



t i m e

*f o r a*

*c h a n g e*



IN  
JUST  
A  
FEW  
DAYS  
WHERE  
GRASS  
NOW  
STANDS  
THE  
BRICK  
PAVER  
FEATURE  
YOU  
ENVISION  
CAN  
BECOME  
A  
REALITY

PAVER

**PROJECTS  
WITHIN  
YOUR  
GRASP**

*Installation  
Basics*

*Tips for  
Success*

*Popular  
Patterns*

# BRICK PAVER PATHS PATIOS & MORE

## A FEW TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Start with a reasonably sized project, so you can develop your personal skills. This will prevent your becoming discouraged. Remember— *Many people successfully complete paving projects.*

If there is any possibility that you might run out of “steam” (or time) during the course of a brick paver project, you may want to have someone else handle the excavation phase, so you can save the pleasure of handling the brick and the satisfaction of completing such an exciting project for yourself.

Always “drop” your load of brick as near to the work site as possible to eliminate handling them more than necessary.

*Remember.* This is an abbreviated guide. Especially for complex projects, we suggest you consult with the source of your brick or a landscape professional regarding the preparation of the sub-surface and selection of tools and materials.

*Keep your sand dry  
and your spirits high!*



# PROJECTS WITHIN YOUR GRASP

*Likely you can  
do a project with  
Brick Pavers.*

*However,  
whether you  
choose to do-it-  
yourself or not,  
everyone will  
enjoy your  
envisioned home  
improvement.*

*And you'll enjoy  
its maintenance-  
free beauty for  
many years to  
come.*

**Brick.**  
*It's an  
all-natural  
choice for  
any home  
or lifestyle.*

[www.gobrick.com](http://www.gobrick.com)



**For reasons not completely clear, the idea of a path or patio made of fire-hardened brick has encamped itself on your consciousness.**

Visions of family and friends outside, enjoying the weather, laughing in the shade, picnicking in the backyard, meandering on paths across your personal landscape will, unfortunately, remain just that, a dream...until a decision is made.

**IS IT TIME** for your vision to take shape? Picking up this brochure may just mean "yes." In any case, it will certainly bring you closer than ever to knowing your dream can become reality.

Creating features of paving brick around your home is easier than you might think. They are as affordable as they are beautiful, and as enduring as ever. And, thanks to recent product introductions, simpler than ever to install, for those with the inclination and energy to take on rewarding personal projects at home.

Whether you envision a patio (likely less expensive than a wooden deck), paths, a driveway, stepping stones or garden borders, brick paver additions can enhance the value and beauty of any style home made of any material. Its natural no-skid surface adds extra sure-footed safety to any walkway, pool surround or other wet area. And the fact that brick is virtually maintenance free makes it a dream come true for sure.

#### **ABOUT PAVING BRICK**

Unlike the brick used to build houses and walls, paving brick has no holes. Typically, it's available in three sizes –  $3\frac{5}{8}" \times 7\frac{5}{8}"$  for mortared applications,  $3\frac{3}{4}" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$  and popular  $4" \times 8"$  (both bonded) for sand-based applications. Paving which uses mortar, has a familiar, traditional appearance, yet, it can be vulnerable

SCREWDRIVER



COMPACTOR



CHISEL



PUSH BROOM



TAPE MEASURE



LEVEL



Waiting just on the other side of this home-improving project, the horizon of this change, is a peaceful place to enjoy.

to cracking resulting from ground shifts below the surface if the foundation is compromised. The no-mortar, sand-based technique for paving with brick, with its relative ease and relatively lower cost of installation, has increased in popularity in recent years, partly because it appeals to those who wish to make such home improvements themselves. Both types of installation are extremely durable and can last for decades.

Pavers also come in two thicknesses: 1½", commonly used for pedestrian situations, and 2¼" typically used for heavier pedestrian and traffic/load conditions.

With the increase in sand-based installation, brickmakers are producing styles which make these installations as elegant as ones using mortar while basically eliminating the problem of edge chipping. These pavers, with edges that are either beveled or "relieved" (made slightly irregular with a handmade look), also tend to emphasize and enhance the pattern in which brick are laid.

#### SO, WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Along the bottom edge of the preceding page are most of the tools needed to complete a sand-based installation. These, your vision, a bit

of "elbow grease" and, of course, the bricks that are right for you, are all that's needed to proceed.

#### STEP 1 PREPARING YOUR SITE

The first step in a sand-based installation is to remove enough soil to allow for 3-4" of "crusher-run" gravel (about 8" for a driveway), 1"-1½" of "concrete" sand or stone screenings, and the thickness of your selected pavers. The excavated area should extend about 6" beyond the area you plan to pave to provide an adequate foundation and allow for proper drainage.

#### STEP 2 COMPACTING THE SUB-SOIL

After excavation is complete, the exposed sub-soil needs to be compacted, either by using a vibrating plate compactor (available from most equipment rental shops), or allowing the area to stand through several rains or soakings with a hose.

#### STEP 3 GRAVEL & DRAINAGE

Following soil compaction, it's time to add the gravel. Although it may not be necessary for small or low-traffic areas, gravel will help keep your paved area level for years. *(When in doubt about this or any other detail of installation, we suggest*



#### MATERIALS CALCULATIONS

Area in Square Feet	Minimum No. of Pavers*	Mortar Mix Joints & Bed**	Cubic Feet of Gravel 4" Base	Cubic Feet of Sand 1" Bed	Cubic Feet of Sand for Joints
10	45	1/3	3.3	.85	1/2
20	90	3/4	6.6	1.7	1/2
30	135	1 bag	9.9	2.55	1/2
50	225	1 1/2	16.5	4.25	1/2
100	450	3 1/4	33 (1 1/4 yds)	8.35	1

\*Paver coverage assumes 4"x8" actual or nominal unit measurement. Add 5% to cover chipped & broken pavers.  
\*\*Standard 70 lb. bag for 3/8" joint & 1/2" bed. 1 CY: 27 cubic feet equal 1 yard.



## The simple basics of beneficial labor are complemented by the richness of choice— color, texture, and pattern— and the anticipation of a vision made real.

that you consult with a landscaping professional.) For proper drainage, you will want to slope the excavated site about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot (1" every 4') without exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$ " per foot.

### STEP 4 EDGING

Edging, which can be done before or after laying the pavers, is necessary to hold a "no-mortar" installation in place. It can consist of a run of bricks on-edge, trowel-finished concrete with backfill soil, or increasingly-popular continuous plastic or metal retainers. If your selected pattern or plan involves a lot of brick cutting, edging is more easily and accurately accomplished afterwards.

### STEP 5 BEDDING SAND & SCREEDING

Don't be tempted to compensate for an improperly compacted or unlevel sub-soil (or sub-base) condition in this step. Such a seemingly "innocent" adjustment will ultimately result in an uneven surface and unwanted settling. Make sure the sub-surface is properly prepared. Next, place two parallel lengths of 1" pipe on the gravel approximately 6' apart (to serve as runners). Cover the sub-base with sand (or stone screenings) to a depth of  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " or less. The bedding sand or screenings need to be screeded (the process of leveling this surface using a long straight edge), so pull a 2"x4" across the sand atop the 2 pipes, removing any excess.

Don't worry about any voids in the sand's surface, including those caused by the pipes. These can simply

be hand-filled and troweled smooth as you lay your bricks. Work from freshly screeded sand, and avoid walking on your leveled surface. If rain threatens before this work is completed, remember to keep your sand dry, using a plastic cover.

### STEP 6 LAYING YOUR BRICK

With your pattern chosen (*suggested patterns are shown on the next page*) begin laying brick from any convenient corner. If your paving is adjacent to a solid structure (such as a wall), you'll want to work out from there. Set the pavers lightly on the sand, never pressing them or hammering them in. Remember to stop 6" short of the originally excavated area to allow edging and drainage to extend beyond. Every 4' or so, use a perpendicular string line to check your progress. If pavers are "lagging" behind the desired pattern, carefully insert a small screw driver and work them forward until they are in proper alignment. If bricks run slightly ahead of the pattern, use a rubber mallet to nudge them into place. Careful hand-setting should ensure an adequate fit prior to final tamping.

### A WORD ABOUT CUTTING BRICK

Obviously, it's easier if you choose a pattern which minimizes or eliminates cutting. If necessary, however, brick can be roughcut using a broad blade chisel and a hammer. For finer cuts, a brick splitter or power saw with a masonry diamond blade (available at most equipment rental shops) will do the job.



*Just a Sampling—*



HERRINGBONE\*



90° HERRINGBONE\*



DOUBLE BASKETWEAVE



SINGLE BASKETWEAVE



RUNNING BOND



STACK BOND

*\*for Vehicular Traffic Herringbone or 90° Herringbone must be used.*



#### STEP 7 THE FINAL DETAILS

Sweep the pavers, and then, using a vibratory plate compactor (or, if you've used square-edged brick, a hand tamp or rubber mallet), work from the perimeter inward, going over the surface at least twice with 2"-4" overlaps each pass, until the surface is level to your satisfaction.

Next, spread a thin layer of jointing sand and use a stiff-bristle "street" broom to sweep and tamp it into the joints until they are filled. After sweeping, run the compactor across the surface a final time. If cracks open up, sweep additional sand to fill them. Finish by sweeping away the remaining sand, backfill around the perimeter with top soil and sod or seed. *Don't forget to water your plantings!*

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

Your vision is now a reality, and you can begin enjoying this wonderful addition to your home and lifestyle immediately!



AFTER EXCAVATION, APPLY GRAVEL LAYER



COMPACT GRAVEL



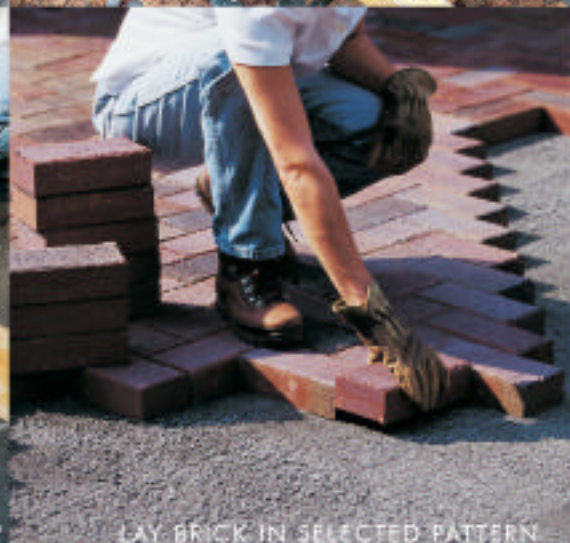
SPREAD SAND OR STONE SCREENINGS



LEVEL SAND OR STONE SCREENINGS



SCREED LEVEL WITH 1" PIPES AND 2"x4"



LAY BRICK IN SELECTED PATTERN



FILL CRACKS WITH SAND OR SCREENINGS



VIBRATE/COMPACT OR HAND TAMP LEVEL



FILL CRACKS & SWEEP ONCE MORE