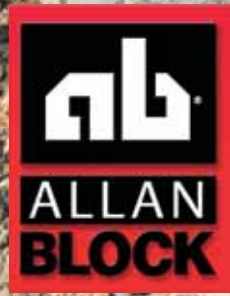


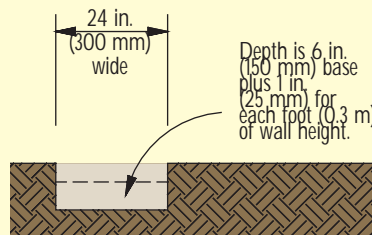
Basic Installation

Building a Landscape Wall



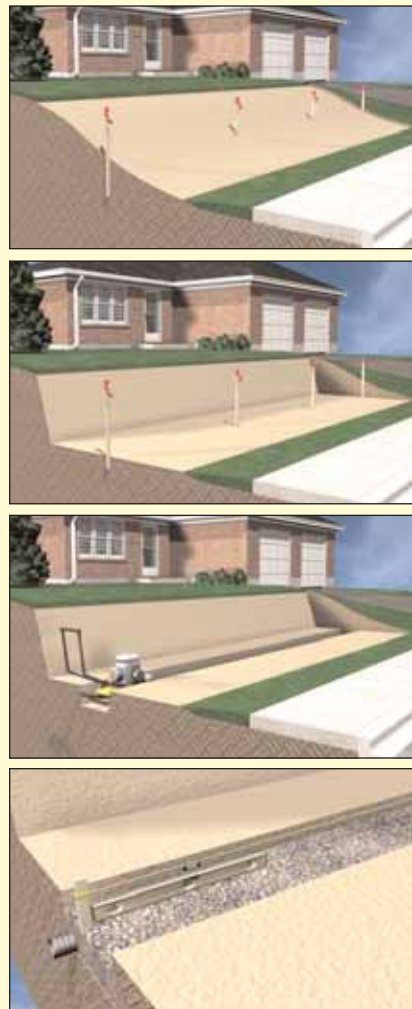
Base Preparation

- 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 can not be used as backfill material.
- If reinforcement will be 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. For walls where the base trench steps up a slope see [page 24 for more information](#).
- Dig a base trench the length of the wall 24 in. (600 mm) wide.
- The depth of the trench is determined by allowing for 6 in. (150 mm) of base material plus an additional 1 in. (25 mm) for each 1 ft. (300 mm) of wall height. See approved plans or exact amount needed.
- Compact the base trench making a minimum of two passes with a walk behind plate compactor.
- Foundation soils at the bottom of the base trench must be firm and solid. If the 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.



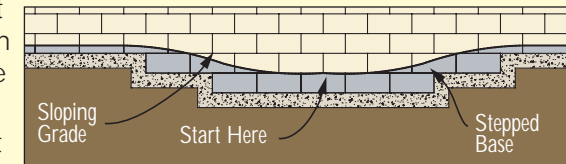
Base Material

- A drain pipe is required for any reinforced wall or walls over 4 ft. (1.2 m) tall. Place the drain pipe at the lowest possible point toward the back of the trench that can be vented to daylight every 50 ft. (15 m). See [Page 14 for more information](#).
- 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.



Install Base Course

- Begin the base course at the lowest wall elevation. For more information on stepping up the base course see [page 24](#).
- Place all blocks with the raised front lip facing up and forward on the base material near the front of the base trench.



- 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. Verify the proper position of all the AB blocks by examining a string line across the back of the blocks or by sighting down the back of the raised front lip.
- 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.
- Irregularities in the base course become larger as the wall stacks up. Careful attention to a straight and level base course will ensure a quality finished wall.

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.
- 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, then compact directly behind the block. 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. See [page 16 for additional details on compaction](#).
- 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 smooth surface for placement of the next course.
- If reinforcement is needed go to [page 19](#) to continue the installation process.
- 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.
- Use infill or approved infill soils to backfill behind the wall rock in lifts of no more than 8 in. (200 mm).
- 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.
- Using these steps complete the wall to the desired height. See [page 39 for information on finishing wall options](#).
- Organic soils can only be used on the last 8 in. (200 mm) lift to finish off wall.

