



allanblock.com

Retaining Walls and Parapets

Parapet with AB, AB Europa or AB Aztec Collection

Double Wall

Parapets can also be designed using any of our other Allan Block Collections using a Double Wall Parapet. This method essentially stacks two retaining walls back-to-back. The additional width makes the double wall parapet stronger against lateral loads. The first course of the parapet side, as with the retaining wall side, should have an adequate foundation to build upon. A minimum of 4 in. (10 cm) of wall rock should be placed beneath the base course of the parapet side.

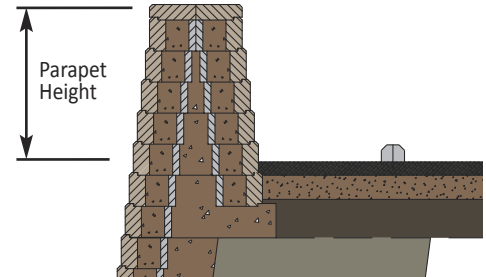
The setback distance for double wall parapets is the required space needed between the parapet side and the retaining wall side to ensure that they meet nicely at the top. Use the Setback Distance Chart for rough estimates or use the Setback Distance Equation to give a more exact distance needed for a given wall height and batter.

Setback Distance Equation:

$$\text{Offset} = 2x \text{ Parapet Height} \times \tan(\beta)$$

Creating a Curved Parapet

- When adding curves to your double wall parapet lay the first course of the controlling side. The controlling side will be the retaining wall side, or in the case for free standing parapets, the side with the larger radius. See the radius chart found on allanblock.com to determine the radius needed at the base.
- Use the setback distance, calculated from the parapet height and the Allan Block Collection, to place the non-controlling side around the curve. Cut the blocks as necessary for tighter curves.
- Fill the area between the walls with well-graded granular wall rock that is 0.25 in to 1.5 in (5 mm to 38 mm) less than 10% fines.
- Install additional courses in same process, offset from the course below.
- To end the parapet: Progressively step-down the parapet to meet existing grade, create a post using corner units or cast your own end to the parapet.



Setback Distance Chart (approx.)		
Parapet Height	AB, AB Europa, AB Aztec Collection 6° (Ref)	AB Stones 12° (Ref)
1 ft (30 cm)	3 in. (8 cm)	6 in. (15 cm)
2 ft (60 cm)	6 in. (15 cm)	11 in. (30 cm)
3 ft (90 cm)	8 in. (20 cm)	16 in. (40 cm)
4 ft (120 cm)	11 in. (30 cm)	21 in. (55 cm)
5 ft (150 cm)	13 in. (35 cm)	26 in. (65 cm)



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Capping Parapets

Check with your local distributor for available options to cap the top of the parapets based on the width installed. Secure in place with a flexible concrete adhesive. Using a capping option that is slightly wider than the parapet is recommended. The extra overhang will create a nice finished effect.

For more information see the Allan Block Retaining Wall Installation.



The information shown here is for use with Allan Block products only.