



Your Guide to Laying Paving

Laying paving for the first time? Get yourself prepared! Buy yourself some knee pads, put on some old clothes. Find a wooden batten to kneel on, and use this to walk to and from the laying point.

Installation

Laying a patio

For years to come, the durability, functionality and general appearance of your patio will depend on how you address the following stages:

Stage 1 - Mark out the area of your patio and dig down approximately 100mm to 200mm.

Stage 2 - Lay and level and compact your base (Hard-core and or Kelkay Path and Patio Base) to a thickness of about 50mm to 100mm. The depth of sub base depends on the type of usage you are anticipating.

Stage 3 - there are many acceptable routines for laying the paving i.e.

- place five orange sized blobs of cement mixture under the paving slab and press gently down until in a level position.
- sprinkle dry sand and cement mix directly onto the laying base and place the paving slabs on top lay the paving directly onto the laying base.

Important Note: We strongly recommend when laying “Natural Stone Paving” that a full bed of mortar is used to support the paving and also to allow for the varying thicknesses also the joints should be pointed with mortar. Make sure you choose the larger side as your Natural Paving surface with the edges tapering inwards slightly to the underside.

Which ever methods you use remember to keep checking the level.

Stage 4 - once completed leave the patio overnight or longer if possible remembering that if you have used cement mixture to bed slabs this will take time to fully harden. Depending on the type of paving used, brush in dry sand or fine grit or point with mortar into the spaces between the slabs. This will give it that professional finished appearance.

Considerations

- When calculating the depth to dig out allow for the thickness of the paving if you want the patio to be ground level.
- If the patio is to be above ground level you must consider how to restrain the paving with edging.
- Ensure that you allow a gentle slope for water to freely drain away from buildings.
- Do not brush dry cement powder across the faces of flagstones, microscopic particles will remain and become very apparent after the first rain to fall on them.

Tools for Laying Paving

Trowel, spade, rubber mallet, spirit level, tape measure and a brush

