



# BASIC PAVING INSTALLATION GUIDE

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## 1. Preparation of the site.

- Select the level you desire the finally completed pavement to reach. Mark this level on adjacent wall, borders or fences or set marker pegs with stringlines to set finished level as datum.
- Excavation of the existing ground may then be necessary to accommodate the base layer and the paving units.

The base should be a road base material (FCR). The depth will depend on what traffic is to proceed on the pavers. General rule is 100mm for foot traffic, 200mm for vehicular.

To achieve a good base, some further excavation, removing unstable soils, may be required. The upper surface of this base layer must be well compacted to provide a level surface to spread the sand bedding.

A plate vibrator is used to achieve this. 2-3 passes adding water should achieve this.

*\* Remember your ear protection*

**Important!** *The upper surface of the base must reflect the exact profile, fall or contour you desire the final paving to follow. Hollows, humps & irregularities cannot be compensated for by varying the depth of sand bedding. Attention to the base will ensure a good final result. Insure all falls and drainage is taken care of at this stage.*

## 2. Sand Bedding

A well graded sand, composed of both fine and coarse particles in a dry to moist condition is recommended. Do not use fatty brickie type sands and also avoid very coarse “sharp” sands (e.g. metal dust) which may resist bedding.

- Place screed rails on the prepared base. Use a suitable screed to level bedding sand between screed rails.

*\*TIP: Screed rails 25mm thick & Screed timber 3m length*

- Spread layer of the bedding sand over the rails. Over fill on top of the screeding rails and use a suitable screed to draw excess sand across the “rails”.
- Removing the screeding rails from the sand bed. The grooves left by the screed rails should be filled in with sand to the level of the surrounding screeded bed. A small level or ‘trowel’ can be used to smooth in rail indents. *\*At this stage make sure all falls and contours are correct.*

## 3. Placing the Paving Units

- Select the pattern you prefer & use a string to keep units straight. Commence placing the units flatly and gently on the sand bed avoiding tilting them.

When a row of units is in place, use the already placed units as a guide to locate and slide the units gently down onto the sand next to their neighbour. When a day's placing is completed cut fractional size units with a suitable brick saw and fit these into the edge.

\*TIP: When using a brick saw remember eye, ear & dust protection.

\*TIP: Always blend pavers from more than 1 pallet if applicable.

\*TIP: If possible, try to lay up a slope. This avoids the pavers creeping away.

#### 4. Installation of Edge Restraints

- A stable edging to the paving is essential to restrain the paving units and the sand bedding.
- Remove excess sand from sides of the finished paving units exposing the base course.

Types of edge restraints available:

- The paving units themselves
- Kerb Unit
- Edgestones

#### 5. Compacting the Pavers

- A plate vibrator is available from most plant hire outlets. Spread dry paving sand over the surface of the paved area by sweeping & filling in joints. Sweep off the excess and pass with plate vibrator then repeat.
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- The second pass of the vibrator will achieve complete lock and seal of the small joints with sand. On completion of the stage sweep excess sand from the paving. \* If using Pave-lock Jointing sand refer to instructions on bag

\*TIP: A piece of carpet tied to the bottom of the plate helps prevent scratching.

\*TIP: It is preferable to vibrate at completion of each day's work to prevent overnight rain eroding the loosely laid paving units.

\*TIP: IB&P recommend sealing with suitable concrete sealer (follow instructions on data sheet)

#### What You Will Need:

\*Two screed rails e.g 25mm Timber\* One screen board \*Sharp bedding sand Approx. 1m<sup>3</sup> for every 30m<sup>2</sup>) \*Fine clean jointing sand or Pave-lock jointing sand Approx. 1 bag for every 12-15m<sup>2</sup> \*Gravel (road base). Approx. 1m<sup>3</sup> for every 10m<sup>2</sup>. (100mm thick) \*Plate vibrator or rubber mallet and timber blocks \*Ear muffs & Safety Glasses \*Block splitter or club hammer and bolster \*Suitable grinder/brick saw \*Suitable Mask \*Stringline \*Level \*Broom  
\*Hammer \*Edge restraints, either Kerb Units, Edgestone or concrete

