

BRICK PATHWAYS

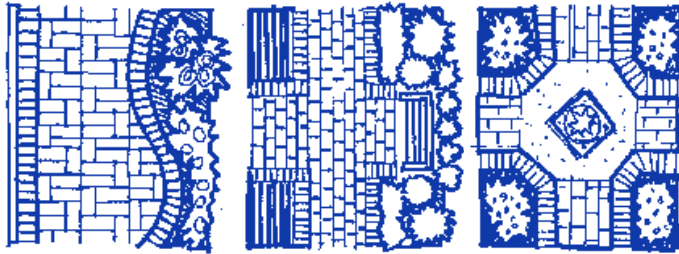


It's really not that hard to create unique interesting walkways using brick paving. Design your own brick patterns or use the tried and tested layouts. See diagram 5. Follow a few basic guidelines and you can't go wrong. Brick paving built correctly, will not only add beauty and function to your home and garden it will add real value. Hint: Choose a brick that compliments your garden & home. Visit home displays and paving display sites, for contemporary and traditional displays. You'll get the inspiration and motivation you need to give it a go yourself, it's very rewarding. **HAPPY BUILDING!**



STEP 1:

Don't tackle this project without firstly doing your research. Careful consideration and planning must precede the commencement of the building process. Just selecting the right paving brick can be a time consuming task. Get the right information. Talk to an expert, your local brick supplier, they can help with specialist advice & ideas. There are new paving products coming out all the time... Time waits for no man... so get cracking! Plan your brick paving today. See diagram 1 for some great layout ideas to get you started.



STEP 2:

Sketch out on some graph paper, a pavement layout that suits your requirements.

Hint: Draw to scale, for example: 1 metre = 2 blocks on the graph paper.

A scaled drawing can be taken to your pavement supplier and they can work out accurately, how many pavers you will require to complete your project.

Hint: Save Money by buying a batch of discontinued pavers, making sure you buy enough to complete your project, because they won't be available for long.

STEP 3:

Mark out the area to be paved. Allow an additional margin of 50 mm on each side for ease of brick placement. Excavate, dig out area to a depth of 225 mm. See diagram 2. Ensure base is level and firmly compacted.

STEP 4:

Now you're ready to prepare the paving foundation.

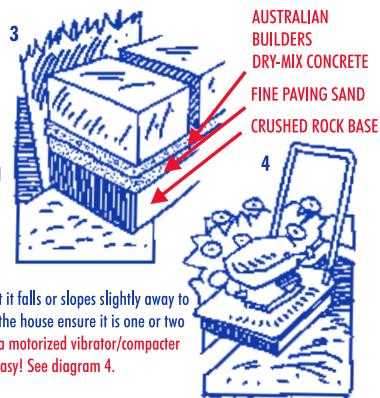
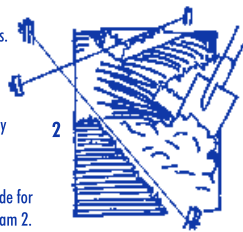
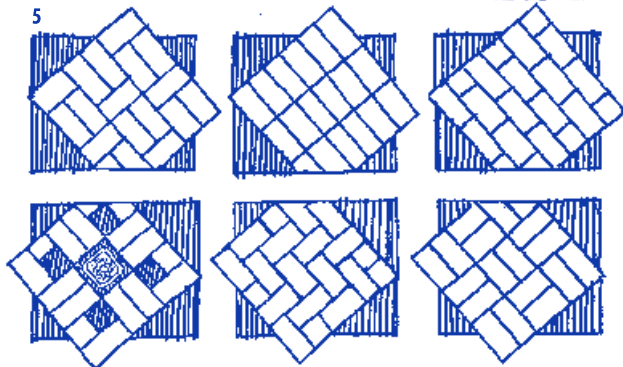
Remember your finished job is only as good as the foundation it's layed on. See diagram 3.

Firstly: Add a 75 mm level layer of crushed rock to base and compact firmly. Check level with your spirit level.

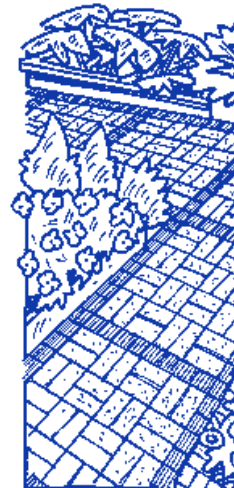
Secondly: Add a 20 mm level layer of fine "paving" sand and compact firmly. Check level with your spirit level.

Thirdly: Add a 50 mm level layer of Australian Builders "Dry Mix" Concrete, STRAIGHT FROM THE BAG, and compact firmly. Check level with your spirit level.

Hint: Allow for paving drainage needs, making sure that it falls or slopes slightly away to one side, away from the house. If positioned up against the house ensure it is one or two brick courses below the houses damp proof course. Hire a motorized vibrator/compactor from your brick or garden supplier. It makes the job so easy! See diagram 4.



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Hint: Always plan ahead, have all your building materials including paving bricks delivered, before you start to mark out the area to be paved. You can use the paving bricks to help lay out the area you are planning to pave. You may add a few shapes and contours you wouldn't have considered if you had already excavated the sight.

Remember: All best layed out plans, should be flexible enough for late arising developments, improvements. I can't remember the last time my finished job looked like my initial concept plan. For example: A tree marked for removal in an initial plan, got a retrieve and became an integral feature of the finished pavement area. Think about it...

Tip-Bit: A tree that's taken 20-30 years to grow can be cut down in just minutes... So always give extra, careful consideration and get council advise before you cut down any trees.

Trees are a vital ingredient to a healthy environment.

STEP 5:

Premusing you've planned ahead, you will already know what brick pattern you will be using. If not take a look at some of the various brick paving patterns that are available for you to use. See diagram 5.

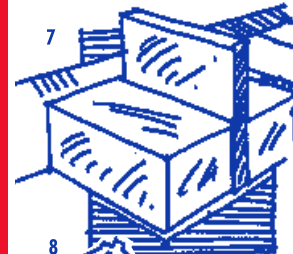
Now you've got the perfect foundation to build on, it's time to start piecing this paving puzzle together.

STEP 6:

Starting at the corner begin laying the bricks into position.

As you lay them down, use a (10 mm thick) piece of wood as a brick joint spacer, works beautifully and it's cheap!

See diagrams 6 & 7. **Hint:** Always check levels in all directions whilst laying pavers. It is essential to have a slight fall to one side for water drainage.



STEP 8:

Once the entire paved area has been completely filled, gently water them in with your garden hose using a very soft and fine spray. Be very careful not to force out any of the fill mix. See diagram 10. Repeat this gentle watering, every half an hour over the next three hours.

Hint: Some settling may occur during this process. Add more fill when required. If persistent rain is forecast, ensure you cover your newly paved area with suitable protective covering, such as a plastic sheet or hessian cloth.

STEP 10:

Allow 12 hours for joints and foundation to cure, then remove all excess brick mortar fill from paving surface with a stiff brush.

Avoid walking over the surface during this process, use a solid, sturdy plank to stand and kneel on.

Important: Before use, allow the paving to set firmly for a minimum of 3-7 days.

STEP 7:

Now "bed" each brick into position with the aid of a rubber mallet, checking continually with your spirit level, to make sure that they are all level and even with one another. See diagram 6.

"Bedding in Bricks" = Final Positioning of Paver.

Tip-Bit: In most brick paving projects, you will be required to cut a large amount of pavers to various sizes. Leave this procedure until the end of the laying process. Hire a paver cutter power tool from a brick or garden supplier and complete the task in one hit, with a minimum of fuss.

STEP 9:

When finished placing all your bricks, you will need to fill the empty joints between bricks with a suitable fill. Use a "dry-mix" of Australian Builders Sand and Cement, STRAIGHT FROM THE BAG, to fill in the joint spaces. See diagram 8.

Hint: For an added touch of class, mix in some Australian Builders Colouring Agent or Oxide... it's special! Pour the dry-mix out over the bricks surface area and gently sweep it into the joints until they are filled. See diagram 9.



Congratulations... you've just successfully completed a Build-it-yourself project... welcome to the B.I.Y. club! I bet you feel great and you're ready to take on your next project. Well there's lots more where this one came from. Check out our website at: www.bpsaust.com or see your favourite Hardware supplier for more B.I.Y. Project Sheets. There easy!



Remember: BUILDERITE THE FIRST TIME... and enjoy the rest of your time!