



lay a patio

Why not have a go at building your own patio this weekend?...

...soon after, you can sit back and **enjoy the fruits** of your own labour with a great family barbeque!



To ensure your project runs smoothly, its best to plan in advance and assemble all the tools and materials you need before you start work...

Tools you may require;

- *tape measure
- *pegs & line
- *spirit level
- *spade
- *trowel
- *rubber mallet
- *hammer
- *chisel
- *soft brush
- *gloves
- *angle grinder
- *plate compactor

Materials required;

- *paving slabs
- *cement
- *building sand
- *Jointing mortar/dry mortar mix
- *Sealer

You can find everything you need for your project at Allscape Landscape Centre.

Follow these seven easy steps;

1. Using a scaled plan of your patio, mark out its position using pegs and line and clear site of all vegetation.
2. Dig out your soil to a depth of about 150mm or 6" below the finished pation level, ensuring the soil is compacted.
3. Spread a good layer of at least 100mm or 4" thick of hardcore over the excavated area. Remember to leave room for the thickness of the slabs and around 30-50mm or approx 2" for mortar. Compact the layer of hardcore thoroughly, ideally using a plate compactor.
4. Using your house wall, fence or pegs & line as a reference, start to lay your slabs on a mortar bed. Tap each slab down using a rubber mallet and continuously check they are level. you can use wooden spacers to ensure equal gaps between slabs.
5. Continue until all the slabs in your patio are laid, being carefull to check you follow your slope level as you go. If any of your slabs have to be cut, use an angle grinder, or a chisel and hammer to cut your slabs effectively.
6. When the patio is finished, wait at least 24 hours for the mortar to set. Fill the joints with a ready to use jointing mortar such as Fuge or alternatively use a dry mortar mix
7. To seal your patio and prevent discoloration from spillages and mother nature, talk to one of our sales staff about our range of sealers.



Note:

Your patio must allways be 150mm or 6" below your house DPC (Damp Proof Course) if its next to the house. Slope the patio away from the walls or fence, a slope of just 25mm over 1.5m (or 1:60) should be sufficient.