

# Design Ideas

For Your Outdoor Living Spaces







We pride ourselves on the training we provide to our Allan Block network of professionals so you can be confident in your choice.

Allan Block has many products available to help you transform your outdoor living area to a backyard destination. We hope our ideas will inspire you to create your own masterpiece to enjoy for years with family and friends.

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Dress up your backyard space to entertain family and friends while enjoying the great outdoors.

Outdoor Rooms



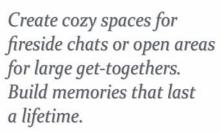
Outdoor Entertaining

Enjoy your surroundings by transforming your outdoor space into a gathering spot for family and friends.



















Claim more space by turning sloping yards into something extraordinary with beautiful gardens and planted terraces.

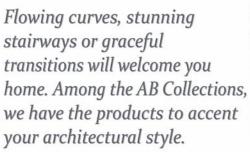
Sloping Yards Use grade changes to your advantage by adding multiple walls or stairways to elevate your architectural style with a warm inviting outdoor space.

Entryways Create a bold statement or charm your guests with visual elegance.













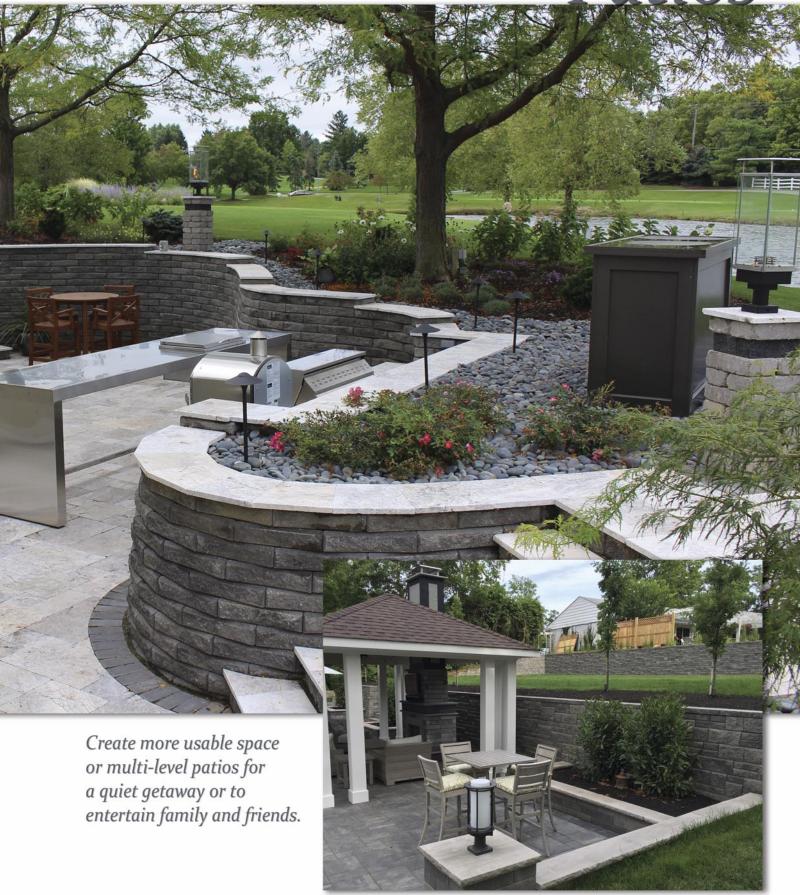






With our design flexibility you can build strong, durable patios in any size and shape with very little maintenance.

Patios



Stairways

Enhance your outdoor spaces with stylish and functional stairways to easily connect upper and lower elevations in elegant transitions.





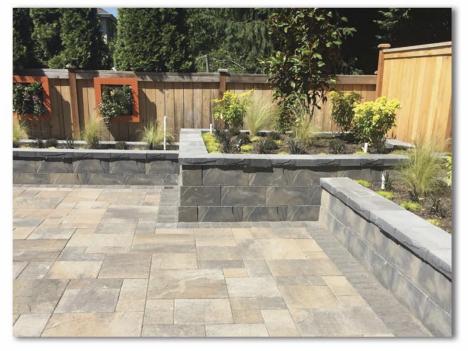




Stairways add a visual element that can flow through the landscape with curves or follow along the side of a slope. The design possibilities are endless.



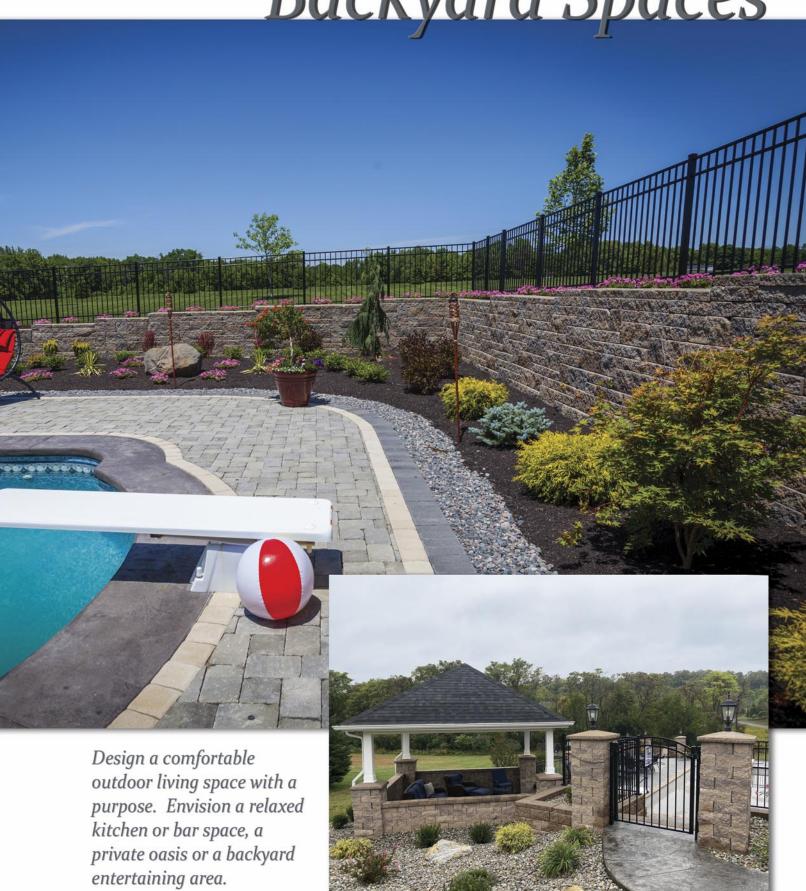






Upgrade your backyard space and extend your home outdoors, adding beauty and function.

**Backyard Spaces** 

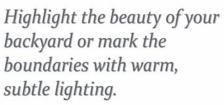


Lighting Accentuate moonlit evenings with lighting and create enjoyable outdoor spaces for family and friends.











# Design and Estimating

# Estimating made easy with our great tools.

### Retaining Wall App

Design and estimate your retaining wall projects with material outputs given for all retaining wall collections. A detailed package is generated and emailed instantly.





### Courtyard Patio Wall App

Design and estimate two-sided patio walls using panels, posts, corners and more or choose from pre-designed options. A detailed package is generated and emailed instantly.





Apps are available for tablet, mobile devices and Mac/PC computers.

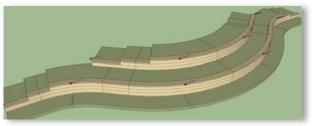
### **Estimating Tool**

Estimating your project for retaining walls, patio walls and/or fences all in one tool. Choose the product, enter the project's details and instantly receive a detailed list that includes quantities for the block, rock, grid and more.



### 3D Modeling Tool

Using the estimating Apps our AB Design Center will email a file that can be opened in the free 3D modeling tool SketchUp.



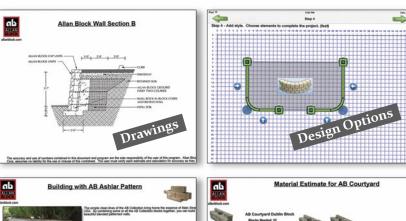
From App to 3D design in seconds.



Use the Allan Block Apps or the AB Estimating Tool to create a detailed material estimate on your next project. By simply entering in the project details, you can generate specific drawings and product estimates from all the available Allan Block products.

Download them today to check out the great design and estimating tools available to you for FREE.







# Visualize the Project

The Allan Block Apps can create a file with the details of your project that can be used in a 3D modeling tool to create a visual image of your project. Then use images from the library to create and design the look you want to achieve for your outdoor space.



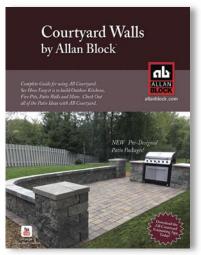
Visit allanblock.com for complete installation details.

# Installation

# What is a Courtyard Wall

An AB Courtyard Patio Wall is a two-sided free-standing wall system that is durable, versatile and a cost-effective way to bring value to your land-scaping. The AB Courtyard patio wall blocks stack up quick and easy and can be used to surround patios giving definition to outdoor rooms and additional seating. They can also be used to create patio elements like custom outdoor kitchens, BBQ surrounds, firepits, ponds and much more.





The Allan Block Courtyard Wall Installation Guide includes complete and detailed installation information. Download today at allanblock.com.

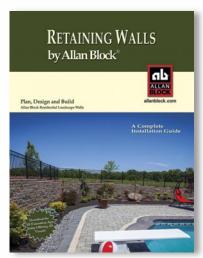
# What is a Retaining Wall

A retaining wall is a structure that holds or retains the soil behind it. There are many types of materials that can be used to create retaining walls such as concrete blocks, poured concrete, treated timbers, rocks or boulders. Some are easy to use, others have a shorter life span, but all can retain soil.

Retaining walls are built for many purposes from simple planters or raised patios up to managing large grade changes or commercial projects.

Using the Allan Block products gives you a lifetime of durability and versatility with your design. The system can be used with one block style or by blending the modular blocks together to create a patterned appearance for a unique one-of-a-kind look.





The Allan Block Retaining Wall Installation Guide includes complete and detailed installation information. Download today at allanblock.com.

# Build an Allan Block Courtyard Patio Wall





### Panel Installation

- 1. Determine the location of the wall panel on an existing concrete or paver pad. If installing on soil dig a trench that is 3 in. deep x 7 in. wide (75 mm x 178 mm) the length of the wall panel. Fill the trench with wall rock, compact and level to create a solid foundation.
- 2. With the raised rings facing up, install the first two courses of block at the same time on the existing patio or level foundation of wall rock. Tamp and level the blocks into place. Install the first two courses at the same time to ensure that the blocks line up properly.
- Continue stacking courses of blocks in the pattern you have chosen until the desired height is achieved. Remember to offset the block seams on each course of blocks from the course below.
- Finish the wall panel with Wall Caps. Secure in place with a bead of masonry adhesive.



More Information Wall Panels



More Information Posts



Installation Videos





## Post Installation

- 1. Determine the location of the post/pillar on an existing patio. If installing on soil, dig a hole that is 4 in. deep and 24 in. square (100 mm x 600 mm). Fill with wall rock, compact and level to create a solid foundation.
- 2. Using 4 AB Courtyard Corner Blocks, install the first course by placing the blocks with the long sides facing out. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level.
- Continue stacking courses until the desired height is achieved. Alternate between the patterns to offset the seams from the course below.
- Finish with two Post Caps. Secure in place with a bead of masonry adhesive.

# Build an Allan Block Retaining Wall











# **Gravity Walls**

- Mark the location of the retaining wall and dig a trench a minimum of 24 in. wide (600 mm) and 6 in. deep (150 mm) plus an additional 1 inch (25 mm) for each 1 ft (300 mm) of wall height for gravity walls.

  If reinforcement will be needed, additional excavation will need to be completed to accommodate the length of the grid, see allanblock.com for complete details. Excavated materials that can not be used as backfill material will need to be discarded. Compact the trench thoroughly with a hand tamper or plate compactor. Install a drain pipe at the back of the trench for walls with poor drainage, over 4 ft. (1.2 m) tall or any reinforced walls. Make sure the drain pipe can be vented to daylight. Place a minimum of 6 in. (150 mm) of wall rock in the trench. Do not use sand. Compact thoroughly with a hand tamper or plate compactor. Level the entire trench.
- Install the blocks on the wall rock foundation with the raised front lip facing up and forward near the front of the trench. Verify the proper position of the AB blocks by sighting down the back of the raised front lip or using a string line. Level each block from side to side and front to back as installed, make adjustments as necessary. Careful attention to a straight and level base course will ensure a quality finished wall.
- Once the entire base course is installed, fill in front of the blocks with on-site soils to keep the base course from shifting while filling and compacting the blocks. 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 on-site soils to backfill behind the wall rock to the height of the block. Using a hand tamper or plate compactor, compact the wall rock and on-site soils behind the block in a path parallel to the wall. Check the base course of blocks for level and adjust as needed.
- 4 If reinforcement is needed see next page and go to allanblock.com for complete details. Sweep off the top surface of the installed blocks. Stack the next course so that the block seams are offset from the course below. Check each block for level and alignment, making adjustments as needed. Fill the hollow cores and 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. Using a plate compactor, compact on the blocks to lock them together as well as the area behind the blocks as previously done. Repeat these steps to the top of wall.
- 5 Install AB Capstones for a clean, finished look. Secure in place with masonry adhesive. For a different finishing option fill the hollow cores and behind the top course with rock, mulch or dirt if plantings are desired up the face of the wall.



Use AB Reinforcement Grid when required for building taller walls or walls in poor soils.

### Reinforced Walls

- 1. If reinforced walls are needed, excavate behind the wall to accommodate the design length of the geogrid. Refer to your approved plans for exact length. Installing Reinforced Walls will be the same as Gravity Walls for trench and base course installation as shown on previous page. Once base course is installed and compacted, begin installing the first layer of AB Reinforcement Grid by rolling it out along the back of the wall on top of the blocks. Stake grid in place.
- 2 Continue installing your next courses of blocks as shown in Step 4 under Gravity Walls. Per your approved plans, install geogrid on every other course of the wall.
- 3 See all and lock.com for complete installation details when installing geogrid on curves and corners.



More Information Gravity Walls



More Information Reinforced Walls



Installation Videos

# Retaining Wall Types

#### **Gravity Walls** Parapets with Reinforced Walls AB Fieldstone Parapet filled with wall rock Wall Rock Long anchoring unit (LAU) AB Reinforcement AB Fieldstone retaining wall below On-Site Soils Wall Rock Drain Pipe For Gravity Wall Installation -For Reinforced Wall Installation -Build free standing parapets Walls under 4 ft (1.2 m) Walls over 4 ft (1.2 m) on existing surfaces or above retaining walls.

# **Block Collections**

#### AB® Collection - Retaining Walls



AB Stone & AB Classic Approx. 1 blk/ft² (11 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L (200 mm H x 300 mm D x 460 mm L) 75 lbs (35 kg)



AB Jumbo Junior Approx. 2  $blk/ft^2$  (22  $blk/m^2$ ) 8 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L (200 mm H x 240 mm D x 230 mm L) 35 lbs (is kg)



AB Lite Stone Approx. 2 blk/ft<sup>2</sup> (22 blk/m<sup>2</sup>) 4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L (100 mm H x 300 mm D x 460 mm L) 35 lbs (15 kg)



AB Junior Lite Approx. 4 blk/ft² (44 blk/m²) 4 in. H x 12 in. D x 9 in. L (100 mm H x 300 mm D x 230 mm L) 18 lbs (10 kg)

Caps and Corners are available.



#### AB Aztec® Collection - Retaining Walls



AB Aztec Classic Approx. 1 blk/ft² (11 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L (200 mm H x 300 mm D x 460 mm L) 75 lbs (35 kg)



AB Aztec Junior Approx. 2 blk/ft<sup>2</sup> (22 blk/m<sup>2</sup>) 8 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L (200 mm H x 240 mm D x 230 mm L) 35 lbs (15 kg)



AB Aztec Lite Stone Approx. 2 blk/ft² (22 blk/m²) 4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L (100 mm H x 300 mm D x 460 mm L) 35 lbs (15 kg)



AB Aztec Junior Lite

Approx. 4 blk/ft² (44 blk/m²)

4 in. H x 12 in. D x 9 in. L

(100 mm H x 300 mm D x 230 mm L)

18 lbs (10 ka)

Caps and Corners are available.



#### AB Europa® Collection - Retaining Walls



AB Dover Approx. 1 blk/ft² (11 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 10.5 in. D x 18 in. L (200 mm H x 265 mm D x 460 mm L) 80 lbs (35 kg)



AB Palermo Approx. 2 blk/ft² (22 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L (200 mm H x 240 mm D x 230 mm L) 35 lbs (15 kg)



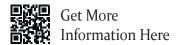
AB Barcelona Approx. 2 blk/ft² (22 blk/m²) 4 in. H x 10.5 in. D x 18 in. L (100 mm H x 265 mm D x 460 mm L) 40 lbs (20 kg)



AB Bordeaux Approx. 4 blk/ft² (44 blk/m²) 4 in. H x 10.5 in. D x 9 in. L (100 mm H x 265 mm D x 230 mm L) 20 lbs (10 kg)

Caps and Corners are available.





#### AB Fieldstone Collection® - Retaining Walls



812 facing unit w/SAU Approx. 1.5 blk/ft² (16 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 13 in. D x 12 in. L (200 mm H x 330 mm D x 300 mm L) 60 lbs (30 kg)



812 facing unit w/LAU Approx. 1.5 blk/ft2 (16 blk/m2) 8 in. H x 23 in. D x 12 in. L (200 mm H x 585 mm D x 300 mm L) 90 lbs (40 kg)



824 facing unit w/SAU Approx. 0.75 blk/ft² (8 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 13 in. D x 24 in. L (200 mm H x 330 mm D x 600 mm L) 125 lbs (55 kg)



824 facing unit w/LAU Approx. 0.75 blk/ft² (8 blk/m²) 8 in. H x 23 in. D x 24 in. L (200 mm H x 585 mm D x 600 mm L) 185 lbs (85 kg)



Contact local representative for availability, exact specifications and colors for all Allan Block products.

AB New World Courtyard



AB Fieldstone Cap 3.5 in. H x 11.5 in. D x 17.5 & 14.5 in. L (90 mm H x 290 mm D x 450 & 350 mm L) 55 lbs (25 kg)



AB Dogbone 4 in. H x 7 in. D x 2.5 in. L (100 mm H x 175 mm D x 60 mm L)

SAU - Short anchoring unit, LAU - Long anchoring unit

#### AB Courtyard Collection® - Patio Seating Walls.





AB Courtyard

AB Dublin Approx. 1.5 blk/ft² (16 blk/m²) 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 16.5 in. L (150 mm H x 175 mm D x 420 mm L)

# AB New World Courtyard

AB Dublin Approx. 1.5 blk/ft² (16 blk/m²) 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 16.5 in. L (150 mm H x 175 mm D x 420 mm L) 40 lbs (20 kg)



3.0 in. H x 12 in. D x 24 in. L (75 mm H x 300 mm D x 610 mm L) 70 lbs (32 kg) Two caps needed per post



40 lbs (20 kg)

AB York Approx. 3 blk/ft2 (32 blk/m2) 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 7.5 in. & 9 in. L (150 mm H x 175 mm D & 190 mm x 230mm L) 20 lbs (10 kg)



Approx. 3 blk/ft2 (32 blk/m2) 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 7.5 in. & 9 in. L (150 mm H x 175 mm D & 190 mm x 230mm L) 20 lbs (10 kg)



AB Wall Cap 3.5 in. H x 10 in. D x 7 in. & 9.25 in. L (90 mm H x 250 mm D x 175 & 235 mm L) 22 lbs (10 kg)



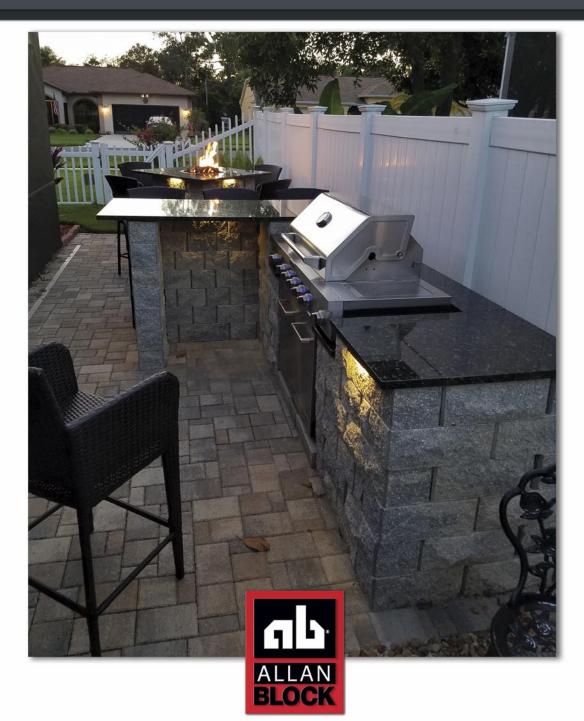
AB Courtyard

AB Corner Block AB Corner Block 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 15 in. & 15.5 in. L 6 in. H x 7 in. D x 15 in. & 15.5 in. L (150 mm H x 175 mm D x 380 & 400 mm L) (150 mm H x 175 mm D x 380 & 400 mm L) 42 lbs (20 kg) 42 lbs (20 kg)



AB Fence Post Cap 5 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L (130 mm H x 300 mm D & 460 mm L) 60 lbs (30 kg) Can be used for panel caps

# Visit allanblock.com for more information on the ideas and products from Allan Block.



allanblock.com

