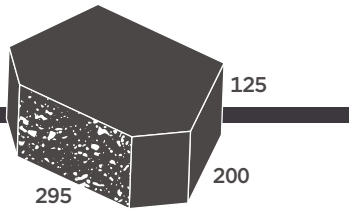
Midland Brick

Gardenwall

COLOURS AND INSTALLATION GUIDE

APRIL 2026

Gardenwall




Limestone


Harvey Blend


Charcoal

✓ **STRAIGHT WALLS**

✓ **CURVED WALLS**

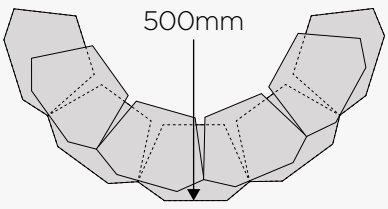
✓ **STEPS**

Blocks per sqm – 27.1

Blocks per pallet – 120

Weight per block – 11.4kg

Maximum Wall Height – 800mm

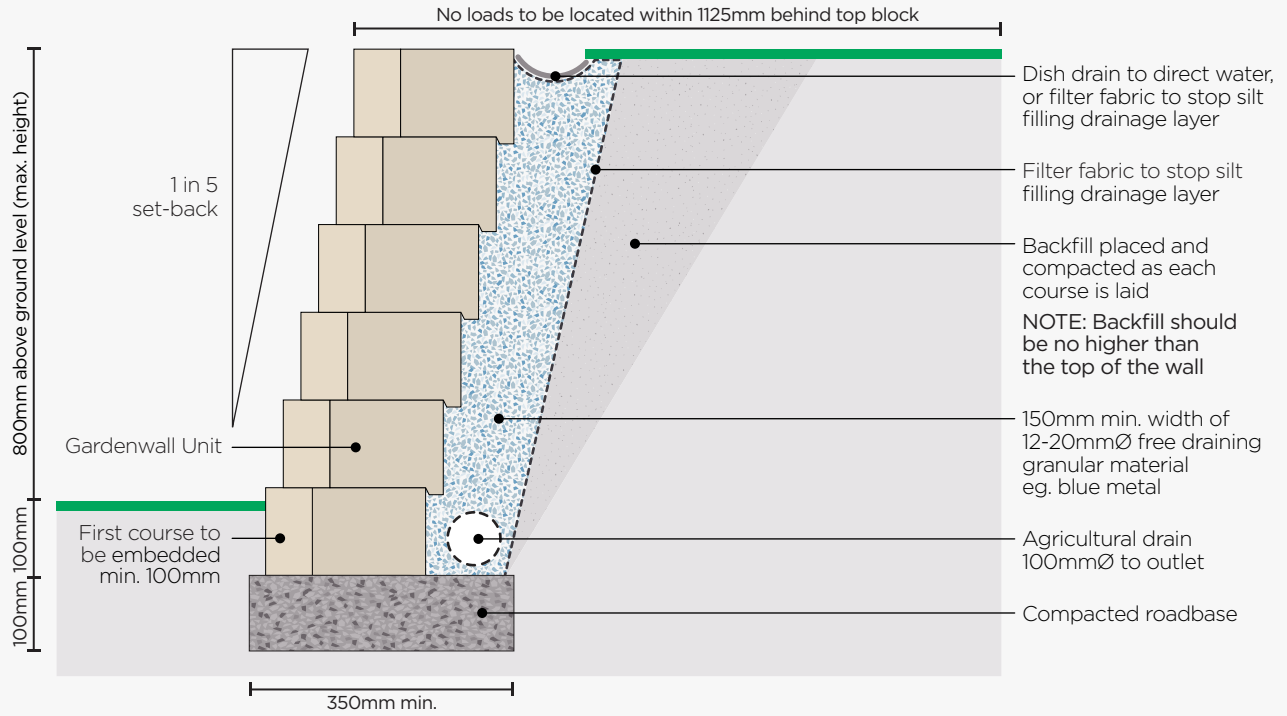


TIP: When building to the maximum height of 800mm it is necessary to start at a 500mm radius. This will ensure all additional courses fit neatly.

Cover image: Gardenwall Golden Sand

How to build your retaining wall

Typical Gardenwall construction



Good to know before you start

- Retaining walls should not be installed above their maximum specified height or into cuttings where the base soil or backfill is not firm, or is of expansive clay.
- Never install where surcharge loading (eg. buildings, driveways) will be located within one metre of the wall.
- Councils in general require those retaining walls over 500mm in height and/or where there is loading, such as a car or house near the retaining wall, be designed and certified by a suitably qualified engineer.
- This is general information and should be viewed as a guide only. Midland Brick recommends you obtain building advice before commencing works.
- Please note, the width of blocks may vary by ±3mm. All weights and number of units per square metre are approximate only.
- Tested to Australian Standard AS4455.

You will need...

- [ ] Gloves to protect your hands
- [ ] A shovel
- [ ] Eye protection (eg. goggles)
- [ ] A spirit level to lay units level
- [ ] Drainage material (eg. 12-20mm clean, free draining granular material such as gravel or blue metal)
- [ ] Stakes and string
- [ ] An agricultural drain (eg. 100mm subsoil pipe)
- [ ] A wheelbarrow
- [ ] Coarse sand for the levelling pad
- [ ] A hammer
- [ ] A small broom
- [ ] A mechanical plate compactor (optional)

1 Check with your local council

You should consult with your local council for design regulations prior to the construction of your wall. Councils generally require, and we recommend, walls greater than 500mm in height and walls located near surcharge loading such as a house or a roadway be designed and certified by a suitably qualified engineer. Each council has different requirements so check with your local council before starting.

2 Calculate blocks needed

To calculate the approximate number of blocks needed, go online and use our blocks calculator, or multiply the length by the height of your wall to determine the area (m^2). Once you have established this, simply multiply m^2 by the number of units per m^2 (27.1).

Block Dimensions: 295x200x125mm.
There are 27.1 blocks per m^2. This system may be used for walls up to 800mm high.

Tips on calculating blocks: It is often worth adding some extra blocks to allow for any cutting (usually adding an extra 5% will cover you). Don't forget when ordering to specify colour and type of units required.

Example: A Gardenwall 0.7m high x 10m long = 7m^2 x 27.1 blocks = 190 blocks + 5% = 200 blocks required

3 Prepare the site

Thoroughly level the area for the base or foundation course. Take your time to carefully prepare for the first course, this is vital in ensuring a good result. Remove any roots, debris or soft earth.

Create a shallow footing trench for the base course by levelling the ground and tamping down the earth so it is flat and level.

Gardenwall – approx. 200mm deep and 350mm wide. Compact by either manually tamping or using a mechanical plate compactor. Fill the trench with coarse sand or road base if required, then compact and level until it forms a 100mm levelling pad (so that your first course will be partially sunken).

4 Locate your wall

Mark out the ground where your wall will be located (either by marking with stakes and a string line or by marking a line on the ground with spray paint). Take caution when building near boundary fences. Never install where surcharge loading (eg. buildings, driveways) will be located within 1 metre of the wall.

5 Lay the first course

Tip for setting the first course: Spend time on making sure the units are level. Otherwise all ensuing courses and ultimately, the entire wall, will not be level.

Remove the retaining lip on the base of the unit (this makes levelling the first course much easier). To remove the lug place at an angle on the ground and strike firmly with a hammer. Wear appropriate eye and foot protection whilst doing this. Remove the lip on enough units to lay the first course only.

Place blocks side by side on the levelling pad using a string line along the back of the units for alignment. Level each unit side-to-side and front to back using your spirit level.

We recommend you place black builders plastic along the back of the wall. This will help reduce the flow of water draining through the front of the wall and cut down the effect of efflorescence (harmless white powdery deposit) which can form on the wall.

If required, install appropriate agricultural drain behind the first course and surround with gravel or to specifications provided by a suitable qualified engineer. Agricultural drains may be required if soil has poor drainage, eg. clay type soils.

6 Backfill and compact

If required, place drainage material (12-20mm sized gravel) to 150mm wide behind your first course. Shovel and compact your backfill (existing site soil) behind the drainage material.

Please note: Backfill should be no higher than the top of the retaining wall (see illustration).

Tips for backfilling: Make sure the site soil or backfill is good draining soil and that you compact it well. If you don't, you may find water will build up behind your wall and start to push it over.

7 Additional courses

Sweep the top of the previous course clean. Place the next course of units in a half bond pattern (ie. with the vertical joints from the first course units halfway across the second course units).

Lay the following courses of units as per previous courses. You will need to backfill at least every alternate course. Continue stacking units and backfilling until complete. Trim off any excess black plastic protruding from above the top of the wall for a neat finish.

With a textured rugged look, Gardenwall lets you create curved walls, steps, terraces and raised garden beds. No need for mortar or concrete footings, and no bricklaying skills are required.

Midland Brick

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