Building with Panels and Posts/Pillars

Combining Posts/Pillars and Panels for a Dramatic Effect.

The AB Courtyard Collection is designed to let you build walls using both wall panels and posts/pillars together. Splitting blocks will be needed to avoid gaps where the posts/pillars and panels come together. They can be built on existing patios or pavement, as well as on soil. To install on soil, see How-to sheets #120 and #220.

Step 1: Layout
Determine the location of the first post/pillar. Install the Corner Blocks with the long sides facing out, align and level each course. Make adjustments as needed. See How-to sheet #220 for more information on building posts/pillars.

Step 2: Build Post/Pillar
Continue building the post/pillar to the desired height. Alternate the blocks to offset the seams from the blocks below.

Step 3: Begin Panel
The first and the last block of every course of wall panel will be a split block. Using a split block allows the panel to be flush with the post/pillar. If a standard angled block shape is used there will be a gap where the panel meets up with the post/pillar. Use a AB Dublin end-split block to start the first course. Place the short piece with the split side against the post/pillar in the center of the post/pillar. Save the other half for the end of this course where it meets up with the next post/pillar. Place the next block of the first course against the split block. We recommend installing the first two courses of the wall panel at the same time to ensure proper alignment.

Step 4: Second Course
On the next course, use a AB Dublin center-split block to start this course. Place one half of this block with the split side against the post/pillar. Again, save the other half of this piece for the end of this course.

Step 5: Build Panel
With the first two courses started, continue building the wall panel in the pattern chosen. Build to the location of the next post/pillar. At the end of each section place the remaining split block on each course that was used to start the course.

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Step 6: Additional Posts/Pillars
At the end of the wall panel, now install the next post/pillar as previously done. Place the Corner Blocks with the long sides facing out. Install additional courses until the desired height is achieved. Alternate the blocks to offset the seams from the blocks below.

Step 7: Continue Building
With both posts/pillars built, continue stacking the courses of the wall panel to the desired height. Alternate the type of split block for each course as you go.

Step 8: Finish
Finish the wall with Wall and Post Caps. Secure the Wall Caps in place with a bead of masonry adhesive along both sides of the raised rings and along the side of each Wall Cap. Place with a bead of adhesive along the outside edge of the top course of Corner Blocks and then set the Post Caps in place.

Other references:

• For information on splitting blocks: How-to sheet #210.
• For proper base installation: How-to sheet #120 & #220.
• For info on building taller walls: How-to sheet #150.
• For interlocking walls and posts/pillars: How-to sheet #230.