



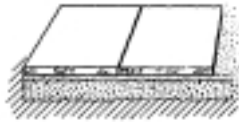
BRADSTONE™

# A practical guide to laying paving



## Base Preparation

- Remove top soil from the area to be paved.
- Base materials may consist of granular materials (Crushed aggregates or limestone screenings) to be placed in, no greater than a 6" layer. The thickness of base will vary with type of soil subgrade and climate, colder climates may require thicker bases.
- The base layer should be thoroughly compacted with enough water to aid compaction, increase density and also control dust.
- Once the desired compaction has been achieved place a 1" bedding layer of loose sand on top, ensuring that the base is level by using a string line or screeding board.
- Patios should be laid with slope to drain off rain water. This slope (away from buildings) is normally a drop of 1" for each yard length.



## Laying Paving

- Choose the design that you wish to lay, then starting in a corner carefully place the first slab in position and gently tap down using a rubber mallet.
- The bedding layer of loose sand allows for levelling the surface of pavers which may vary from piece to piece due to their texture.
- Slabs may be laid with up to 1/4" joints and filled with dry sand on completion of installation.
- Under no circumstances should a mechanical compactor be used directly on the slab surface, time and gravity will allow each slab to settle to its proper level.

## Laying Paving in Mortar (optional)

- Paving slabs may be bedded on concrete and if this option is chosen then mortar needs to be mixed for use for ground preparation and pointing.
- Pre mixed mortars are suggested – follow manufacturers instructions.
- Slabs should be laid based on a design chosen and allow for 1/4" joints (if desired) between stones.
- The slabs should be laid onto 5 generous spots of very workable mortar so that on pressing into place the mortar displaces to occupy almost the entire under surface of the slab ensuring good support on compression.
- The spot method makes accurate and even slab laying easier but on completion needs to be protected from pedestrian use for 1 to 2 days.
- Pointing (filling in the joints) is required if slabs are laid in mortar.
- The semi dry pointing mix is taken to the joint on a large trowel, keeping the mix off the paving.
- Using a slightly smaller pointing trowel or slicker, the mix is compacted into the joints great care must be taken to keep the paving free from cement stains.
- The pointing trowel or slicker is then used to push and compact the mortar and to clear any remaining surface mortar particles and the finished joint should have a smooth, shallow shape.



## Important

- De-icing salts may not be used on BRADSTONE Paving Products, they are detrimental to the surface of the products.



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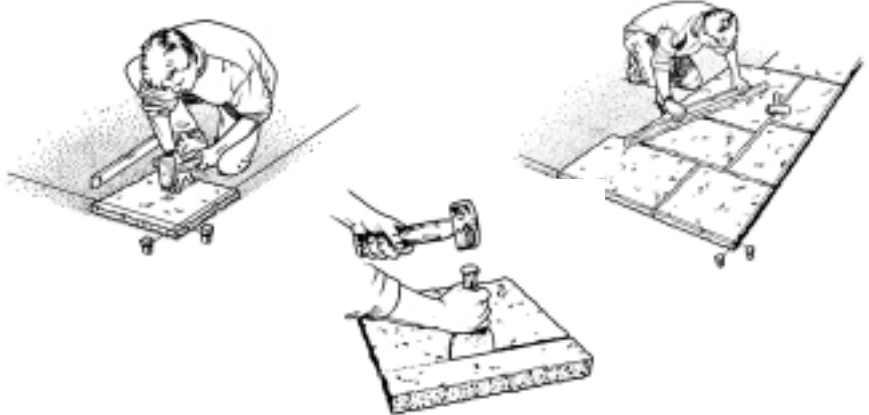
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