

# 7 Steps for Installing Pavers



## Step 1: Determine How Much Material You'll Need

### PAVERS

1. **Determine the square footage** of the area you want to pave by multiplying the length by the width.

2. **Figure out how many pavers** you'll need.

4" x 8" pavers – 4.5 pavers per sq. ft.

3 5/8" x 7 5/8" pavers – 5.2 pavers per sq. ft.

(Generally limited to Running Bond pattern.)

**For chipped or broken pavers, add 5% extra.**

*Example:*

A 10' x 10' patio = 100 sq. ft. x 4.5 pavers/sq. ft. = 450 pavers.

An additional 5% = 22.5 pavers.

Total needed so far = 472.5 pavers.

It is recommended you include an additional 1 1/2 brick per linear foot of edge for cutting.

*Example:*

Linear footage = 10+10+10+10 = 40 linear feet.

40 x 1.5 = 60 pavers.

472.5 + 60 = 532.5 total pavers needed for the project.

### EDGING MATERIAL

1. **Measure the linear foot** of open edges. Open edges are those that are not up against a house, curb, driveway, etc. This will tell you the number of feet you will need. Calculate one brick for each 4" of edge if you plan to edge with the brick standing on end or in soldier position.

2. **For wood or rigid plastic edging**, use one stake for each 2 to 3 feet of edge.

### SAND AND CRUSHED STONE

1. Measure sand or crushed stone in cubic yards.  
1 cubic yard = 27 cubic feet.

2. Use 1" depth of sand for any type of paving project. Multiply the square footage by .00309.

*Example:*

A 100 sq. ft. patio x .00309 = 0.31 cubic yards of sand.

3. The amount of crushed stone you'll need depends on your paving project. For walkways or patios use a 4" depth of crushed stone. Multiply the total square footage by .01235 to determine cubic yards needed to create a 4" base.

*Example:*

A 100 sq. ft. patio x .01235 = 1.24 cubic yards of crushed stone. For driveways use an 8" depth

of crushed stone. Multiply the total square footage by .02469 to determine cubic yards of crushed stone to create an 8" base.

*Example:*

A 100 sq. ft. driveway x .02469 = 2.47 yards of crushed stone. You may need a deeper base in areas of extreme wetness or severe freeze/thaw. It's recommended that you consult your Woare Builders Supply representative with additional questions.

## Step 2: Preparing the Area

1. **Always check with your local utility** companies to determine the location of underground lines.

2. **Make sure** the area you intend to pave has proper drainage. (1/4" per foot slope away from foundations or other permanent structures is recommended.)

3. **Outline the area** with stakes and string. Be sure to include the width of your edging material.

4. **With a flat shovel**, remove only enough sod or dirt to provide a flat, level surface upon which to place the crushed stone base. Dirt or excess soil that is removed and re-installed should be firmly settled with a plate compactor for an even base.

## Step 3: Installing the Base

1. After compacting the soil, **place the crushed stone base into excavation**. Tamp down no more than 4" (depth) of base material at one time using a plate compactor. It is important for this step to be done carefully and thoroughly to prevent brick from moving over time.

2. Make sure the base material is slightly damp when compacting.

## Step 4:

### Framing the Borders

1. This step is necessary to insure your brick paving remains firmly in place and long lasting. **Begin by installing your edging, but do not anchor it.** You can experiment with the pattern you've chosen by temporarily laying the brick around the edge of the paving. Note that complex designs such as herringbone, may require significant amounts of brick.

2. **When you're satisfied with your placement, you can proceed with anchoring the edging.** Drive spikes at least 8" into the base every 2 to 3 feet.

- For wood edging, drill holes and drive the spikes through the middle of the wood.
- For brick edging, dig a trench deep enough so the top edge of the brick will be flush with the brick surface of your finished project.

3. **To insure a tight fit, leave one border unanchored until final brick installation**, then remove the brick you temporarily installed.

## Step 5: Installing the Sand Bed

1. For a narrow project like a walkway, **use 1" outside diameter pipe or cut two wood strips to the desired height of the sand (1")**. Place them on either side of the paving area. Place strips about 3

feet apart for wider projects like a driveway or patio.

2. **Fill the area with sand.** To eliminate voids, dampen sand with a fine mist of water prior to installation.

3. When you have poured the sand, **use the pipe or wood strips as rails to run your "screed" board** to insure a uniform sand depth of 1". Do not walk in or disturb the leveled sand.

4. Remove the screed rails and fill the indentations with loose sand. Then level with a broom or trowel.

## Step 6:

### Laying the Brick Pavers

1. **Start at a corner that includes an edge such as a house, curb, sidewalk or other fixed edge.** Lay one run of brick from the corner along the two adjacent borders. Set the brick on the sand. They should fit snugly without pressing or hammering. Leave about 1/16" to 1/8" gap between each brick. Be sure to work from the laid brick and not the sand. If you disturb the virgin sand, re-level it with a broom or trowel before laying more brick.

2. **Work from your starting corner to the unanchored edge.** Using the original perimeter brick as a reference put a string line across the front of your laying edge (every 2 to 3 feet) to maintain alignment. If the pattern wanders a little, a trowel, screwdriver or wide-blade putty knife can be used to make small adjustments. Don't worry about the small gaps between the paving brick. They can be filled with sand.

3. **Check the level and alignment** of the brickwork frequently during installation.

4. Once all of the full brick have been installed up to the final unanchored edge, **cut or saw the remaining brick to complete the bond pattern.** Make sure the final edge brick are no smaller than two inches in width.

5. Anchor the final border.

## Step 7:

### Finishing Your Project

1. **Inspect your work and make final adjustments** in brick height and joint alignment. Then sweep dry sand into all the joints to lock the brick into place.

2. **You may want to use the plate compactor to set the brick and gently tamp it down.** If you choose to do so, spread a layer of sand over your pavers to prevent contact between the brick and the compactor.

3. The sand you swept into the joints will gradually settle. You should **sweep additional sand into the joints as necessary** over the next few rainstorms until the brick are fully stabilized.

*When your new project is completed, sit back and enjoy the timeless beauty you added with your new walkway, driveway or patio. In just seven steps, your vision has come to life.*

1595 N Calhoun St  
Decatur, IL 62526  
(217) 429-4404  
woarebuilderssupply.com

