

# 12 easy steps to better brick paving



## 1 Excavation

Use a metal rake to remove all roots, plant matter and stones from the area to be paved.



## 2 Rough Screed

Spread about 50mm of clean yellow sand over the area. Level it off lightly using a straight board.



## 3 Compaction

Use a mechanical compactor to compact the area. Go over the area 2 to 3 times to make sure it is firm.



## 4 Setting Levels

Find a "benchmark" level as close to the house as possible. The paving must fall away to a line fall so that water can run-off. The ideal fall is 25mm over 3 metres. If you use a spirit level to do this, the inside of the bubble will be against the outer line. This level will be used for the fine screed.



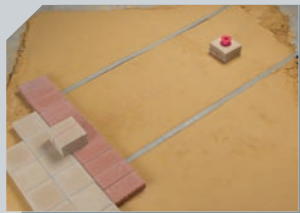
## 5 Channels

Hold the straight edge board from the benchmark to the line fall point and level off a smooth channel to lay a screeding iron. You can use your spirit level to do this. Repeat this about two metres away and lay another screeding strip.



## 6 Fine Screeding

Move the board along the screeding irons, moving the sand away or filling in any holes as you go. This will create the final level to lay the paving.



## 7 Squaring

Set up a few string lines about 2 metres apart at a right angle to the building. The edges of the paving must lie against the string lines to make sure the job is square.



## 8 Laying

Choose your pattern and lay the paving leaving all edge cuts until last.



## 9 Cutting

Using a diamond blade brick saw, cut in to fill all part pavers and curves to suit the pattern chosen.



## 10 Edge Restraints

Drag about 10cm deep by 15cm of sand away from under the last row of pavers (header course) being careful not to dislodge the pavers. Fill the channels with concrete, using a trowel to leave a smooth, flush face.



## 11 Joint Sand

Using a hard bristled broom, spread and sweep white-washed sand over the paving, filling in all joins as you go to create a locked system. Sweep away most (not all) of the excess sand.



## 12 Final Compaction

Again using a mechanical plate compactor, lay it over a piece of carpet and slowly run it twice over the newly laid paving. As the compactor vibrates, more joining sand will fall between the joints. Finally, sweep away the rest of the white sand.

**Your paving  
is complete!**

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