

Guide to Laying Pavers

Pavers are a beautiful way to enhance the look and the value of your home, with benefits that can last forever. To make sure that your paving looks good and remains that way, this guide is a great checklist. Make sure you ask your contractor to include these essential components when preparing an area, so you can enjoy beautiful pavers longer.

First things First: Coffee

Even though buying pavers is straightforward with our great selection, it is always best to start with a plan. For your convenience, we have included a planning grid on the reverse side of this sheet. All it takes is a few careful minutes.

With coffee in hand, wander around your garden and make decisions as to where you want to lay the pavers – driveways, pathways, courtyards, BBQ areas, flower bed borders etc. A coordinated look works great.

When all measured out, you can use sticks of timber or string etc. to visualise how it will work. Working systematically around the house, mark it all down on your planning sheet in pencil. Then you can calculate how much material you need. If you need help, just call into our branch with your plans for expert assistance.

HANDY HINT: Length x width of the area will give you the total square metres

It's all in the preparation:

The site must be well prepared, including necessary even excavation to achieve finished levels, removing all grass etc., Make sure driveways have 100mm to 150mm of compacted roadbase and paths have 100mm compacted roadbase. Drive stakes into ground on corners of the area to be paved and run string lines between them at the finished surface level. Check evenness and depth of roadbase by measuring from string line.

Rainwater must flow off the finished paving away from buildings. The paving must not be perfectly flat, but should slope a little (about 15-20mm per metre). If the paving is against the side of the house, the pavers must be below the damp proof course. Never bridge damp proof courses or air vents.

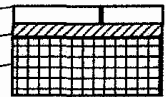
HANDY HINT: Compacting the base material is the key to a strong pavement finish (vibrating compactors can be hired by the day)

Layer Upon Layer:

The next step is to lay down course Paver Bedding Sand, ready to place your pavers into position. To spread the sand over the area, use a rake to a depth of 3-40mm. Place screeding rails in position, ensuring top of rails are at correct level. Pull the screeding board over the screeding rails to obtain a level surface. Remove the rail and fill in the rut with sand. A cross-section of your finished pavement would look like this: -

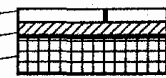
For vehicular traffic, high rainfall areas:
 or poorly drained soil areas.

50mm Paver
 30-40mm Paver Sand
 100-150mm Roadbase



For foot traffic on well drained soil:

40mm Paver
 30-40mm Paver Sand
 100mm Roadbase



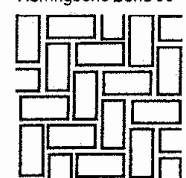
HANDY HINT: An uneven base will give an uneven paver surface.

Now It Gets Exciting:

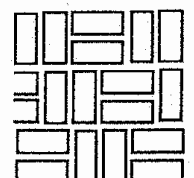
This is the most exciting and rewarding part. You'll be surprised at how quickly you progress through the laying stage, and how dramatic the change to your area is. Select the paver laying pattern.

Some laying patterns

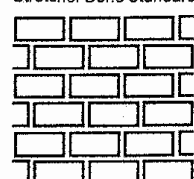
Herringbone Bond 90°



Basketweave Variation



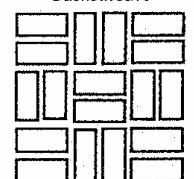
Stretcher Bond Standard



Herringbone Bond 45°



Basketweave



Herringbone is strongly recommended for driveways for strength. Lay pavers in the pattern you have chosen. Don't forget to allow the 3mm gap between pavers (if they touch this may lead to chipping). Cut pavers, for edges or spaces, when other paving is finished. Use a bolster or hire a brick saw for a neater finish.

HANDY HINT: Position strings to opposing key positions in your whole area. Use this grid as a guide to laying your pattern to, and to assist in keeping joints straight and square.

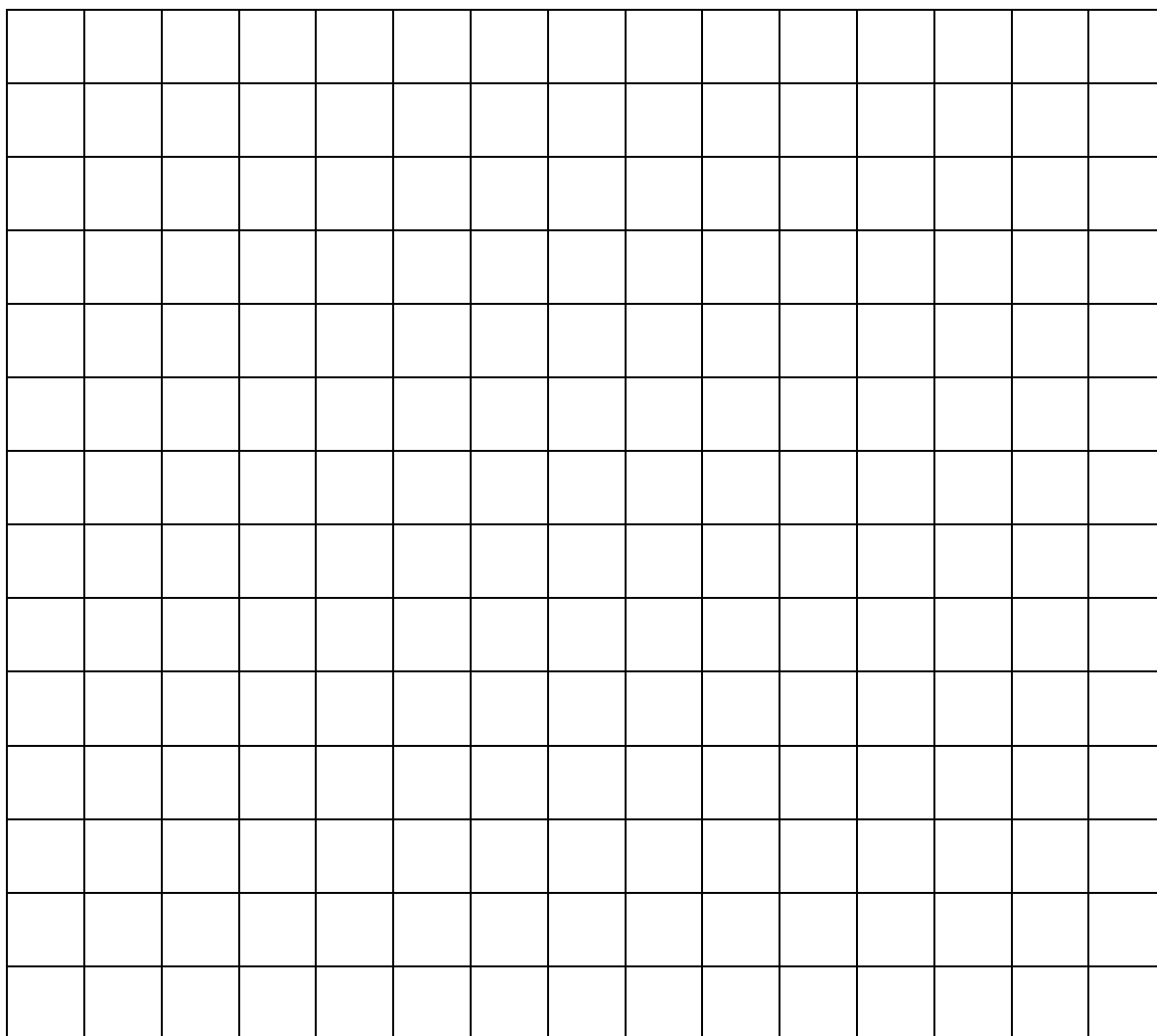
Finishing off:

EDGE RESTRAINTS, also known as haunching, prevent movement of the pavers and prevents sand loss. Haunching should be done in concrete, but Pine or Hardwood sleepers can also be used as an edge. If concrete is used, it should sit at least 10mm below the top of pavers as they will compact approximately 10mm, and must extend to below the base course. **COMPACTION** after the edge restraints are in place is essential. This beds the pavers into the paving sand so that the pavers 'interlock', preventing them from moving at a later date. Sweep dry jointing sand over the completed area until the joints are filled. For small jobs compaction can be by rubber mallet and a piece of timber. For larger jobs hire a vibrating plate compactor. Top up joints with sand if required, and lightly spray with a hose to completely fill the joints.

HANDY HINT: For driveways a minimum of 3 passes with a mechanical plate compactor is recommended.

Enjoy:

Congratulations! Now, stand back, admire your creation, and then call your friends over!



REDLANDS
PH: 3207 7800
249 Cleveland-Redland-Bay Rd Thornlands 4164

ASHMORE
PH: 5597 3433
650 Southport -Nerang Rd (opp. BP Station) Ashmore 4214

CHANDLER
PH: 3390.2477
2630 Old -Cleveland Rd (cnr Aldis Rd) Chandler 4155

FORESTDALE
PH: 3800 5433
2-16 Stapylton Rd Forestdale 4118

LOGAN
PH: 3808 8442
488 Loganlea Rd Slacks Creek 4127

BURPENGARY
PH: 3888 8806
8A 1 Commerce Pl (cnr North Shore Dr) Burpengary 4505

MANGO HILL
PH: 3491 6372
1823 Anzac Ave Mango Hill 4509

WESTERN SUBURBS
PH: 3715 6200
12 Jennifer St Seventeen Mile Rocks 4073