

How to build a stepping stone side path with Jason Hodges

Featuring Adbri's Euro® Stone



"I see so many homes where valuable space around the side of the house is ignored or wasted because it's damp, soggy, muddy and doesn't see sunlight. Let's fix this problem so you can take full advantage of your precious land with a DIY stepping stone path."

Jason Hodges | Landscaping Expert

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Jason's top stepping stone path project preparation tips:

- > Consider the finished height of your path and your homes damp course height - This will affect your excavation requirements and drainage.
- > Are you going to separate your pavers with pebbles, grass or stylish mondo grass?
- > Make sure you have all the safety gear you need ready – Gloves, safety glasses and close-toed shoes.

TOOLS REQUIRED

- > Measuring Tape
- > String Line
- > Spirit Level
- > Rubber Mallet
- > Wooden Stakes
- > Wheel Barrow
- > Spade
- > Trowel

Jason uses Euro® Stone Pavers



STEP 1 - WORK OUT DISTANCE BETWEEN STEPPERS



Place your first paver and your last paver down and work out what will go between them. The best way is to step out between these two pavers to get your distances between each stepper.

TIP

Take normal walking steps and with marking paint, mark where your feet land – this will give you a practical gap for your pavers though remember to cater for children and adults.

STEP 2 - SET UP A STRING LINE



Make sure you set up a very accurate string line. Ensure the string line is level so all the pavers you lay are level.

TIP

You will still need to check the level of the paver in both directions to make sure they are level.

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DIY STEPPING STONE PATH

STEP 3 - PREPARE SAND AND CEMENT MIX



Prepare a sand and cement mix at a 4:1 ratio in a wheelbarrow. Be sure to mix the cement through the sand thoroughly while dry so you have a nice blend throughout. Add some water and mix until a thick, mud like consistency is achieved.

STEP 5 - CONTINUE PLACING PAVERS



Repeat step 4 for every paver until you have laid all required steppers.

TIP Using 'blobs' of the sand and cement mix on your trowel, 'haunch' the pavers in by spreading the mix along the side of the paver to lock them in place. Be careful not to wipe the mix on the surface of the paver.

STEP 7 - SPREAD PEBBLES BETWEEN PAVERS



Shovel pebbles out and spread between the pavers. Some people use black plastic or weed matting but if your pebbles are thick enough this is not required.



TIP Lay approximately 100mm of pebbles.

STEP 4 - LAYING THE FIRST PAVERS



Place the first pavers on the sand and cement mix and wiggle over to string line but do not touch it. Check the level across the paver and then move on.

TIP Have an item like a brick to ensure the spacing between the pavers is consistent.

STEP 6 - CLEAN PAVER SURFACE



Sponge down the pavers whilst they are still wet to remove any excess sand and cement dags or other marks caused when laying. If you let the marks dry it will be harder to clean.

TIP After pavers are clean allow 24hrs for the pavers to fully set before moving onto the final few steps.

STEP 8 - HOSE DOWN PAVERS AND PEBBLES



Finally, give everything a good hose down. The pebbles come with dust and grit on them so with a good hose down, the finished project will come up a treat!