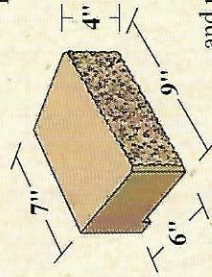


Handy-Stone® II Retaining Wall System



With the Handy-Stone II Retaining Wall System, it's easy to build a variety of retaining wall projects – including those with curves and corners. No

mortar or concrete footings are required. Instead, units are simply placed on a sand leveling pad. Rear lips on Handy-Stone II units help to resist forces from retained soil and provide correct alignment.



Handy-Stone II units are perfect for small retaining walls, terraces, tree rings, planters, and many other landscape projects that add beauty to your home. The solid concrete units are virtually maintenance free and are an environmentally safe alternative to treated timbers or railroad ties.



Getting Started

Prepare a layout for your Handy-Stone II wall and use the following table to help plan the number of units you will need for your project. To approximate the length of a curved wall, it may be helpful to lay a garden hose along the proposed wall path, straighten it, and then measure the length.

Handy-Stone® II Estimation Table*						
wall height / length	6'	12'	18'	24'	30'	
4" (1 course)	8	16	24	32	40	
8" (2 courses)	16	32	48	64	80	
12" (3 courses)	24	48	72	96	120	
16" (4 courses)	32	64	96	128	160	
20" (5 courses)	40	80	120	160	200	
24" (6 courses)	48	96	144	192	240	

*Actual quantities may vary slightly due to nominal dimension differences from local producers.

Important Notice: Maximum recommended height for Handy-Stone II walls is two feet. Individual site, soil and loading conditions may limit wall height to less than two feet. Please contact your Handy-Stone representative if unsure about any site, soil, height or local construction requirements.

Tools and Materials

These tools and materials may be helpful during construction of your Handy-Stone II wall.

- Shovel
- Hammer/Masonry Chisel
- Broom
- Hand Tamper
- Sand/Gravel
- Rubber Mallet
- Stakes/String Line
- Level

Step 1 Prepare Base

Begin by excavating a trench approximately 12 inches wide by 4 inches deep. It is important to remove sod and other organic materials. It is also important to partially embed a portion of the bottom course to hold it firmly in place.

After excavating, make sure that the bottom of the trench is well compacted. Use a hand tamper to compact the soil if necessary. Spread a 1-inch layer of sand in the trench. The base is now ready for the base course of Handy-Stone II.



Step 2 Position Base Course

Lay the base course units on your prepared base. You may remove a small amount of sand to make room for the alignment lips, remove alignment lips, or place base units upside down with alignment lips facing forward. Level each unit side to side, front to back, and with adjacent units. A rubber mallet will help to level units and a string line can be used to keep units straight.

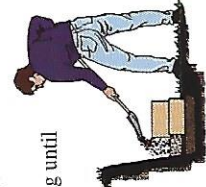
Step 3 Lay Succeeding Course

Position the second course of Handy-Stone II units so that alignment lips overhang the back edge of the base course and edge joints are staggered with those of the lower units.



Step 4 Backfill As You Proceed

Backfill behind each course as you proceed. Gravel backfill is recommended to help with drainage. Continue laying additional courses and backfilling until desired height is achieved.



Step 5 Secure Top Course (optional)

If it is critical to prevent units from being removed, secure them using a good concrete adhesive.

Splitting

Handy-Stone II solid concrete units may be split when special-sized pieces are needed. To split a unit, score on all sides along the path of the desired split using a hammer and masonry chisel. Continue to strike all sides of the unit on score lines until split is complete.

Curves

Handy-Stone II units taper toward the rear. This feature allows construction of inside and outside curves. Because rear alignment lips cause succeeding courses of Handy-Stone II to step back, outside curve radiuses become smaller as each course is placed. Make sure to plan for this feature.

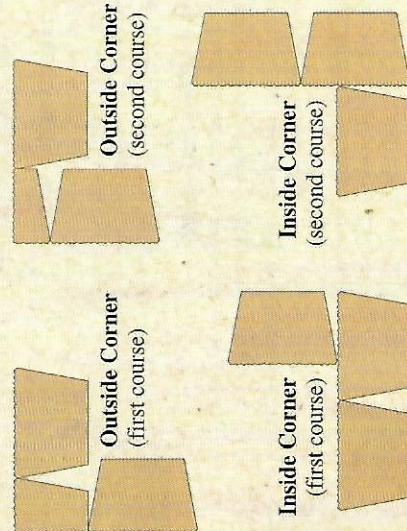
Inside Curve



Outside Curve

Corners

Inside and outside corners may be constructed using Handy-Stone II. Use the diagrams below as a guide for placing alternate corner courses. Building corners requires splitting and removal of alignment lips on some units.



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Handy-Stone® II

Retaining Walls

Ideal for the Do-It-Yourselfer