

Project Overview



Adding a retaining wall to your landscape is a perfect solution to address trouble spots in your yard or to accent areas of beauty. Retaining walls can be a functional way to prevent erosion on slopes or a way to draw attention to raised planting beds. There are many options and a wide selection of styles and colors to blend in seamlessly with your home and its surroundings.

You can build it! Installing a retaining wall on your property is an easy project for the "do it yourselfer". As with any project, the key is planning. Selecting the correct size and style of retaining wall block is an important starting point. The following are other factors, which should be taken into consideration before beginning your project;

- What is the length and height of your wall? Correct estimates can save time and labor.
- What is the proper base material for your wall? Sand, gravel, and chipped limestone are all suitable materials depending on the height of your wall.
- What drainage system is most suitable based upon the location and size of your wall?
- Is terracing or multiple levels being considered as components of your project?

If you are searching for ways to create a focal point or something more practical like replacing the old rotting railroad tie retaining wall, your friends at GE Landscape Supply are here to assist you with all your landscaping needs. Whether it is estimating quantities of materials, determining which material best suits your project, or assisting with site selection, our goal is to help you create the landscape you desire.

Recommended Tools



Shovel



Rake



Hand Tamper



Tape Measure



Rubber Mallet



Level

Installation



1

Using a shovel, dig out a trench. The trench should be as deep as your building stones are tall. If your retaining wall is to be greater than 4 feet tall, the trench should be deep enough to completely bury the first layer of stones below grade.



2

Grade the base of the trench with a garden rake. The bottom of the trench should be smooth and level.



3

Fill the trench with 4 inches of chipped limestone, gravel or other base material. Grade the base material until it is smooth and level.



4

Use a tamper to compact the base material in the bottom of the trench. Check the grade with a level. Add a block and again use your hand level to make sure the first course is level.



5

Place the first layer of building stones on the prepared base starting at the corner. Position them side by side and level in both directions. Set them with a rubber mallet. Backfill with gravel or other material. If the wall is four feet or taller, be sure to completely bury the first layer in the ground.



6

Continue assembly by placing building stones in a staggered pattern relative to the layer directly below. Pull each stone forward to secure.



7

Backfill each level of the wall as it is completed. Finish by placing a layer of soil over the backfill material. Be sure to compact the soil.



8

Relax and enjoy the long lasting beauty that a properly constructed retaining wall adds to your landscape.