Building An Above Ground Pond

Basic Steps for building an above ground pond.

Enhance your flower garden with a beautiful pond using the AB Courtyard Collection. With this flexible system you can build a pond in a weekend without any special tools and without splitting blocks.

Step 1 Layout
Place a stake in the center of where you would like to build your pond. Measure the diameter of the pond liner, then mark on the string one half of the diameter. Tie the string to the stake and rotate it marking the ground for the liner. Temporarily place 30 AB York blocks along the outside of the circle marked on the ground. The amount of blocks needed is based on the pre fabricated liner that was used. Verify the liner size and adjust blocks as needed to fit the design. Use a shovel to cut around the blocks and mark where the sod and soil will be removed to construct the base.

Step 2 Excavate
Remove the blocks used to layout the pond location. Then remove the sod in the entire area and 3 in. (75 mm) of soil under the blocks 8 in. (200 mm) wide. If your plans includes a decorative center sculpture or fountain it is recommended to remove additional soil in the center to construct a stronger base. If electricity is required please follow local electrical codes.

Step 3 Prepare the Foundation Pad
Next prepare the foundation pad by placing 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the trench. Level the area making adjustments where needed. A straight 2x4 and a level makes easy work of leveling the site. Compact the rock with a hand tamper.

Step 4 Stacking Blocks
Start building the pond using the string to position the blocks. Building two courses at a time will insure proper alignment. Check the blocks for level. Make adjustments to the circumference of the circle so that cutting is not required. Next add the third course of blocks.

Step 5 Add the Liner
Place the pre fabricated liner in the ring of blocks. Position the Wall Caps and glue them down with concrete adhesive. This will lock the blocks together and prevent unwanted disassembly.

Step 6 Add Decorative Rock and Accessories
Place your choice of clean decorative rock in the bottom of the liner. Now you're ready to add water and other ornamental accessories to customize your design.

Materials Needed:
90 AB York Blocks
30 Wall Caps
2 Tubes of concrete glue
6 Bags of decorative rock 50 lbs (23 kg) each (optional)
1 Pre Fabricated Plastic liner 6 ft (1.8 m) diameter x 1.5 ft (0.46 m)
Crushed rock - 950 lbs (431 kg)

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