



# *Landscape Lifestyles*

*For Your Outdoor Living Spaces*

*Allan Block Retaining Walls  
& Patio Walls Ideas Catalog*



[allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com)



**CALSTONE**

*Because Quality Matters*

[calstone.com](http://calstone.com)



# *Retaining and Patio Walls*



*The Allan Block products are inspired by nature to help create beautiful outdoor spaces in the world we live in.*





*Allan Block has many products available to help you transform your outdoor living area to a backyard destination. We hope our ideas will inspire you to create your own masterpiece to enjoy for years with family and friends.*

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*We pride ourselves on the training we provide to our Allan Block network of professionals so you can be confident in your choice.*







*With our design flexibility  
you can build strong,  
durable patios in any size  
and shape with very little  
maintenance.*



# Patios



*Create more usable space or multi-level patios for a quiet getaway or to entertain family and friends.*





# *Outdoor Entertaining*



*Enjoy your surroundings by transforming your outdoor space into a gathering spot for family and friends.*





*Create cozy spaces for  
fireside chats or open areas  
for large get-togethers.  
Build memories that last  
a lifetime.*





*Claim more space by turning sloping yards into something extraordinary with beautiful gardens and planted terraces.*



# *Sloping Yards*



*Use grade changes to your advantage by adding multiple walls or stairways to elevate your architectural style with a warm inviting outdoor space.*





# Entryways



*Create a bold statement or charm your guests with visual elegance.*





*Flowing curves, stunning stairways or graceful transitions will welcome you home. With the AB Collections we have the products to accent your architectural style.*







*Upgrade your backyard space and extend your home outdoors, adding beauty and function.*



# Backyard Spaces



*Design a comfortable outdoor living space with a purpose. Envision a relaxed kitchen or bar space, a private oasis or a backyard entertaining area.*





# Stairways



*Enhance your outdoor spaces with stylish and functional stairways to easily connect upper and lower elevations in elegant transitions.*





*Stairways add a visual element that can flow through the landscape with curves or follow along the side of a slope. The design possibilities are endless.*



# Block Collections

## AB® Collection - Retaining Walls



**AB Stone & AB Classic**  
Approx. 1 blk/ft²  
8 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
75 lbs  
40 units per pallet



**AB Jumbo Junior**  
Approx. 2 blk/ft²  
8 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L  
39 lbs  
80 units per pallet



**AB Lite Stone**  
Approx. 2 blk/ft²  
4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
37 lbs  
80 units per pallet



**AB Junior Lite**  
Approx. 4 blk/ft²  
4 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L  
19 lbs  
160 units per pallet



**Capstone**  
4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
65 lbs  
50 units per pallet



**Corner - Right\***  
8 in. H x 8 in. D x 16 in. L  
65 lbs  
54 units per pallet  
27 left, 27 right

\*Direction as  
manufactured  
by Calstone Company



*Tan Brown Charcoal*

### Brown Beige Charcoal



### Gray Charcoal Tan



### Tan Brown Charcoal



AB Classic, Corner and Caps units also available in solid Tan and Gray.

Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for more information.





Get More  
Information Here

## AB Europa® Collection - Retaining Walls



**AB Dover**  
Approx. 1 blk/ft<sup>2</sup>  
8 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
75 lbs  
40 units per pallet



**AB Palermo**  
Approx. 2 blk/ft<sup>2</sup>  
8 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L  
39 lbs  
80 units per pallet



**AB Barcelona**  
Approx. 2 blk/ft<sup>2</sup>  
4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
37 lbs  
80 units per pallet



**AB Bordeaux**  
Approx. 4 blk/ft<sup>2</sup>  
4 in. H x 9.5 in. D x 9 in. L  
19 lbs  
160 units per pallet



**Capstone**  
4 in. H x 12 in. D x 18 in. L  
65 lbs  
50 units per pallet



**Corner - Right\***  
8 in. H x 8 in. D x 16 in. L  
65 lbs  
54 units per pallet  
27 left, 27 right

\*Direction as  
manufactured  
by Calstone Company



Reproducing the look and feel of natural stone, Calstone strives to create random fractures, chips, scratches, broken edges and corners, in the manufacturing of our AB Europa product line.

**Brown Beige Charcoal**



**Gray Charcoal Tan**



**Tan Brown Charcoal**



Contact local representative for availability, exact specifications and colors for all Allan Block products.

Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for more information.



# Design and Estimating

*Estimating made easy with our great tools.*

## Retaining Wall App

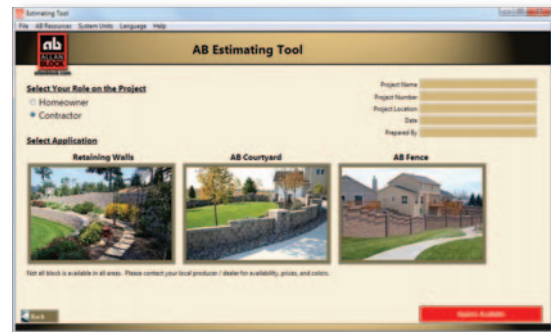
Design and estimate your retaining wall projects with material outputs given for all retaining wall collections. A detailed package is generated and emailed instantly.



Apps are available for tablet, mobile devices and Mac/PC computers.

## Estimating Tool

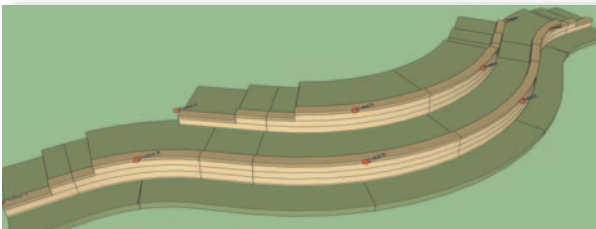
Estimating your project for retaining walls, patio walls and/or fences all in one tool. Choose the product, enter the project's details and instantly receive a detailed list that includes quantities for the block, rock, grid and more.



## Visualize the Project

### 3D Modeling Tool

Using the estimating Apps, our AB Design Center will email a file that can be opened in the free 3D modeling tool SketchUp.



From App to 3D design in seconds.



The Allan Block Apps can create a file with the details of your project that can be used in a 3D modeling tool to create a visual image of your project. Then use images from the library to create and design the look you want to achieve for your outdoor space.



*Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details.*

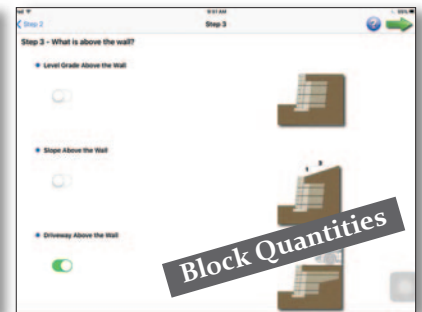
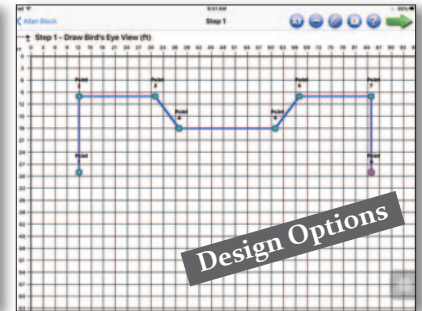
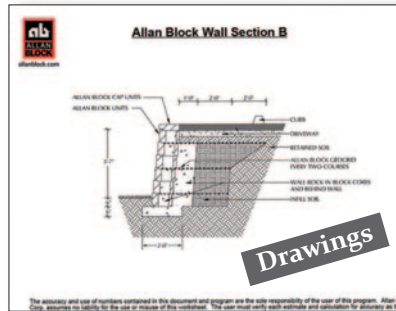


Use the Allan Block Apps or the AB Estimating Tool to create a detailed material estimate on your next project. By simply entering in the project details, you can generate specific drawings and product estimates from all the available Allan Block products.

Download them today to check out the great design and estimating tools available to you for FREE.



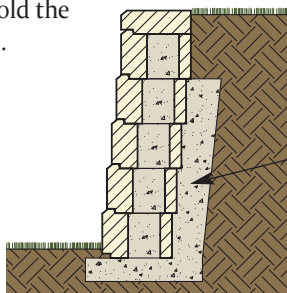
Download  
Today!



## Retaining Wall Types

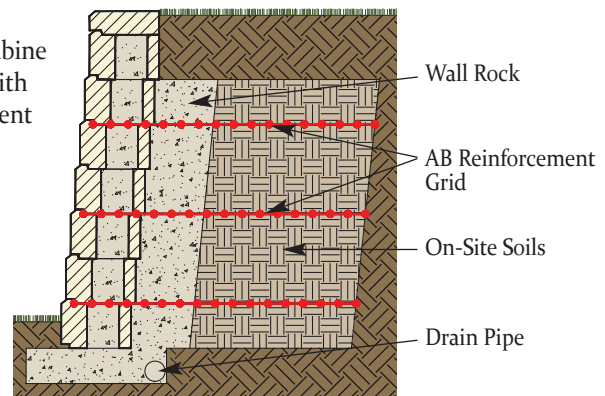
### Gravity Walls

**Gravity Walls** rely on their own weight and setback to hold the wall in place.



For Gravity Wall Installation - Walls under 4 ft (1.2 m)

**Reinforced Walls** combine the Allan Block units with geogrid soil reinforcement to create a strong and stable wall.



For Reinforced Wall Installation - Walls over 4 ft (1.2 m)

Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details.



# Build an Allan Block Retaining Wall



## Gravity Walls

1. Mark the location of the retaining wall and dig a trench a minimum of 24 in. wide (600 mm) and 6 in. deep (150 mm) plus an additional 1 inch (25 mm) for each 1 ft (300 mm) of wall height for gravity walls.

If reinforcement will be needed, additional excavation will need to be completed to accommodate the length of the grid, see [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete details. Excavated materials that can not be used as backfill material will need to be discarded. Compact the trench thoroughly with a hand tamper or plate compactor. Install a drain pipe at the back of the trench for walls with poor drainage, over 4 ft. (1.2 m) tall or any reinforced walls. Make sure the drain pipe can be vented to daylight. Place a minimum of 6 in. (150 mm) of wall rock in the trench. Do not use sand. Compact thoroughly with a hand tamper or plate compactor. Level the entire trench.

2. Install the blocks on the wall rock foundation with the raised front lip facing up and forward near the front of the trench. Verify the proper position of the AB blocks by sighting down the back of the raised front lip or using a string line. Level each block from side to side and front to back as installed, make adjustments as necessary. Careful attention to a straight and level base course will ensure a quality finished wall.

3. Once the entire base course is installed, fill in front of the blocks with on-site soils to keep the base course from shifting while filling and compacting the blocks. Fill the hollow cores and 12 in. (300 mm) behind the block with wall rock to the height of the block. Use infill or approved on-site soils to backfill behind the wall rock to the height of the block. Using a hand tamper or plate compactor, compact the wall rock and on-site soils behind the block in a path parallel to the wall. Check the base course of blocks for level and adjust as needed.

4. If reinforcement is needed see next page and go to [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete details. Sweep off the top surface of the installed blocks. Stack the next course so that the block seams are offset from the course below. Check each block for level and alignment, making adjustments as needed. Fill the hollow cores and behind the block with wall rock, to the height of the block. Use infill or approved on-site soils to backfill behind the wall rock. Using a plate compactor, compact on the blocks to lock them together as well as the area behind the blocks as previously done. Repeat these steps to the top of wall.

5. Install AB Capstones for a clean, finished look. Secure in place with masonry adhesive. For a different finishing option fill the hollow cores and behind the top course with rock, mulch or dirt if plantings are desired up the face of the wall.



More Information  
Gravity Walls



More Information  
Reinforced Walls



Installation  
Videos

Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details.





Use AB Reinforcement Grid when required for building taller walls or walls in poor soils.



## Reinforced Walls

1. If reinforced walls are needed, excavate behind the wall to accommodate the design length of the geogrid. Refer to your approved plans for exact length. Installing Reinforced Walls will be the same as Gravity Walls for trench and base course installation as shown on previous page. Once base course is installed and compacted, begin installing the first layer of AB Reinforcement Grid by rolling it out along the back of the wall on top of the blocks. Stake grid in place.
2. Continue installing your next courses of blocks as shown in Step 4 under Gravity Walls. Per your approved plans, install geogrid on every other course of the wall.
3. See [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details when installing geogrid on curves and corners.

## Does Your Wall Need Reinforcement

Conditions above and behind the wall will determine how high the wall can go before reinforcement is needed. Use the chart below to find the maximum height you can build a gravity wall before reinforcement is required. **Walls may require a building permit and engineering, check with your local municipality before starting construction.**

**Ask about Calstones Free Standardized Engineering that is available for some walls up to 6 ft high. Contact your local dealer for more information.**

Match your wall to the conditions below to find which width of AB Reinforcement Grid™ to use, and the number of layers you need. To determine the number of rolls needed, multiply the length of your wall by the number of layers needed, and then divide by 50 (the length of a roll of grid).

Soil Reinforcement Chart									
CONDITION ABOVE WALL	WALL HEIGHT	AB and AB Europa Collection 6°				AB Stones 12°			
		CLAY SOIL		SANDY SOIL		CLAY SOIL		SANDY SOIL	
		No. of Layers	Width (W)	No. of Layers	Width (W)	No. of Layers	Width (W)	No. of Layers	Width (W)
<b>Level</b> 	3 ft (0.9 m)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4 ft (1.2 m)	2	3 ft	0	0	2	3 ft	0	0
	5 ft (1.5 m)	3	3 ft	3	3 ft	3	3 ft	0	0
	6 ft (1.8 m)	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft
<b>Surcharge</b> 125 psf 	3 ft (0.9 m)	2	3 ft	0	0	2	3 ft	0	0
	4 ft (1.2 m)	2	3 ft	2	3 ft	2	3 ft	0	0
	5 ft (1.5 m)	3	3 ft	3	3 ft	3	3 ft	3	3 ft
	6 ft (1.8 m)	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft
<b>Slope</b> 3:1 	3 ft (0.9 m)	2	3 ft	0	0	2	3 ft	0	0
	4 ft (1.2 m)	2	3 ft	2	3 ft	2	3 ft	0	0
	5 ft (1.5 m)	3	4 ft	3	3 ft	3	4 ft	0	0
	6 ft (1.8 m)	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft	4	4 ft

### Example:

Using the AB Collection 6° block, a 5 ft high wall built in sandy soil with a sloped surface above the wall requires three layers of geogrid, 3 ft wide.

Soil reinforcement increases the strength of the wall by creating a reinforced mass of soil behind the blocks. The weight of the reinforced soil mass combines with the blocks for a heavier, stronger wall. The above chart is for estimating AB Reinforcement Grid quantities only.

Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details.




# Wall Patterns

By blending the different sized blocks together into your wall, you can capture the look of hand-laid stone. Choose from one of our pre-set patterns to build your wall or create your own random look. Both of the collections can be used to create patterned walls.

**Standard Patterns - Uses all blocks in the collection.**

2 course      Pattern is 10 ft section




<b>Blocks Required</b>	<b>AB Europa Collection</b>		<b>AB Collection</b>		* Use an AB Lite Stone cut in half when AB Junior Lite is not available.
	6	AB Dover	6	AB Classic	
	4	AB Palermo	4	AB Jumbo Junior	
	8	AB Barcelona	8	AB Lite Stone	
	8	AB Bordeaux	8	AB Junior Lite*	

Uses for the 2 course Standard Pattern include:  
Any wall project. This is the recommended pattern.

Use the Top of Wall Pattern shown below to finish off the top of a wall where an additional pattern is needed.

**Lite Pattern - Uses the small blocks in the collection.**

2 course      Pattern is 10 ft section



<b>Blocks Required</b>	<b>AB Europa Collection</b>		<b>AB Collection</b>		* Use an AB Lite Stone cut in half when AB Junior Lite is not available.
	7	AB Palermo	7	AB Jumbo Junior	
	15	AB Barcelona	15	AB Lite Stone	
	12	AB Bordeaux	12	AB Junior Lite*	


Note: Maximim recomended gravity wall height for Lite Patterns is 3 ft.

Note: A base course of full size blocks (AB Classic or AB Dover) needs to be included. For each 10 ft of wall length you will need 7 full size blocks. For 10 ft. of wall length for AB Caps you will need 10 AB Caps.

Uses for the 2 course Lite Pattern include:  
Any wall project under 3 ft. high where a smaller scale look to the project is desired.

**Top of Wall Pattern - Use this pattern to finish off the top of a wall.**

1 course      Pattern is a 10 ft section



<b>Blocks Required</b>	<b>AB Europa Collection</b>		<b>AB Collection</b>		* Use an AB Lite Stone cut in half when AB Junior Lite is not available.
	2	AB Dover	2	AB Classic	
	2	AB Palermo	2	AB Jumbo Junior	
	6	AB Barcelona	6	AB Lite Stone	
	4	AB Bordeaux	4	AB Junior Lite*	

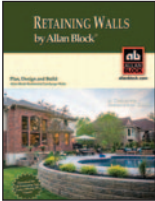
If building with the Lite Pattern, replace each AB Dover/AB Classic block with 2 AB Jumbo Junior/AB Palermo or 2 AB Lite Stone/AB Barcelona Blocks.

Additional pattern options are available at [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com).

## Additional Assistance

Refer to Retaining Walls by Allan Block for a complete details on wall design and installation for walls up to 6 ft high.

For more technical information, such as building stairs, terraces, ending and topping off walls or to download the Retaining Walls Installation Guide visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com).





## Wall Pattern Examples

The following are examples showing patterns for standard heights that will work with site and soil conditions.

### Gravity Wall - 32 in. tall

Can only be built in sandy soil with a level slope. Use in projects where no reinforcement is needed and the project is straight walls.

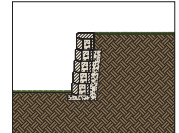
#### AB Europa Collection

15 AB Dover (including base)  
6 AB Palermo  
14 AB Barcelona  
12 AB Bordeaux  
10 Caps  
46 ft<sup>3</sup> Wall Rock  
10 ft. Drain Pipe

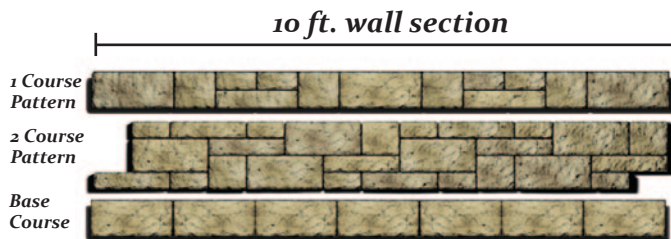
#### AB Collection

15 AB Classic (including base)  
6 AB Jumbo Junior  
14 AB Lite Stone  
12 AB Junior Lite  
10 Caps  
49 ft<sup>3</sup> Wall Rock  
10 ft. Drain Pipe

#### Site Considerations



Level



Wall Rock is used for base material, block cores and behind the wall 12 in. and is based on a trench that is 9 in. D x 24 in. W x 10 ft. L. Adding a cap to the top of the wall will add 4 in. to height.

### Reinforced Wall - 64 in. tall

Can be built in sandy or clay soils in all of the site conditions shown.

#### AB Europa Collection

28 AB Dover (including base)  
16 AB Palermo  
26 AB Barcelona  
28 AB Bordeaux  
10 Caps  
81 ft<sup>3</sup> Wall Rock  
10 ft. Drain Pipe  
40 ft AB Grid 4 ft wide

#### AB Collection

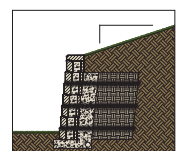
28 AB Classic (including base)  
16 AB Jumbo Junior  
26 AB Lite Stone  
28 AB Junior Lite  
10 Caps  
85 ft<sup>3</sup> Wall Rock  
10 ft. Drain Pipe  
40 ft AB Grid 4 ft wide

Wall Rock is used for base material, block cores and behind the wall 12 in. and is based on a trench 11 in. D x 24 in. W x 10 ft. L. Adding a cap to the top of the wall will add 4 in. to height.

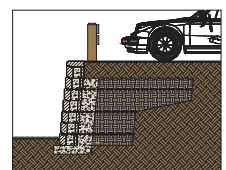
#### Site Considerations



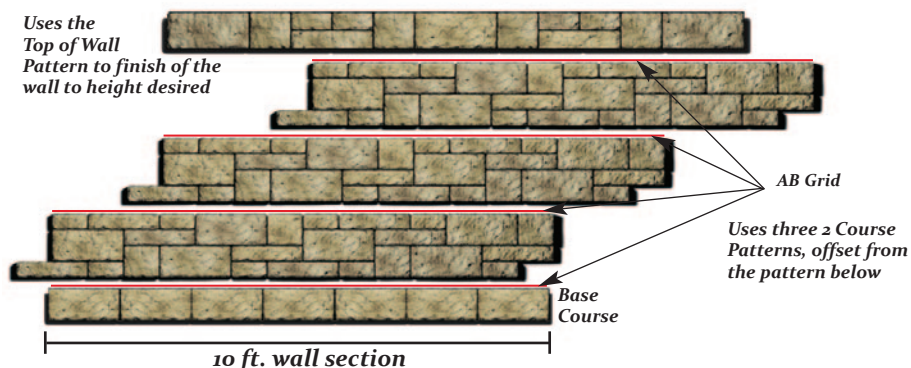
Level



Slope 3:1



Surcharge 125 psf



Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for complete installation details.



*Visit [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for more information  
on the ideas and products from Allan Block.*



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*Because Quality Matters*

*Distributed by:*

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