

HOW TO PAVE



*Pave like a pro with
our easy guide!*

STEP 1 SETTING OUT AND PREPARING YOUR AREA

Mark & measure out your area. You will need to get a m² measurement to allow you to calculate materials needed. ie. If your area is 10m long by 3m wide your area is then 30m²

Once your area is marked and you are happy, remove any excess grass, soil, debris etc – you may need to hire a bobcat or excavator for large spaces.

Excavate your area so that is not only level but allows for your sub base to be constructed & the thickness of your paving (note pavers are typically between 40mm-50mm depending on your paver choice). Richmond Sand & Gravel recommend allowing for 100mm of road base or metal dust, both are heavily compactable materials designed to set firm under your paving to ensure little to no movement of your pavers. You will also need to cater for a skim layer 30mm max of bedding sand – Richmond Sand & Gravel recommend washed river sand which will allow you to get perfect levels for your paving.

STEP 2 PREPARING BASE

Distribute road base or metal dust evenly over the excavated area to a recommended depth of

100mm, ensure your levels allow for general fall to drainage points.

Compact the road base with a plate compactor (whacker-packer). Richmond Sand & Gravel recommend wetting the metal dust or road base as it will allow you to compact better, and it is advised to compact your site twice to ensure that you have less movement once pavers are laid.

Begin to spread the sand over the compacted road base to a thickness of 25-30mm.

Screed the river sand with a timber float or straight edge. Ensure level both ways using your spirit level.

STEP 3 LAYING THE PAVERS

Set up a string line running along the edge(s) of your paved area. The string line will help ensure your edges are straight and pavers are flush.

Begin laying pavers starting at one end of the project and working your way across. Leave a 3mm gap between the pavers for the jointing sand to be swept in later. Ensure each paver is square with the string line and level using the spirit level. Wriggle pavers into place and tap with rubber mallet where required to ensure level.

STEP 4 EDGING AND LOCKING IN THE PAVING

Make sure to utilise sand and cement mix to haunch or lock in the header courses that are not up against a wall. This will assist in supporting the outer course of the paved area.

This is as simple of mixing sand and cement or you can choose to buy a premixed sand and cement mix and screeding the cement mix along the edge of your paving to lock your pavers into place, another helpful tip is to use the sand and cement underneath the outer header course, this will help set the pavers and give them even more strength.

STEP 5 LOCKING SAND & SEALING

Once you have laid the pavers into place you need to lock them into place by sweeping a dry fine white sand or paverbond/gapsand product into the joining cracks between the pavers.

Richmond Sand & Gravel recommend you seal all your pavers both concrete pavers and natural stone, not only will it protect your pavers from staining and wear and tear, it will also protect your pavers from fading and ensure your pavers stay in perfect condition and remain easy to clean. Have a chat with our staff today with regard to what sealer will work best for you!

Shopping List

Pavers

Metal Dust

River Sand

Sand Cement premix

Builders Cement / GP Cement

Gap Sand / Paver bond / White sand bags

Sealer

Tool Guide

Safety Gear - gloves, glasses, ear muffs

Wheelbarrow

Spade

Rubber Mallet

Spirit level

Whacker packer

Straight edge

Broom

Trowel

Screeding Rail / Straight Edge

