 6 in. (150 mm) plus an additional 1 in. (25 mm) for each 1 ft. (300 mm) of wall height to accommodate the amount of buried block that is needed.
- Compact the base trench making a minimum of two passes with a walk behind plate compactor. If the foundation soils are made up of heavy clay or wet soils, or the areas have been previously excavated, remove this material and replace with a granular material, compacting in 8 in. (200 mm) lifts or less.



Layout and mark wall location.



Excavate.



Compact.



Backfill behind and in blocks, level and compact. Sweep top of blocks.

Maximum Wall Heights - AB Gravity Walls Residential Applications.			
Condition above landscape wall	Soil Type	AB Stones from the AB Collection only	AB and AB Europa Collection (except AB Stones)
Level	Clay	3.25 ft (1.0 m)	3.0 ft (0.9 m)
	Sand-Gravel	5.50 ft (1.7 m)	4.0 ft (1.2 m)
Surcharge 125 psf	Clay	1.75 ft (0.55 m)	2.0 ft (0.6 m)
	Sand-Gravel	4.0 ft (1.2 m)	3.0 ft (0.9 m)
Slope 3:1	Clay	2.75 ft (0.8 m)	2.5 ft (0.08 m)
	Sand-Gravel	5.0 ft (1.5 m)	3.75 ft (1.1 m)

Base Material

- A drain pipe is required for any reinforced wall or any wall over 4 ft. (1.2 m) tall. Place the drain pipe at the lowest possible point toward the back of the trench and vent to daylight every 50 ft. (15 m).
- Place a minimum of 6 in. (150 mm) of wall rock in the base trench and rake smooth.
- Compact the wall rock making a minimum of two passes with a plate compactor.
- Check the entire length for level, and adjust as needed.

The gravity wall heights shown above do not account for seismic loading. Check with a local engineer for assistance if you are in a seismic area.

Install Base Course

- Begin the base course at the lowest wall elevation. Place all blocks with the raised front lip facing up and forward on the base material near the front of the base trench. See allanblock.com for more information on stepping up the base course.
- Check and adjust each block for level and alignment as it is installed. Check the blocks for level frequently from side-to-side and front-to-back.
- Make minor adjustments by tapping the AB blocks with a dead blow hammer or by placing up to 0.5 in. (13 mm) of coarse sand under the blocks.

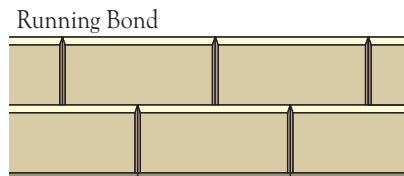
Backfilling and Compaction

- Fill in the area in front of the blocks with on-site soils. This will keep the base course blocks from shifting while filling and compacting.
- Fill the hollow cores of the base course and 12 in. (300 mm) behind the block with wall rock to the height of the block.
- Use infill or approved on-site soils to backfill behind the wall rock in lifts of no more than 8 in. (200 mm).
- Use a plate compactor to consolidate the wall rock directly behind the block then compact in a path parallel to the wall, working from the back of the block to the back of the excavated area with a minimum of 2 passes.
- Check the base course for level and adjust as necessary.
- Every course after the first course requires compaction starting on the block.

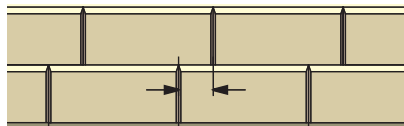
Additional Courses

- Remove all excess material from the top surface of all blocks. This prepares a clean, smooth surface for placement of the next course.
- ***If reinforcement is needed go to allanblock.com for complete installation details.***

- Stack the next course of blocks so that the vertical seams are offset from the blocks below by at least 1/4 the length of the block.
- Check each block for level and alignment and make adjustments as needed.
- Fill the hollow cores and 12 in. (300 mm) behind the block with wall rock to the height of the block.
- Use infill or approved onsite soils to backfill behind the wall rock in lifts of no more than 8 in. (200 mm).



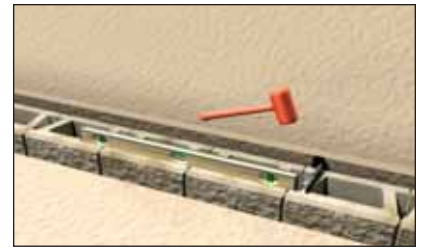
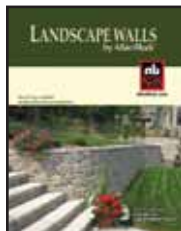
Stack the blocks in running bond or offset by at least 1/4 of the block



- From the 2nd course and above use a plate compactor to compact directly on the blocks as well as the area behind the blocks. Compact in lifts of 8 in. (200 mm) or less.
- Repeating these steps, complete the wall to the desired height. On the last course, fill behind the blocks with organic soils in place of infill or approved on-site soils. This will assist in any plantings above the wall and also to direct water from running behind the blocks.
- Finish the top of the wall with AB Capstones, mulch, rock or soil and plants.

Landscape Walls Guide

See the Allan Block Landscape Walls Guide for complete installation and product detail. For taller wall applications, see our AB Retaining Wall Installation Guide at allanblock.com



Install base course, level and align.



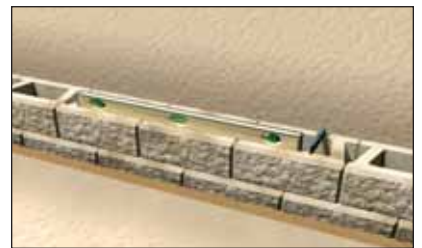
Backfill wall rock and infill soils.



Compact.



Install AB Grid Reinforcement if needed.



Install next course, level and align.



Backfill and compact.