

BACKYARD BLOCK



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Backyard Blocks are the ideal choice for a budget priced, attractive but flexible garden retaining wall.

Backyard Blocks can be used for straight, curved or terraced walls, or can be laid with a 200mm gap and filled with soil to form a vertical garden. Every block interlocks to form a strong but economical retaining wall to suit most budgets. Backyard Blocks are also great for the environment as they are made using recycled aggregates that result in high strength low absorption blocks.



Colour range*

Limestone Colour



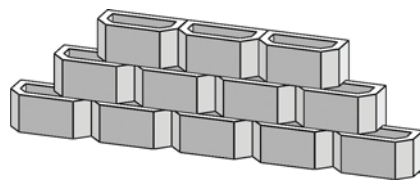
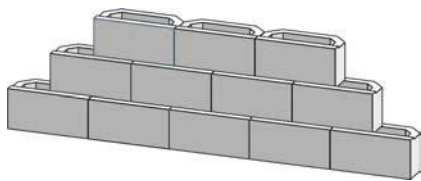
Ebony Colour



Features

- Do it yourself
- Economical to buy
- No concrete footings
- Easy to use
- Low maintenance, won't rot
- Cheaper & easier than concrete sleepers

Laying Options



Straight Wall - blocks layed with no gaps and filled with bluemetal or feature pebbles



Bevelled Wall - blocks layed with no gaps and filled with bluemetal or feature pebbles

Retaining Wall Blocks

Retaining Wall Blocks

390 x 190 x 180 mm

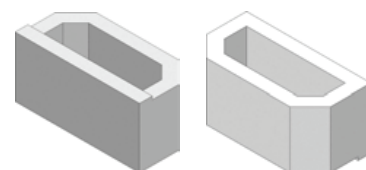
15kg each

13 Blocks per m²

Layed as a solid wall

10 Blocks per m²

Layed with 200mm gap



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INSTALLATION GUIDE



Maximum Wall Heights For Backyard Block Retaining Walls

Backyard Block retaining walls that comply with the maximum wall heights shown in the design tables can be built as gravity walls (refer to construction notes). These walls use the weight and interlocking mechanisms of the Backyard Block to retain an embankment.

Curved Walls -

If building a curved wall, be conscious that the length of courses will vary for a concave or convex wall. E.g.: the course length will shorten if the wall is convex and lengthen if concave.

Minimum Diameter -

1900mm (internal dimension). This is the minimum diameter. Adjust lower courses allowing for 50mm step back.

Backyard Block Retaining Walls (Figure 1)

Dig out trench approx. 200mm deep. The trench should be 600mm wide. Place and well compact 100mm to 200mm of fine crushed rock (gravel). This base thickness depends on the wall height e.g. 150mm thick for 1 metre high, 200mm thick for 1.5 metre high and over.

Step 2 - Sand Bed

Spread 25mm of either sharp sand or metal dust over the compacted base. This should be in a straight line and checked with a level. If the wall tapers, run a straight line at the desired finish level, then gauge down at multiples of 190mm.

Step 3 - Laying 1st Course

The first block course is now bedded into the sand bed. The use of a level and string line is recommended to ensure that the first course is laid correctly. For walls up to 1 metre high, make sure at least 100mm of the first block course is buried below the finished ground level. Allow approx. 200mm for walls over 1 metre high. Compact gravel along the front of the blocks to stabilise.

Step 4 - Drainage & Backfill

Place an agpipe or strip drain behind the bottom of the first course. Backfill behind the blocks using a clean free draining material (e.g. 20mm blue metal), allow 300mm wide. Now compact backfill material thoroughly to remove all voids. If backfill is needed behind the drainage area, existing site soils may be used. (Do not use heavy clay.)

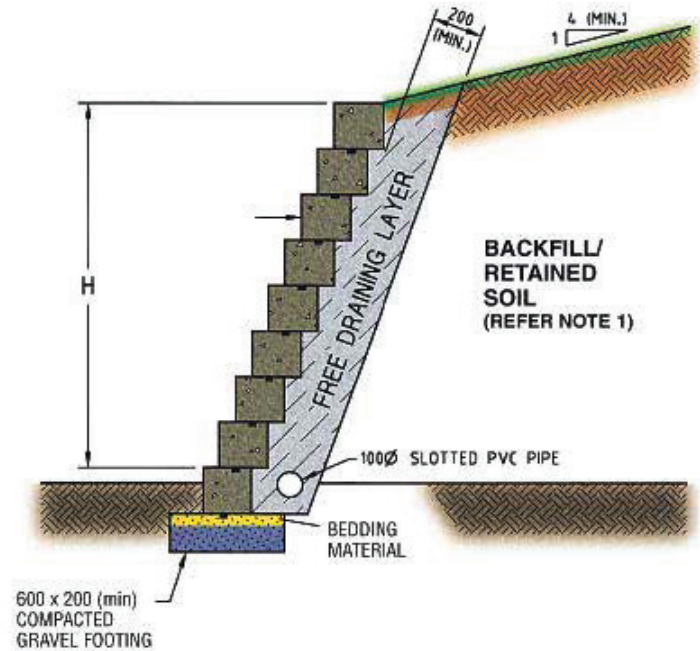
Step 5 - Laying Additional Courses

Lay the second and subsequent courses following the same procedure e.g. use the correct backfill material. Continue to lay and compact behind each block course.

DESIGN GUIDE

Maximum Wall Height 'H' (m)		
Backslope Conditions/ Loadings	Wall Height	Retained Soil Types
Level with: No Surcharge	1.0	Type 1
	1.4	Type 2
	1.6	Type 3
Level with: Domestic Vehicles	0.8	Type 1
	1.0	Type 2
	1.2	Type 3
1:4 with: No Surcharge	0.8	Type 1
	1.0	Type 2
	1.2	Type 3
1:4 with: Domestic Vehicles	0.6	Type 1
	0.8	Type 2
	1.0	Type 3

*Increased wall heights may be achieved using no-fines concrete backfill.



Typical Backyard Block Garden Wall

(Figure 1)

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

Soil Type Descriptions

TYPE 1 SOILS	TYPE 2 SOILS	TYPE 3 SOILS
Includes soft and firm clay, fine sands, silty clays. Internal Friction Angle $\geq 20^\circ - 24^\circ$	Includes stiff sandy clays and gravelly clays Internal Friction Angle $\geq 25^\circ - 30^\circ$	Includes FCR, rock, sandstone and gravels. Internal Friction Angle $\geq 30^\circ+$

- 1 The following assumptions have been made regarding soil properties:
 - a Infill Soil Types - As Above:
Internal Friction Angle $\geq 20^\circ - 30^\circ+$
 - b Bearing Pad -
Compacted density angle: at least 18.6 kg/m³.
Effective internal friction angle: at least 37 $^\circ$.
Effective Cohesion: at least 5kPa
 - 2 Caution is required when using heavy or dry clays as retained soil or backfill.
 - 3 Surcharge loads are as follows:
Domestic Vehicles - 500 kg/m² (5 kPa)
Heavy Vehicles - To be separately assessed
 - 4 The wall footing shall consist of a compacted, well-graded gravel footing 600mm wide x 150 mm deep for walls up to 1 metre high, with the first course at least 100mm below finished ground level. For walls over 1 metre high, an engineer will consider extra depth in the gravel footing along with a minimum 200mm embedment of the first course, subject to soil conditions.
 - 5 Drainage shall be supplied in the form of a slotted PVC ag-pipe with geotextile sock drain (fall at 1:100 min.) or with weep holes. A 300mm drainage layer of uniformly graded gravel shall be provided behind the wall.
 - 6 The Unreinforced soil design table should be used for low, non-structural garden walls only.
 - 7 For backslope conditions greater than 1 in 4, seek specific engineering advice.
 - 8 Vehicle traffic should be allowed no closer than 1 metre behind the wall.
- Engineering - To comply with most council requirements, please seek specific engineering advice for walls over 1 metre high or for low walls carrying vehicle traffic, etc.*



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P (08) 8349 5311
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www.apcgeppscross.com.au

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APC Pt Augusta - Whyalla

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F (08) 8642 6440
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www.apcptaugusta.com.au

APC Streaky Bay

P 1800 200 200
E nrohde@australianpaving.com
www.australianpaving.com.au

APC Gawler

P (08) 8522 2522
F (08) 8522 2488
E apcgawler@australianpaving.com
A Cnr Tiver Rd & Main North Rd,
Evanston South, SA 5116
www.apcgawler.com.au

APC Lonsdale-Hallett Cove

P (08) 8381 2400
F (08) 8381 2366
E apclonsdale@australianpaving.com
A 13 Sherriffs Rd,
Lonsdale SA 5160
www.apclonsdale.com.au

APC Kadina

P (08) 8821 2077
F (08) 8821 2977
E apckadina@australianpaving.com
A 86 Port Rd,
Kadina SA 5554
www.apckadina.com.au

APC South Coast- Middleton

P (08) 8554 1852
F (08) 8554 1817
E apcsouthcoast@australianpaving.com
A Cnr Flagstaff Hill Rd & Goolwa Rd,
Middleton SA 5213
www.apcsouthcoast.com.au

APC Roxby Downs

P (08) 8671 1502
E tony.rigden@bigpond.com
A Lot 4 Frome St
Roxby Downs, SA 5725
www.apcroxydowns.com.au

APC Flinders Park- Findon

P (08) 8234 7144
F (08) 8234 9644
E mskordas@australianpaving.com
A 284 Grange Rd,
Flinders Park SA 5025
www.apcflinderspark.com.au

APC Westbourne Park

P (08) 8299 9633
F (08) 8299 9688
E apcwestbournepark@australianpaving.com
A 455 Goodwood Rd,
Westbourne Park SA 5041
www.apcwestbournepark.com.au

APC Mt Gambier - Limestone Coast

P (08) 8725 6019
F (08) 8723 1907
E apcmtgambier@gmail.com
A Cnr Jubilee Hwy East & Provenance Dr,
Mt Gambier SA 5291
www.apcmtgambier.com.au

APC Barossa Valley

P (08) 8562 4381
F (08) 8562 4976
E apcbarossa@australianpaving.com
A 230 Angaston Rd,
Nuriootpa, SA 5355
www.apcbarossa.com.au

APC Hamilton Victoria

P (03) 5571 1127
F (03) 5572 3222
E landmonssen@bigpond.com
A 86 North Boundary Road
Hamilton Victoria 3300
www.apchamilton.com.au