

Paver Patio and Sidewalk Specifications

The specifications listed below are an abbreviated list of the specifications recommended by the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI). More detailed information can be found at ICPI.org.

We have employees certified by ICPI and strongly believe that these methods will give you a finished product that will last for decades.

Pre Construction Requirements

1. All materials and job details must be selected and confirmed.
 - a. Including patterns and exact locations.
 - b. Any permits required must be on site prior to the start of the project.
2. The underground utilities must be clearly marked.
 - a. Public Utilities will be marked by Gopher State One Call
 - b. The homeowner is responsible for marking private utilities such as irrigation, dog fence, low voltage lighting, outdoor electrical, buried gas lines, etc.)
3. The site must be in dry, workable condition, free of obstructions.

Removal and Excavation

1. The existing material and debris in the work area will be removed to a depth that will allow for 6" of compacted base.
 - a. Depending on the paver selected this typically results in an excavation of 9-10" from the finished surface height.
2. When possible all private and public underground utilities should be rerouted away from the work area.
 - a. In the case that a utility cannot be rerouted from the work area, the utility will be put through a sleeve in the base.
 - i. In the event that a utility obstruction cannot be put through a sleeve without damaging the utility, an empty sleeve may be installed adjacent to the current utility for use at a later date.
 - ii. In no situation shall an irrigation line be spliced underneath a patio or sidewalk.
3. The subsoil will be excavated at the same slope as the proposed finished grade of the patio or sidewalk.
4. The excavation will extend at least 6" wider than the finished paved area.

Base Installation and Compaction

1. The subsoil will be compacted using a mechanical compactor.
 - a. In the event that the subsoil does not allow for smooth compactor operation, a 1" layer of base material may be installed before compacting the subsoil.
 - b. Extra care will be taken to ensure proper compaction around obstruction such as foundations, footings, driveways. A jumping jack compactor or manual hand tamper will be used.
2. The base will be installed at least 6" wider than the paved area except in areas adjacent to existing structures.

3. A woven geotextile fabric will be installed to separate the subsoil from the base. The fabric should overlap at least 6" at the seams and should lap up the sides of the excavation.
4. An aggregate base will be installed in 4" lifts. The base will contain materials ranging in size from dust up to 1". The base can be limestone or recycled concrete/asphalt material.
5. The base will be moistened to the proper level for compaction and compacted using mechanical compaction equipment. Extra compaction will be done around obstructions as listed above under subsoil compaction.
 - a. The compaction should be completed twice in perpendicular patterns. Each pass of the compactor should overlap at least ¼ of the machine width.
6. Subsequent lifts of base should be installed to bring the base up to the required height following the guidelines listed above.

Bedding Sand Installation

1. The bedding sand will be installed at a 1" thickness. The surface of the sand should be smooth and true to the grade of the finished surface.

Paver Installation

1. The pavers will be laid in the pattern agreed upon in the contract. Any changes may result in additional charges and may change the completion date.
2. The pavers will be laid at the required spacing recommended by the manufacturer.

Edge Restraint Installation

1. The edge restraint will be installed directly on the base material in order to hold both the paver and bedding sand in place.
2. Straight sections of edging should be spiked no more than 3' apart with 10" spikes.
3. Curved sections of edging should be spiked no more than 18" apart with 10" spikes.

Paver Compaction

1. The pavers will be compacted using a mechanical compactor. The purpose of this step is to set the pavers in the bedding sand and ensure a smooth finished surface.
 - a. Any pavers cracked during this process will be removed and replaced.

Joint Sand Installation

1. Polymeric Joint Sand will be installed in the joints. The sand will be swept into the joints and compaction equipment will be used to vibrate the sand completely into the voids.
2. The excess joint sand will be swept off a leaf blower will be used to remove the fine dust.

3. The sand will be activated by misting the surface with a hose until the joint sand is moistened down to the bedding sand.
4. The pavers need to remain dry and free of use until the joint sand can solidify. The time required for this varies depending on weather and joint size.

Maintenance

1. Relax and enjoy! Your new paver patio will require little more than removing the leaves or debris that fall on it.