GARDEN WALLS by Allan Block®



allanblock.com

Plan, Design and Build Allan Block Garden Walls up to 3.0 feet high (0.9 m).



Whether you are bordering your flower beds or building a backyard oasis, Allan Block's Garden Wall Collection brings you the selection and style you need!-

Great Gardens by Allan Block®



1400



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The Garden Wall Collection by Allan Block[®]







The Garden Wall Collection gives you three choices for building Great Gardens!



3

Choose the Right Block.

Select the block with the right size and style for your gardening project.

AB Garden Accent

Textured on both sides, our lightest block is the right choice for sturdy, garden beds and borders that last a lifetime.

AB Garden Accent is available in two finishes -Classic Cut Stone and Old World Tumbled.





Walls up to 24 inches (610 mm) high.



Walls up to 30 inches (750 mm) high.

Walls up to 36 inches (900 mm) high.

AB Junior

Experienced gardeners prefer AB Junior for its versatility and performance. Beautiful fit and finish, and all the design details you will need for custom gardening with a Classic Cut Stone finish.







For larger, more challenging projects, AB Jumbo Junior delivers the sturdy, rugged qualities you need. Our winged-back design lets you build both straight and curved walls with one block and have a Classic Cut Stone finish.









Want to think BIGGER?

If you have a larger landscape project in mind, take a look at our Retaining Wall Collections - a full line of larger block designed and engineered for full-scale construction. Just go to allanblock.com for more details, or call your local Allan Block dealer today.

Plan and Design Your Project



A set of simple tools is all you need to build great Allan Block walls.

4 ft and Torpedo level Gloves & Knee pads Rake & Shovel Wheel barrow Broom Chisel and hammer Wooden stakes Hand tamper Safety glasses Tape measure Rubber mallet String line



Job Site Considerations

Before Installation Begins

A little bit of planning will make your project go faster and turn out right.

Lot Lines and Utilities

- Confirm lot lines and wall location. Your local municipality will have a copy of your lot survey on file. The survey will identify property lines and provide a scaled template to help with your site plan.
- Call your local utility companies to confirm the location of underground utilities. Buried utility lines are not only dangerous, they may prevent you from locating your project where you want.

Soils

Soil conditions are important in any garden or landscape. Check to see what kind of soil you have before starting.

- Sandy soils are easy to work with and drain well too.
- Clay soils are harder to work with and drain poorly.
- Good organic soils are always best for planting beds.

If you have poor soil conditions, consider removal and replacement. Planting beds need to have 6-12 in. (150 to 305 mm) of well-drained organic soils.

Drainage

Managing water around your gardens is important for two reasons: your plantings require good moisture conditions, and proper drainage will prevent water from ponding or running into areas it's not wanted - like your basement.

- Always grade your beds to move water away from the house foundation.
- Make sure water moves freely off of walkways and patios.
- Slope areas above the walls to send rain water around the sides if possible.
- Check sprinkler lines before and after construction.

See page 18 for more information on drainage.

The Wall Base / Wall Rock

To build a good wall, you need a firm foundation, or base. Plan on using clean, granular rock underneath the base row.

Good drainage and compaction will add to the quality and performance of your finished wall.

We refer to the material used for the base, within and behind the block as "Wall Rock". Crushed or smooth stone, ranging in size from 0.25 in. to 1 in. (5 to 25 mm) is ideal. Your AB dealer will have what you need.





Terraces

Consider a layered look in your garden design. You'll love the way Allan Blocks flow. Create a series of raised garden beds, or tackle a tricky slope by turning one wall into two.



Straight Lines and Curves

Mother Nature rarely draws a straight line. Not only will curved designs feel more natural, they are actually easier to build too! Free flowing curves will grace any garden or landscape.

If straight lines and corners are your choice, use AB Junior or AB Jumbo Junior both offer corner blocks, making 90° turns easy to build.

Colours

Colour selection is key to a great design. Be sure to consider the total composition - house, pavements, and bed mulch and find the look that's right for you. Contact your local representative for available colours.



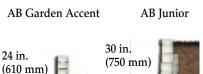
The colours of the house, AB Junior and pavers go together beautifully.





Structure

Be careful not to try and retain too much with the garden wall line of blocks. These lighter duty blocks are great for smaller wall projects. AB Garden Accent up to 24 in. (600 mm), AB Junior up to 30 in. (750 mm), and AB Jumbo up to 36 in. (900 mm) - with sandy soils and no extra weight above the wall.





Maximum heights shown in sandy soil

Surcharge



Slopes



The maximum wall heights above are for walls with level grades above and below the wall, and no added weight -"surcharges" - from driveways, swimming pools, etc...

If your project has steep slopes above or below the wall, or extra weight from surcharges, ask your AB Dealer about our heavier duty products found in the Landscape Wall Collection.

Be sure to follow our recommended maximum wall heights.

AB Garden Accent

Choose from two finishes: Classic Cut Stone or Old World Tumbled





Old World Tumbled



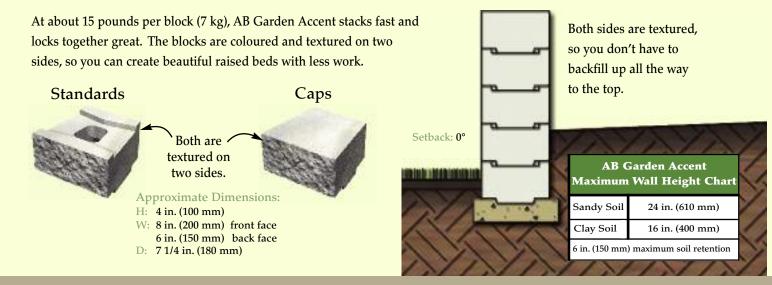
AB Garden Accent is the ideal choice for beautiful beds and borders.

allanblock.co

Old World Tumbled

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Our smallest block comes up BIG in features and performance!



Soft, sweeping curves, straight lines, or tight radiuses

By adjusting the position of the standard blocks, you can get the line and look you want.

Form soft curves by adjusting the block as you go. Try to keep the blocks tight together at the front of the wal

Estimating Chart								
Wall Height	Wall Length				Wall Length			
(NOT Including the Cap)	5 ft (1.5 m)	10 ft (3.0 m)	15 ft (4.5 m)	20 ft (6.0 m)	25 ft (7.5 m)			
1 course 4 in. (100 mm)	9	17	26	34	43			
2 courses 8 in. (200 mm)	18	34	52	68	86			
3 courses 12 in. (305 mm)	27	51	78	102	129			
4 courses 16 in. (405 mm)	36	68	104	136	172			
5 courses 20 in. (505 mm)	45	85	130	170	215			
Caps	Number of Caps needed							
4 in. (100 mm)	9	17	26	34	43			
Ar	Amount of Wall Rock needed							
Wall Rock	100 lbs (45 kg)	200 lbs (90 kg)	300 lbs (135 kg)	400 lbs (180 kg)	500 lbs (230 kg)			

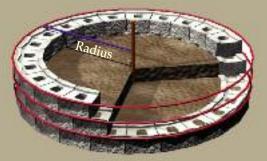
AB Garden Accent

Tight radiuses can be formed by placing the long sides of the blocks together.

> Straight lines are formed by alternating the long and short sides of the block.

Minimum Radius Chart			
Outside Radius	30 in (760 mm)		
Blocks Needed For A Full Circle	23 blocks		

AB Garden Accent is a vertical stacking block, so the radius is the same on every course.



Build AB Garden Accent Walls





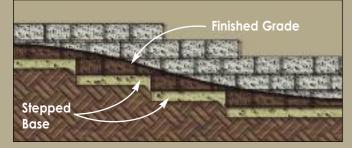
1. Prepare The Base

- Temporarily lay out the first course of blocks. Adjust the blocks to minimize the gaps between them. This will allow the caps on top to fit snug, and provide a nice, tight finish to the wall.
- Mark the layout with a shovel, and remove the sod and other surface material from the bed. Dig a shallow trench, 10 - 12 in. (255 - 305 mm) wide and at least 4 in. (100 mm) deep.
- Use a large level to check the trench • for level as you dig. On sloped sites, "step up" the base when it gets more than 6 in. (150 mm) deep.
- Place 2 in. (50 mm) of rock in the • trench, level and compact with a hand tamper. It is essential that the base is level at this point, as errors will multiply as each new row is added.

a a a a a a Layout and mark wall location



allanblock.com



Remove sod

and dig trench

Install wall rock, level and compact

2. Install The Block

- Set the base course of block in the trench and make sure the edges all touch on the forward side of the block. Tap the blocks into place with a rubber mallet, leveling each block as you go. As a rule, the base block should be set at least 2 in. (50 mm) below the finished grade.
- Fill in behind the blocks with soil, and carefully compact to lock them in place. Fill the blocks with wall rock for additional stability. Sweep

the blocks clean, and check again to make sure the blocks are level.

- Stack the next course of AB Garden Accent, and offset the seams from the blocks below. Keeping the seams staggered will lock the block together and make the wall stronger.
- Check the blocks for level, adjust as needed, and add more courses until you reach the height you want for your wall.

3. Cap the Wall

• Top off your wall with AB Garden Accent Caps. Alternate the long and short faces to match the design of your wall. Apply construction adhesive between and underneath the caps to secure them in place.



Filling the blocks gives additional stability to the wall.

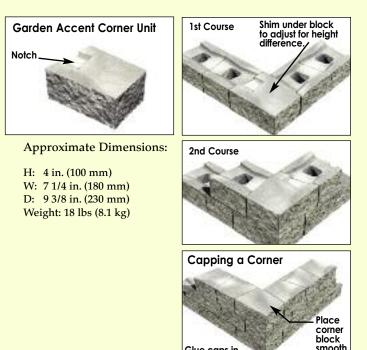
Install additional courses, level Glue caps to secure in place

Corner Details

- The Garden Accent corner units are available in a left and right configuration. They have a notch on one side for interlocking and a smooth side for a finished cap. Your project should always start from the corner and build out from there.
- The corner unit used in the first course is placed so the notch is facing up. There will be a slight height adjustment as the corners do not have the bottom notch that the standard units and caps have. This is approximately 3/8 in. (9.5 mm), add crushed rock to this area on the base course to make up this amount or use 3 pieces of roofing shingles cut to size.
- Once this adjustment is completed you can continue to build your wall by alternating the left and right hand corners per course.

Capping Corners

• Using the Garden Accent corner unit, place the block with the smooth side facing up to cap the corner. Apply construction adhesive between and underneath the caps to secure them in place. If any adjustments or cutting needs to be made try to locate it in an area that is not as noticeable.



Glue caps in place to secure

side up



Experienced gardeners and landscapers mark their designs with the classic cut stone look and style of AB Junior.

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ALLAN BLOCK

allanblock.com



Flowing Stairways

AB Junior will take your Garden Design wherever you want it to GO!

You can't find more potential, more possibilities, and more performance in a lightweight, easy to use block. AB Junior offers a world of design opportunity - and delivers professional results.

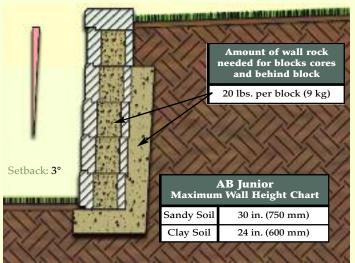
AB Junior

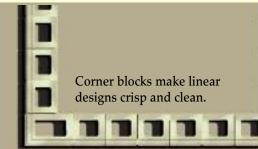


Approximate Dimensions: H: 6 in. (150 mm) W: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) D: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) Weight: 22 lbs. (10 kg) Corners



H: 6 in. (150 mm) W: 11 3/8 in. (285 mm) D: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) Weight: 35 lbs. (15.9 kg)





Remove the wings to turn the tightest, cleanest outside curve you'll ever need. The three blocks provide every combination of line and form a designer wants.



AB Junior Radius

The 3° setback creates a coning effect in curved walls. The tightest curve you can build has a 28 in. (700 mm) radius. With each course you add below, the radius will need to be 1 in. (25 mm) larger.



Minimum	
Radius Chart	

Outside Radius	# of blocks for full circle
28 in (700 mm)	22 blocks
29 in (725 mm)	23 blocks
30 in (750 mm)	24 blocks
31 in (780 mm)	25 blocks

AB Junior Estimating Chart

O							
	Wall Length				Wall Length		
Wall Height	5 ft (1.5 m)	10 ft (3.0 m)	15 ft (4.5 m)	20 ft (6.0 m)	25 ft (7.5 m)		
1 course 6 in. (150 mm)	8	16	24	32	40		
2 courses 12 in. (305 mm)	16	32	48	64	80		
3 courses 18 in. (460 mm)	24	48	72	96	120		
4 courses 24 in. (610 mm)	32	64	96	128	160		
5 courses 30 in. (760 mm)	40	80	120	160	200		
Caps	Number of Junior Caps needed				ded		
2 1/4 in. (55 mm)	9	17	26	35	43		
Amount of Wall Rock needed for base material							
Wall Rock	250 lbs (115 kg)	450 lbs (205 kg)	650 lbs (295 kg)	900 lbs (410 kg)	1100 lbs (500 kg)		

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Build AB Junior Walls



As Easy As 1-2-3...



1. Prepare The Base

- Use a garden hose to mark the location of the wall. Remove the sod and other surface material.
- Dig a shallow trench 10 12 in. (255 305 mm) wide and at least 6 in. (150 mm) deep, checking for level as you dig. On sloped sites, "step up" the trench when it gets more than 8 in. (200 mm) deep.
- Place 4 in. (100 mm) of wall rock in the trench, level and compact thoroughly with a hand tamper. It is essential that the base is level at this point, as errors will multiply as each new row is added. On larger projects, consider using a mechanical plate compactor for best results.



2. Install the Block

- Starting at the lowest point of the trench, begin placing the first course of block on the base with the raised front lip facing up and forward. Level each block from side to side and front to back, using the rubber mallet to make adjustments.
- With the base course in place, carefully fill in and behind the blocks with wall rock, including a 4 6 in. (100 150 mm) space behind the block. Use on-site soil to fill in front of the block, and behind the wall rock to the same level as the top of the block. *If installing pavers behind the block, be sure to prepare the paver base properly.*



- Compact thoroughly with a hand tamper or plate com-• pactor. Good compaction is key to a quality job. Sweep the top of the blocks clean, and check again for level.
- Place the next course of blocks with the seams offset from the course below by 2 - 4 in. (50 - 100 mm). This will make

Offset the blocks

the wall stronger and lock each course more tightly in place. Backfill again with wall rock and appropriate soils to the top of the second row.

• Compact again and repeat to the top of the wall.

3. Finish the Wall

- AB Junior has several options for finishing the top of the wall. Choose the one that's right for your design.
- Fill in the top • course with planting soil or mulch, and use the raised front lip as a finished edge. No caps required.
- Use the Two-Way for a clean, finished look. Glue the caps in place.
- Mitred corners will give 90° corners a perfect finish with some cutting.
- AB 12 in. Straight Caps provide the extra depth needed for comfortable stair treads. Be sure to fasten securely with adhesive.









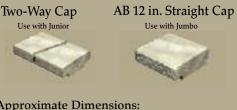


level and compact. Sweep top of blocks.

If installing pavers behind the block, be sure to prepare the paver base properly.

Cap Options

For more information on caps and corners see page 21.



Use with Jumbo

AB Stone 18 in. Cap Use with Jumbo



Approximate Dimensions:

H: 21/2 in. (65 mm) W: 55/8 in. (140 mm)

7 5/8 in. (190 mm) D: 83/8 in. (210 mm)

(4.5 kg)

Weight: 10 lbs. each

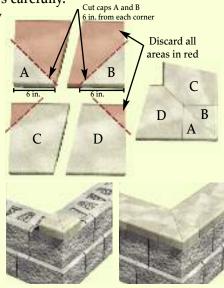
H: 35/8 in. (90 mm) W: 11 1/4 in. (280 mm) D: 11 1/4 in. (280 mm) Weight: 35 lbs. (16 kg)

H: 3 5/8 in. (90 mm) W: 11 7/8 in. (300 mm) D: 17 5/8 in. (440 mm) Weight: 50 lbs. (23 kg)

Check for availability. Check for availability.

Cutting Caps For A Mitre Joint Look

- Using four of the Two-Way caps and with some cutting you can create a mitre joint at the corner for a custom look. Be sure to wear safety glasses when cutting, and operate power saws carefully.
- Using a power saw with a masonry blade, make 45° cuts in blocks A & B and place on the wall at the corner.
- Place block C against block B on the wall, mark the area to be removed. Repeat this same process for block D.
- Use construction adhesive to secure pieces in place.





The workhorse of our Garden Wall Collection with the beautiful classic cut stone look.







Choose AB Jumbo Junior for taller garden wall projects.

allanblock.com

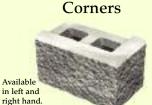
AB Jumbo Junior stacks up more wall in less time!

At 35 pounds (16 kg), these larger blocks handle tougher projects with ease. The "wing-back" design lets you build both straight and curved walls with one simple block. Corners are also available.

AB Jumbo Junior



Approximate Dimensions: H: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) W: 8 1/2 in. (210 mm) D: 9 1/2 in. (240 mm) Weight: 35 lbs. (16 kg)



H: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) W: 11 5/8 in. (290 mm) D: 7 5/8 in. (190 mm) Weight: 47 lbs. (21.3 kg)

Fan the back of the blocks for inside curves.

To make outside curves, break the "wings" off the back of the blocks.

Sandy Soil

Clay Soil

Amount of wall rock needed for blocks cores and behind block

40 lbs. per block (18 kg)

AB Jumbo Junior

Maximum Wall Height Chart

36 in. (910 mm)

22 in. (560 mm)

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Straight walls and corners are a snap.

Estimating Chart					
		Wall Length			
Wall Height	5 ft (1.5 m)	10 ft (3.0 m)	15 ft (4.5 m)	20 ft (6.0 m)	25 ft (7.5 m)
1 course 7.5 in. (190 mm)	7	14	21	28	35
2 courses 15 in. (380 mm)	14	28	42	56	70
3 courses 22.5 in. (570 mm)	21	42	63	84	105
4 courses 30 in. (760 mm)	28	56	84	112	140
5 courses 37.5 in. (940 mm)	35	70	105	140	175
Caps	Number of AB Garden Caps needed				eeded
3 5/8 in. (90 mm)	4	8	12	16	20
Amount of	Amount of Wall Rock needed for base material				
Wall Rock	250 lbs (115 kg)	450 lbs (205 kg)	650 lbs (295 kg)	900 lbs (410 kg)	1100 lbs (500 kg)

Jumbo Juni

AB Jumbo Junior Radius

Setback: 6°

The 6° setback creates a coning effect in curved walls. The tightest curve you can build has a 30 in. (760 mm) radius. With each course you add below, the radius will need to be 1.5 in. (40 mm) larger.



Minimum Radius Chart			
Outside Radius	# of blocks for full circle		
30 in (760 mm)	22 blocks		
31.5 in (800 mm)	24 blocks		
33 in (840 mm)	25 blocks		
34.5 in (875 mm)	26 blocks		

Build AB Jumbo Junior Walls





As Easy As 1-2-3...

1. Prepare The Base

- Use a garden hose to mark the location of the wall. Remove the sod and other surface material.
- Dig a shallow trench 12 in. (305 mm) wide and at least
 6 in. (150 mm) deep, checking for level as you dig. On sloped sites, "step up" the trench when it gets more than 10 in. (255 mm) deep.
- Place 4 in. (100 mm) of wall rock in the trench, level and compact thoroughly. Use a mechanical plate compactor for best results. It is essential that the base is level at this point, as errors will multiply as each new row is added.



2. Install the Block

• Starting at the lowest point of the trench, begin placing the first course of block on the base with the raised front lip facing up and forward. Level each block from side to side and front to back, using the rubber mallet to make adjustments.



• With the base course in place, carefully fill in and behind the blocks with wall rock, including a 4 - 6 in. (100 - 150 mm) space behind the block. Use on-site soil to fill in front of the block, and behind the wall rock to the same level as the top of the block.

- Compact thoroughly with a plate compactor. *Good compaction is key to a quality job.* Sweep the tops of the blocks clean, and check again for level.
- Place the next course of blocks with the seams offset from the course below by 2 - 4 in. (50 -100 mm). This will make the wall stronger and lock each course more tightly in place. Backfill again with wall rock and soils to the top of the second row.
- Compact again and repeat to the top of the wall.

Building on Slopes

Walls built on a sloping grade require a "stepped base". Begin at the lowest point of the wall.

- Dig the trench into the slope until it reaches a depth of 12 in. (305 mm).
- "Step up" 7.5 in. (190 mm) and continue digging until the trench is again 12 in. (305 mm) deep.
- Repeat the process along the entire slope.

The "stepped up" trench should be deep enough to allow for the 4 in. (100 mm) of base and one full buried block before jumping up to the next course.

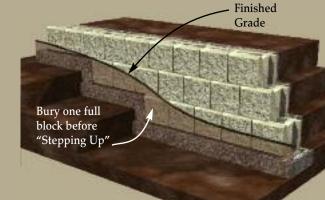
3. Finish The Wall

• AB Jumbo Junior has a raised front-lip which provides a perfect builtin edging to complete your project. AB Cap work well as does as rock, mulch or grass. *For more details, see page 14.*

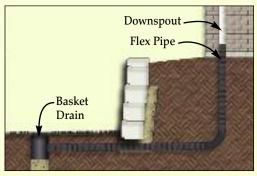


Good drainage practices are important in any garden or landscape. Slope foundation beds away from the house. Route the downspouts into the bed and under the wall to a drainage basket or drywell. Redirecting any concentrated water sources above or at the base of a garden wall will ensure that your wall lasts a lifetime.

Backfill behind and in blocks, level and compact. Sweep top of blocks











Stair Applications

Stairs can be designed with flowing curves or straight lines. Curved sidewalls create a softer, natural look. Straight sidewalls and corners offer a crisp, traditional style; however they require AB Corner Blocks and take more time to build. Stairs can be built using the AB Junior or the AB Jumbo Junior.





Tackle Your Slope

Match your stairway design to the natural grade of your slope.

• On steep slopes, keep the steps close together and use our AB Capstone for a 12 in. (305 mm) tread.



• On gentle slopes, add pavers or other materials to increase the depth of the tread and length of the run.



• Landings can soften a long stairway and provide an easy way to tie the sets of steps together.

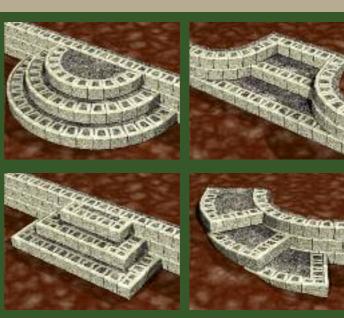
How Many Steps?

To find the number of steps needed in a wall, measure the total rise of your slope in inches and divide by the height of the block.

AB Jumbo Junior = 7.5 in. high (190 mm)







Basic Stair Construction

Once you've picked a stair design, remove any sod or other surface materials and begin to rough in the grades. Be sure to install side walls first if they are part of your design, and make sure to bury enough of the base blocks so the side walls are fully covered by the finished steps.

Tight Stairs With Cap Blocks

This arrangement will give you 7.5 in. (190 mm) risers and 11 in. (280 mm) treads using the AB Jumbos.

- Excavate the area for the stairway. Make the bottom trench 12 in. (300 mm) wide. At the back of the trench, step up 6 in. (150 mm) and excavate back another 12 in. (300 mm). Step up again to the top of the slope.
- Place 4 in. (100 mm) of wall rock in the trench and compact <u>thoroughly</u>. Set the AB Jumbos in place to form the first riser. Fill the block and behind with more wall rock and carefully compact again to lock in place. Check for level and adjust if needed.
- Install the cap blocks on the first course. Place the second riser to fit snugly against the back of the cap block on the first riser. The bottom of the blocks should be set at the same height as the top of the lower set of blocks. This arrangement will give you a the same rise in each step.
- Fill the blocks and behind to the back of the trench, and compact again to lock the second riser in place.

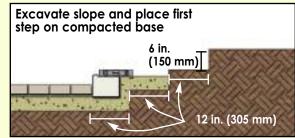
Wider Steps

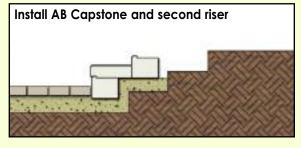
• To build wider steps, simply excavate the back of each trench to allow for additional tread depth. It is a good idea to make each tread uniform in width. If you are using pavers to complete the surface of the treads, try to set the depth so full size pavers will fill it in. This will eliminate cutting. Be sure to slope the treads slightly downward to allow for proper drainage.

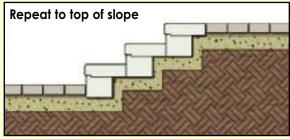
Taller Steps

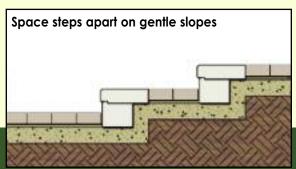
• If you have steeper slopes, use the same construction shown above. Be sure to check your local building codes to make sure the taller steps meet code.











Stair Tread Options

AB Capstone



AB Garden Cap and Pavers



Allan Block's patented front lip provides a built-in edging that works well when installing the stair tread material. Allan Block Caps, pavers, crushed rock, mulches and flagstone are good stair tread examples. Ensure that stair treads are glued in place for safe use.

Caps & Corners - AB Jumbo Junior

Cutting Caps

Capping a curved wall takes a bit of cutting and fitting, but produces a beautiful finish. Be sure to wear safety glasses when cutting, and operate power saws carefully.

- Place two caps on top of the wall spaced so a third cap will fit tightly between their widest point.
- Set another cap on top of the first two caps and mark where they • overlap on the bottom of the center cap.
- Remove the center cap and cut along the marks.
- Set the middle cap back in place so the three fit tightly together.
- Repeat as often as needed to cap the entire curve. •
- It's a good idea to secure caps with a high strength construction adhesive once they are all cut.
- On tighter curves both caps equally will give a cleaner look.

Corner Details

Inside Corners

Standard blocks are easily modified to build inside corners. You will need a power saw with a masonry blade to make the necessary cuts (a good chisel will work too).

- Using your saw or chisel, remove the raised lip from one block, and the left third from another. Set them in place at the beginning of the base course.
- Locate the adjoining wall so that the raised lip on the modified block is lined up with the raised lips on the two blocks. Finish installing the entire base course in both directions.
- Modify two more blocks, this time removing the right third of the raised lip from one of them, and use these blocks to start the second course.
- Continue the process to the top of the wall, alternating as you go.
- Cut caps at 45 degree angles to complete the inside corner.

Outside Corners

AB corner blocks come in right and left hand versions, and are all you need to make a perfect outside corner. Always build your walls by starting at the corners and working out.

- Set the first corner block in place and install the two perpendicular base courses. Level, backfill and compact.
- Place an alternating corner on the second course and set the entire second course of block in both directions. Level, backfill and compact again.
- Repeat as often as needed to the top of the wall.
- Mitre cut a cap block to give the wall a custom finished look.

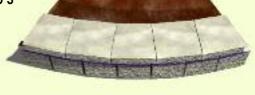






Step 3

Andified

















When you purchase Allan Block, you can feel confident that the Allan Block family of products have been created and engineered to deliver complete landscape solutions.





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