

# Guide to Laying Paving

Start by drawing your proposed pattern onto a sheet of graph paper, try to keep your dimensions to fit the paving you intend to use, this will help to avoid cutting.

To give long and lasting service, prepare the area to be paved by excavating all vegetation and soil to a depth of at least 200mm.

Mark out the area with pegs, keeping at least 150mm below any damp course and allow a gradient of 1:60 over the site to take away surface water.

After the final levelling of the area you should compact by means of a roller or tamper. Then spread and compact a layer of hardcore (we will be happy to advise the type of hardcore required) the depth of the hardcore should be adjusted to leave enough space for the paving and mortar bed.

Carefully stack the paving near to where they are required and try to avoid rubbing them together. It is always advisable to take the paving from several packs, this helps to mix any shade variations which may occur.

Set a line out using the pegs which you fixed earlier, this will be used to obtain a final level.

Mix the mortar at a ratio of 1 part cement to 5 parts building sand, the mix should be wet but not runny, place 5 spots of mortar down on to the base where the first paving is to be laid. Gently place the paving onto the mortar and tap down until the surface is level with the line. Continue with the rest of the laying in the same manner.

(Please note that on random patterns the joint widths may vary slightly)

Pointing is best done as you progress by "buttering the edges" with mortar and then finishing the joints off later when the mortar has dried slightly.

We are always here to help with any advice you may require.....just ask.