### Build an AB Courtyard Bench

**AB Courtyard Bench - A Great Addition**

A versatile, easy-to-install system to enhance the beauty of any landscape project. See how easy it is to install our products, using our tools.

**About our full AB Courtyard Collection**

Visit allanblock.com for complete details on this project or for additional ideas when building with the AB Courtyard Collection products.

**Build with Quality - Build with Allan Block**

---

#### How To Install DVD

See how to plan, design and build professional-quality landscape walls up to 6 feet high (1.8 m).

#### AB Contractor Certification Rewards

The AB Rewards Program recognizes AB Certified Installers for their commitment to building top-quality Allan Block walls. It is easy and the rewards get bigger at each level!

By achieving the first level in the AB Rewards program you can receive a durable contractor bag for FREE. Ask your local AB Representative or visit allanblock.com for more details on how to get this great gift for building with Allan Block.

---

#### Rewards and Tools From Allan Block

- **AB Contractor Certification Rewards**
- **AB Courtyard Collection Idea Book**
- **How To Install DVD**
- **AB Ashlar Collection**
- **AB Courtyard Bench**

---

#### Be inspired by free project ideas and videos

- **Product Info**
- **Installation Info**
- **Specifications**
- **Training Info**
- **Project Ideas**
- **Videos**
- **Meta Info**
- **Download/Links**
- **Tools**
- **Videos and Animations**

---

**Basic Steps for Building an AB Courtyard Bench**

1. **Determine the location of the 2 posts and lay the first course of block to establish where to dig the foundation pad. Make sure the posts are directly across from each other and are appropriately spaced to accommodate your desired seating material.**

2. **Install the base course of the first post using 6 Corner Blocks on the crushed rock foundation. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level.**

3. **Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. long (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 to 10 mm of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.**

4. **On the 4th course, change the pattern to create the area for the seating material to rest. Only support blocks for top courses will be needed for the next 2 courses and all blocks will be installed with their long sides facing out.**

5. **Finish each post with two Post Caps.**

---

**AB Ashlar Collection**

- **AB Ashlar Collection**

---

**AB Courtyard Collection**

- **AB Courtyard Collection**

---

**AB Contractor Certification Rewards**

- **AB Contractor Certification Rewards**

---

**AB Courtyard Bench**

- **AB Courtyard Bench**

---

**Don’t forget our full package of estimating tools.**

---

**To receive this Landscape Lifestyle newsletter by e-mail, sign up at allanblock.com.**
The epic battle of man versus nature raged through storm and thunder at the Doland residence in Cincinnati, Ohio. For a week and a half, a three-man crew worked to turn a unsightly backyard into an oasis for entertainment. The Dolands' have lived in their beautiful colonial home for close to five years and determined it was time to turn their backyard into something livable and wonderful. The Dolands' sought the help of John Fisher's Landesign to tackle their backyard slope and create a functional patio.

As a family who entertains often, the main goal was to turn the outdoor area into a relaxing place with an "old world feel" to spend time with friends. With Fisher's suggestion and experience, the Dolands' found the perfect product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

Fisher suggested the Allan Block collection of products as they offered a varied block shape and a worn look with more distinct columns. He has been working with Allan Block products for over eleven years and with the assistance of supervisor Joe Kuchera, he helped create a design with the ambiance only Allan Block products can provide.

Using matching colored tumbled pavers for the patio, the AB Courtyard Collection for the walls and posts and the AB Europa Collection for the retaining walls, the slope was turned into a warm and inviting oasis, transforming a lost area into a focal point of not only the yard but the entire residence. Extra space and an elegant fountain took this muddy Ohio slope and turned it into a practical and beautiful outdoor living area. Now they are ready to party the warm summer nights of Cincinnati away in their newly created pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting added.

The Dolands' found the perfect product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

The Courtyard Collection is a great way to finish off this new space. In this project, by using the AB Europa Collection to tackle the sloping hillside, a large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

"We can't say enough about our new patio. It's great to have a relaxing area to entertain." - The Dolands' homeowners

Visit allanblock.com for more great ideas.
The epic battle of man versus nature raged through storm and thunder at the Doland residence in Cincinnati, Ohio. For a week and a half, a three-man crew worked to turn a underside backyard into an oasis for entertainment. The Doland's have lived in their beautiful colonial home for close to five years and determined it was time to turn their backyard into something livable and wonderful. The Dolands sought the help of John Fisher's Landesign to handle their backyard slope and create a functional patio.

As a family who entertains often, the main goal was to turn the outdoor area into a relaxing place with an “old world feel” to spend time with friends. With Fisher's suggestion and experience, the Doland's found the perfect product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

Fisher suggested the Allan Block collections of products as they offered a varied block shape and a worn look with more distinct columns. He has been working with Allan Block products for over eleven years and with the assistance of supervisor Joe Kuchera, he helped create a design with the ambiance only Allan Block products can provide.

Using matching colored tumbled pavers for the patio, the AB Courtyard Collection for the retaining walls to tackle the slope, this combination of products gave the perfect balance of form and function. With the structure and texture of the new patio walls, their sloping backyard has been turned into a warm and inviting oasis, transforming a lost area into a focal point of not only the yard but the entire residence. Extra space and an elegant fountain added privacy and perimeter lighting was added. A large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The epic battle of man versus nature raged through storm and thunder at the Doland residence in Cincinnati, Ohio. For a week and a half, a three-man crew worked to turn a underside backyard into an oasis for entertainment. The Doland's have lived in their beautiful colonial home for close to five years and determined it was time to turn their backyard into something livable and wonderful. The Dolands sought the help of John Fisher's Landesign to handle their backyard slope and create a functional patio.

As a family who entertains often, the main goal was to turn the outdoor area into a relaxing place with an “old world feel” to spend time with friends. With Fisher's suggestion and experience, the Doland's found the perfect product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

Fisher suggested the Allan Block collections of products as they offered a varied block shape and a worn look with more distinct columns. He has been working with Allan Block products for over eleven years and with the assistance of supervisor Joe Kuchera, he helped create a design with the ambiance only Allan Block products can provide.

Using matching colored tumbled pavers for the patio, the AB Courtyard Collection for the retaining walls to tackle the slope, this combination of products gave the perfect balance of form and function. With the structure and texture of the new patio walls, their sloping backyard has been turned into a warm and inviting oasis, transforming a lost area into a focal point of not only the yard but the entire residence. Extra space and an elegant fountain added privacy and perimeter lighting was added. A large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The Epic Battle of Man Versus Nature Raged Through Storm and Thunder at the Doland Residence in Cincinnati, Ohio. For a Week and a Half, a Three-Man Crew Worked to Turn a Underside Backyard Into an Oasis for Entertainment. The Doland's Have Lived in Their Beautiful Colonial Home for Close to Five Years and Determined It Was Time to Turn Their Backyard Into Something Livable and Wonderful. The Doland's Sought the Help of John Fisher's Landesign to Handle their Backyard Slope and Create a Functional Patio.

As a Family Who Entertains Often, the Main Goal Was to Turn the Outdoor Area Into a Relaxing Place with an “Old World Feel” to Spend Time with Friends. With Fisher’s Suggestion and Experience, the Doland’s Found the Perfect Product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

Fisher Suggested the Allan Block Collections of Products as They Offered a Varied Block Shape and a Worn Look with More Distinct Columns. He Has Been Working with Allan Block Products for Over Eleven Years and with the Assistance of Supervisor Joe Kuchera, He Helped Create a Design with the Ambiance Only Allan Block Products Can Provide.

Using Matching Colored Tumbled Pavers for the Patio, the AB Courtyard Collection for the Retaining Walls to Tackle the Slope, This Combination of Products Gave the Perfect Balance of Form and Function. With the Structure and Texture of the New Patio Walls, Their Sloping Backyard Has Been Turned into a Warm and Inviting Oasis, Transforming a Lost Area into a Focal Point of Not Only the Yard but the Entire Residence. Extra Space and an Elegant Fountain Added Privacy and Perimeter Lighting Was Added. A Large New Pool Area with Privacy and Perimeter Lighting Was Added.

The Doland’s - Homeowners

“We can’t say enough about our new patio. It’s great to have a relaxing area to entertain.”

The AB Courtyard Collection is a great way to finish off this new space. In this project, by using the AB Europa Collection to tackle the sloping hillside, a large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The AB Courtyard Collection for the retaining walls to tackle the slope, this combination of products gave the perfect balance of form and function. With the structure and texture of the new patio walls, their sloping backyard has been turned into a warm and inviting oasis, transforming a lost area into a focal point of not only the yard but the entire residence. Extra space and an elegant fountain added privacy and perimeter lighting was added. A large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The AB Courtyard Collection is an easy addition to any project.

Circles, curves and corners are all easily built to create beautiful and functional landscape accents. The interlocking blocks quickly fit together without mortar or pins. Quality, simplicity and lasting value, your get it all with the AB Courtyard Collection.

Add Distinction to your Landscape with Allan Block

The AB Courtyard Collection works nicely with all the Allan Block wall products and their raised front lip. No need for pins or mortar, they just stack up.

- Add a BBQ grilling area
- Add additional seating area to your patio
- Add an outdoor living room

Manufactured by Reading Rock

“We can’t say enough about our new patio. It’s great to have a relaxing area to entertain.”

The Doland’s - Homeowners

Enjoy a Beautiful Backyard Oasis

The AB Courtyard Collection is two-sided free standing wall system that is durable, versatile and cost effective. Easily frame a patio or pool, create a seating wall, or build an entry monument with exterior lighting. Use it alone or combine it with an Allan Block wall to give an added touch to your project.

The Courtyard Collection is a great way to finish off this new space. In this project, by using the AB Europa Collection to tackle the sloping hillside, a large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The AB Courtyard Collection is an easy addition to any project.

Circles, curves and corners are all easily built to create beautiful and functional landscape accents. The interlocking blocks quickly fit together without mortar or pins. Quality, simplicity and lasting value, you get it all with the AB Courtyard Collection.

Add Distinction to your Landscape with Allan Block

The AB Courtyard Collection works nicely with all the Allan Block wall products and their raised front lip. No need for pins or mortar, they just stack up.

- Add a BBQ grilling area
- Add additional seating area to your patio
- Add an outdoor living room

Manufactured by Reading Rock

“We can’t say enough about our new patio. It’s great to have a relaxing area to entertain.”

The Doland’s - Homeowners

Enjoy a Beautiful Backyard Oasis

The AB Courtyard Collection is two-sided free standing wall system that is durable, versatile and cost effective. Easily frame a patio or pool, create a seating wall, or build an entry monument with exterior lighting. Use it alone or combine it with an Allan Block wall to give an added touch to your project.

The Courtyard Collection is a great way to finish off this new space. In this project, by using the AB Europa Collection to tackle the sloping hillside, a large new pool area with privacy and perimeter lighting was added.

The AB Courtyard Collection is an easy addition to any project.

Circles, curves and corners are all easily built to create beautiful and functional landscape accents. The interlocking blocks quickly fit together without mortar or pins. Quality, simplicity and lasting value, you get it all with the AB Courtyard Collection.

Add Distinction to your Landscape with Allan Block

The AB Courtyard Collection works nicely with all the Allan Block wall products and their raised front lip. No need for pins or mortar, they just stack up.

- Add a BBQ grilling area
- Add additional seating area to your patio
- Add an outdoor living room

Manufactured by Reading Rock

“We can’t say enough about our new patio. It’s great to have a relaxing area to entertain.”

The Doland’s - Homeowners
The epic battle of man versus nature raged through storm and thunder at the Doland residence in Cincinnati, Ohio. For a week and a half, a three-man crew worked to turn a undersloped backyard into an oasis for entertainment. The Doland’s have lived in their beautiful colonial home for close to five years and determined it was time to turn their backyard into something livable and wonderful. The Doland’s sought the help of John Fisher’s Landesign to handle their backyard slope and create a functional patio.

As a family who entertains often, the main goal was to turn the outdoor area into a relaxing place with an “old world feel” to spend time with friends. With Fisher’s suggestion and experience, the Doland’s found the perfect product in the Allan Block Courtyard Collection.

Fisher suggested the Allan Block collection of products as they offered a varied block shape and a worn look with more distinct columns. He has been working with Allan Block products for over eleven years and with the assistance of supervisor Joe Kuchera, he helped create a design with the ambiance only Allan Block products can provide.

Using matching colored tumbled pavers for the patio, the AB Courtyard Collection for the walls and posts and the AB Europa Collection for the retaining walls to tackle the slope, his combination of products gave the perfect balance of form and function. With the structure and texture of the new patio walls, their sloping backyard has been turned into a warm and inviting oasis, transforming a lost area into a focal point of not only the yard but the entire residence. Extra space and an elegant fountain took this muddy Ohio slope and turned it into a practical and beautiful outdoor living area. Now they are ready to party the warm summer nights of Cincinnati away in their useful and stylish patio space. The Doland’s send raving reviews of their Allan Block experience.
AB Courtyard Bench - A Great Addition

Basic Steps for Building an AB Courtyard Bench

A courtyard bench is an easy way to add beautiful accents and seating to any landscape. You can build it in an existing niche like a patio or pavilion, as well as on soil. In this example we will create a bench that is 5 blocks high, with a seating height of 18 in. (460 mm).

See sample details and a video demo online at the project page: allanblock.com/products/proj/ab-courtyard-

Layout

Determine the location of the 2 posts and lay the first course of block to establish where to dig the foundation pad. Make sure the posts are directly across from each other and are appropriately spaced to accommodate your desired seating material.

NOTE: The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Build First Post

Install the base course of the first post using 6 Corner Blocks on the crushed rock foundation. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level. (see patterns above)

Build Second Post

Install the first Corner Block of the 2nd post. Use a level and a straight board to span across to ensure that the corner block of the 2nd post will be level with the 1st post. Install remaining blocks to complete the first course, check again for level with the 1st post.

Continue Building

With both posts level, continue stacking 2 more courses with the appropriate pattern. Do not stack the blocks up using only one pattern (seams should not make a straight line the full height of the posts).

The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Build the Foundation

Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

NOTE: The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Build Second Post

Install the first Corner Block of the 2nd post. Use a level and a straight board to span across to ensure that the corner block of the 2nd post will be level with the 1st post. Install remaining blocks to complete the first course, check again for level with the 1st post.

Continue Building

With both posts level, continue stacking 2 more courses with the appropriate pattern. Do not stack the blocks up using only one pattern (seams should not make a straight line the full height of the posts).

Determine the location of the 2 posts and lay the first course of block to establish where to dig the foundation pad. Make sure the posts are directly across from each other and are appropriately spaced to accommodate your desired seating material.

NOTE: The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Build First Post

Install the base course of the first post using 6 Corner Blocks on the crushed rock foundation. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level. (see patterns above)

Build Second Post

Install the first Corner Block of the 2nd post. Use a level and a straight board to span across to ensure that the corner block of the 2nd post will be level with the 1st post. Install remaining blocks to complete the first course, check again for level with the 1st post.

Continue Building

With both posts level, continue stacking 2 more courses with the appropriate pattern. Do not stack the blocks up using only one pattern (seams should not make a straight line the full height of the posts).

On the 4th course, change the pattern to create the area for the seating material to rest. Only 4 corner blocks will be needed for the next 2 courses and all blocks will be installed with their long sides facing out. Finish each post with two Post Caps.

Bench Material

Measure and install the seating material. Cedar deckboards or a slab of natural stone make good seating materials. See your local supplier for more options.

Support

Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

Foundation Pad

The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Application

Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

Foundation Pad

The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

Foundation Pad

The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. wide (600 mm), 30 in. (760 mm) and 4 in. deep hole (100 mm). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.
AB Courtyard Collection Bench - A Great Addition

Basic Steps for Building an AB Courtyard Bench

A courtyard bench is an easy way to add beautiful accents and seating to any landscape. You can build it on an existing surface like a patio or pavement, as well as on soil. In this example we will construct a bench that is 5 blocks high, with a seating height of 18 in. (460 mm).

Layout
Determine the location of the 2 posts and lay the first course of block to establish where to dig the foundation pad. Make sure the posts are directly across from each other and are appropriately spaced to accommodate your desired seating material.

Build the Foundation
Mark the location of the posts with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig a 24 in. (600 mm) wide by 30 in. (760 mm) long and 4 in. (100 mm) deep hole (see patterns above). Compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of crushed rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

NOTE: The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.

Build First Post
Install the base course of the first post using 6 Corner Blocks on the crushed rock foundation. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level. (see patterns above)

Build Second Post
Install the first Corner Block of the 2nd post. Use a level and a straight board to span across to ensure that the corner block of the 2nd post will be level with the 1st post. Install remaining blocks to complete the first course, check again for level with the 1st post.

Continue Building
With both posts level, continue stacking 2 more courses with the appropriate pattern. Do not stack the blocks up using only one pattern (seams should not create a straight line the full height of the posts).

On the 4th course, change the pattern to create the area for the seating material to rest. Only 4 corner blocks will be needed for the next 2 courses and all blocks will be installed with their long sides facing out. Finish each post with two Post Caps.

Bench Material
Measure and install the seating material. Cedar deckboards or a slab of natural stone make good seating materials. See your local supplier for more options.

Add Seating Material
Measure and install the seating material. Cedar deckboards or a slab of natural stone make good seating materials. See your local supplier for more options.

Placement of Seating Material
Alter Block Pattern to Allow
Measure and install the seating material. Cedar deckboards or a slab of natural stone make good seating materials. See your local supplier for more options.

Estimating Tools
By achieving the first level in the AB Rewards program you can receive this durable contractor bag for free! Ask your local AB Representative or visit allanblock.com for more details on how to get this great gift for building with Allan Block.

AB Contractor Certification Rewards
The AB Rewards Program recognizes AB Certified Installers for their commitment to building top-quality Allan Block walls. It is easy and the rewards get bigger at each level!

How to Install DVD
Get all the answers with our Landscape Walls Guide and How To Install DVD. See how easy it is to install our products, using our tools.

Visit allanblock.com for complete details on this project or for additional ideas when building with the AB Courtyard Collection products.

Build with Quality - Build with Allan Block

Rewards and Tools From Allan Block

Are you a contractor building with Allan Block?

Have you been certified through our AB training classes?

If so, do you have your free rewards? If not, contact your local Allan Block Rep. today!

Congratulations! We don’t want anyone to miss out on this great program.

AB Contractor Certification Rewards
The AB Rewards Program recognizes AB Certified Installers for their commitment to building top-quality Allan Block walls. It is easy and the rewards get bigger at each level!

How to Install DVD
Get all the answers with our Landscape Walls Guide and How To Install DVD. See how easy it is to plan, design and build professional-quality landscape walls up to 6 feet high (1.8 m).

Using our AB Courtyard Collection Idea Book and How To Install DVD, you can use this versatile, easy-to-install system to enhance the beauty of any landscape project.

Don’t forget about our full package of estimating tools.

To receive this Landscape Lifts newsletter by e-mail, sign up at allanblock.com.

© 2007 Allan Block Corporation. Visit our web site at: www.allanblock.com or call 1-800-ALLAN-BLOCK or (952) 835-5309. For domestic orders, send to: Allan Block Corporation, 5300 Edina Industrial Blvd., Ste 100, Edina, MN 55439. For international orders, call (952) 835-5309. A complete catalog is available at no charge. To order, call your local representative or visit our website at: www.allanblock.com.