

INSTALLATION – CONCRETE PAVERS



ARTO Brick and California Pavers
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Thanks for purchasing ARTO concrete pavers, handmade in Southern California since 1966. Pavers are intended for sand set installation but may also be mortar set. (please use the installation guide for concrete floor tile for these applications)

PRODUCTS

- California Pavers
- Roman Pavers

GENERAL TIPS

- **Concrete pavers are porous and should be sealed.** Cover pallets or store indoors to protect from the elements.
- **Pavers are handmade and characterized by natural variation.** Blend from multiple boxes or pallets for best results.
- **Do not use acids, alkalis, or other harsh chemicals** to clean pavers before, during, and after installation.
- **Pavers should be sealed to complete the installation.** When sealed, water should initially bead up on the surface.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- Pavers can be installed over aggregate base, concrete slab, or on pedestals¹.
- Plastic edge restraints, poured in place concrete, or blocks should be used to restrain pavers.
- Substrates should be level with appropriate drainage slopes.
- Ensure that excavation is sufficient for installation of aggregate base, bedding sand, geotextile layer², and pavers.

¹ Installation Guide for Pavers on Pedestals should be used.

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- Install aggregate layer of 4” to 6” and compact to minimum 98% Proctor Density³.
- Base surface tolerance should be no more than +/- 3/8” over 10 feet
- Place geotextile layer according to specifications.
- Confirm locations of utility collars, drainage channels, and other infrastructure.

INSTALLATION OVER AGGREGATE BED OR CONCRETE SLAB

- **Spread bedding sand over compacted aggregate or concrete slab⁴** and screed to 1” thickness.
- **Compact bedding sand** with at least two passes of vibratory plate compactor⁵.
- Do not prepare area larger than can be covered with paving slabs in one day.
- **Lay pavers by hand** following patterns specified in drawings. Use rubber mallet to adjust horizontal alignment.
- **Include ¼” to 3/8” joints** between pavers or as specified.
- Use cut pavers to fill gaps at the perimeter. Adjust perimeter edge or paver pattern whenever possible to minimize cuts.
- **Protect pavers from vehicles and heavy equipment** prior to compaction.
- **Compact pavers** with vibratory plate compactor while sweeping dry joint sand into joints. Multiple passes will be needed and stay 6 feet from any unrestrained edge.
- **Joints can be finished with polymeric sand** that hardens when wetted.
- **Remove cracked or damaged pavers** and replace with new ones.
- Cover unfinished installation and materials at end of each day.
- Surface tolerance should be no more than +/- 3/8” over 10 feet

² Geotextiles are permeable fabrics used for filtering, drainage, and reinforcement.

³ In accordance with ASTM D698 for pedestrian areas and residential driveways.

⁴ Do not use bedding sand to fill holes or depressions in concrete slabs.

⁵ Vibratory plate compactor should have compaction force greater than 4,000 lbs. and frequency 75-90 Mhz.

- Installed pavers should be $\frac{1}{4}$ " above utility collars, drainage channels, or infrastructure.

SEALING

- **Seal tiles with penetrating or topical sealer** depending on application and desired appearance.
 - Penetrating – matte, “invisible” finish that protects below surface
 - Topical – glossy or satin, coats surface to create barrier
- **Make sure sealer selected is appropriate** for installation type and location.
- Test sealer first to ensure look and slip resistance are as desired.
- **Apply sealer per the sealer manufacturer’s instructions.**
- Two coats of sealer are typically needed.
- If water darkens surface when initially applied, another coat of sealer is necessary or it is time to reseal the pavers.
- Make sure to allow sealer the recommended time to cure in between coats and before allowing traffic.
- **Water should initially bead up on surface when tiles are sealed.**
- **Stains should be cleaned promptly**, sealer does not waterproof pavers and stains will eventually penetrate or etch sealer.

CLEANING

- **Clean regularly with warm water and pH-neutral cleanser.**
- **Do not use acids, alkalis, or other harsh chemicals** for regular cleaning.
- A mild acid or alkali cleanser may be used for spot cleaning. Make sure to test first on a small, unobtrusive area to ensure desired results.
- **Do not use chemical or mechanical abrasives** including stiff bristle and wire brushes, sandpaper, or power washing.