Have A Great Landscape Wall Project?

Have a great Allan Block project and want to show it off? Well here is your chance to have your project shine. Allan Block is looking for Allan Block landscape projects that show the beauty and versatility of building with Allan Block.

YOUR JOB IS SIMPLE
Submit your project photos to Allan Block Corporation via email at info@allanblock.com. Submitted projects have the opportunity to be featured on the cover of the next Allan Block Lifestyles newsletter. Get your project selected and enjoy the benefits of FREE advertising for your company within the internationally circulated publication. In addition, you will receive free copies of the publication to hand out in your community.

BUT THERE IS MORE!
All projects submitted have the opportunity to be featured within a wide variety of literature, videos, tools and even on the Allan Block website. Some of our projects have even been featured within the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) national publications. So the possibilities for FREE exposure are limitless!

Don’t let your beautiful landscape go unrecognized. Submit your Allan Block projects and let the world see the beauty and versatility you can create using Allan Block products.

Get Ready To Build

You are planning to build a retaining wall, you have the design laid out, and have even picked out the block style and color, you’re all set right? - well not quite.

CONSIDEYR SITE
Take the time to consider the project to avoid common time crunchers and other pitfalls. Here are just a few things to be sure to consider:
- Site Access - Make sure you can get your equipment and material to the project site. Keep in mind where you will store your materials and plan any special needs your site may have.
- Soil Type - Be sure to determine the type of soil on your project prior to construction. If poor soil is present, you will have to make arrangements to have the poor soil removed and proper soils brought in to replace them.

HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS
Having the right tools when starting any project is important. This extra planning ahead of time will save you time, money and frustration during construction. Make a list of all the tools you need and remember safety always comes first. Depending on the scope and style of your project you may need to rent additional equipment such as a plate compactor, concrete saw or even a Bobcat to move dirt around.

GET READY... GET SET... GO!
Now that you have your plan, your design and all the site preparations complete you are ready to get out there and build your Allan Block wall. Make sure you contact the local utility company and have your lines marked before you dig - and away you go, with just a little bit of planning your project will be a snap!

CONSIDER YOUR SITE
Have a detailed plan drawn to scale will help you locate any areas in the design that could be potential challenges on the job site and give you a more accurate number when estimating the amount of material for your project. Be sure to get a copy of the project lot lines. The city should have a copy available for you to determine where the lot lines are which can provide an accurate template for your site plan.

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As you review the site, consider:
- Site Access - Make sure you can get your equipment and material to the project site. Keep in mind where you will store your materials and plan any special needs your site may have.
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Using Curves and Serpentines in Your Landscape

Now that you have decided to add curves to your landscape, there are just a few steps you need to follow to get your landscape project rolling. Let’s start by selecting the right curve style to complement your landscape.

Picking Your Curve

When planning your project you must first decide whether you need inside or outside curves or a combination of both to make a seamless wall. Choose the curve option that best fits your landscape and overall style.

Inside Curves are achieved by creating consistent spacing between the backs of the blocks as you build. A great option when trying to form wider curves and flow in existing gardens, or when creating water features. Curved walls offer many benefits that just about every project can use, the process is simple.

Why Build with Curves?

So why build with curves you ask? A beautiful addition to almost any landscape, curves offer a seamless strength that you simply don’t see with any other application. Why settle for straight and narrow when you can get curves with your landscape. Flowing lines soften edges in ways corners never do.

Does your landscape need a retaining wall? Not sure how to tackle a slope or add a planter? Unsure of where to begin your design ideas? Then why not make your project as attractive and functional as possible, by building with curves. Curved walls come together. In fact, most curved walls can be built with the blocks you have selected.

Another added benefit to using curves, is how easily they can be added to your home. Use them when building raised patios and flower gardens, or when creating water features. Curves soften entrances and stairways and are a great way to add dimension and spirit to long-straight walls.

Do you want to add a curve to your next landscape project?

Cutting Caps For Curves

Capping a curved wall is easy. A few simple modifications and the caps will fit beautifully to any curve.

STEP 1

Place two caps on top of the wall, spaced so a third cap will fit tightly between their widest point.

STEP 2

For each cap on top of the first two caps and mark where they overlap on the beginning of the center cap.

STEP 3

Remove the center cap and cut along the mark. Set the cut cap in place.

Designing Your Style

Before constructing your wall, layout your design using a garden hose or paint. This will help you to determine how tight or gentle each curve will need to be. Knowing this information ahead of time can help you make the best selection when ordering the blocks for your project. Choose blocks that will fit your design or adjust your design to fit the blocks you have selected.

Before You Build

Whether you decide to build it yourself or hire an AB Certified Contractor to do the heavy lifting, determining your radius or curve before you build will help the build process go more smoothly.

Curved walls have a greater setback, so the radius of the bottom of the wall will be different than the one at the top. You will need to determine the minimum radius or base course before you begin to ensure the top of your wall has the radius you desire. (See the Radius Chart on page 28 of the AB Landscape Walls Guide).

Curves can benefit your landscape by adding curb appeal to your home. Use them when building raised patios and flower gardens, or when creating water features. Curved walls come together. In fact, most curved walls can be built with the blocks you have selected.

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Get Curvy With Allan Block Walls

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CONSIDER YOUR SITE
Take the time to consider the photo to avoid common time wasters and other pitfalls. Here are just a few things to be sure to consider:

• Site Access - Make sure you can get your equipment and materials to the project site. Keep in mind where you will store your materials and plan any special needs your site may have.

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GET READY... GET SET... GO!
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Inside:

• Get Ready With Allan Block
• Important Steps Before Building Any Project
• Tips and Tricks For Dipping Curves
• Get Your Project Promoted for FREE
Using Curves and Serpentines in Your Landscape

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Picking Your Curve

When planning your project you must first decide whether you need inside or outside curves or a combination of both to make a serpentine wall. Choose the curve options that best fit your landscape and overall style.

Inside Curves are achieved by creating consistent spacing between the backs of the blocks as you build. A great option when trying to make wider stone walls narrower and softer corners never do. Flowing lines soften edges in ways corners never do.

Outside Curves are created by removing one or both of the wings on the back of the block to create a smooth and flowing curve.

Why Build with Curves?

So why build with curves you ask? A beautiful addition to almost any landscape, curves offer a seamless strength that you simply don’t see with any other application. Why settle for straight and narrow when you can get curvy with your landscape? Curved walls offer many benefits that just about every project can use, the process is simple.

Another added benefit to using curves, is how easily they can be achieved. Curves soften entryways and stairways and are a great way to add dimension and spirit to long straight walls. Curves can be achieved by creating consistent spacing between the backs of the blocks as you build. A great option when trying to make wider stone walls narrower and softer corners never do. Flowing lines soften edges in ways corners never do.

Why Build with Curves?

Determining Your Style

Before constructing your wall, layout your design using a garden hose or paint. This will help you determine how tight or gentle each curve will need to be. Knowing this information ahead of time can help you make the best selection when ordering the blocks for your project. Choose blocks that will fit your design or adjust your design to fit the blocks you have selected.

Before You Build

Whether you decide to build it yourself or hire an ALLAN Block Certified Contractor to do the heavy lifting, determining your radius or curve before you build will help the build process go more smoothly.

Curved walls have a greater setback, so the radius of the bottom of the wall will be different than the one at the top. You will need to determine the maximum radius for your base course before you begin to ensure the top of your wall has the radius you desire (see the Radius Chart on page 28 of the ALL Landscape Walls Guide).

Another added benefit to using curves is how easily they come together. In fact, most curved walls can be built with no cutting involved, making them simple to build.

Curves can be created by using combinations of both inside and outside curves to create a smooth and flowing curve.

Another benefit to using curves is how easily they can be achieved. Curves soften entryways and stairways and are a great way to add dimension and spirit to long straight walls.

Cutting Caps for Curves

Cutting caps for curves is easy. A few simple modifications and the caps will fit beautifully to any curve.

Starting a Curve

Start from the part of where the curve will begin and measure straight back from the wall the required amount (shown in the Radius Chart on page 28 of the ALL Landscape Walls Guide) and drive a stake into the ground. This will be the center of the curve. Then attach a string to the stake the length of the radius and create a small radius at the mark to locate the position of the base course. This will give you a guide for installing the blocks. Then simply lay the blocks along the marked area, and away you go. For more detailed instructions on installing curves, check out the information in the ALL Landscape Walls Guide or visit allanblock.com.

Cutting Caps for Curves

Before building a wall or applying a cap to the back of a bent cap, use a garden hose or paint. This will help you determine how tight or gentle each curve will need to be. Knowing this information ahead of time can help you make the best selection when ordering the blocks for your project. Choose blocks that will fit your design or adjust your design to fit the blocks you have selected.

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Outside Curves are created by removing one or both of the wings on the back of the block to create a smooth and flowing curve.

Designing Your Style
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Cutting Caps For Curves
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Step 1 – Place two caps on top of the wall, spaced so a third cap will fit tightly between their inner point.

Step 2 – Remove the center cap and run along the miter. Set the cut cap in place.

Capping Tighter Curves
Place two caps on the wall with the back of each cap tight together. A gap will appear with the front.

Measure out the distance of the gap between the 2 caps (x) at the front of the wall.

Measure out this distance (x) from the back of each cap and mark.

Draw a line from the mark to the front center.

Use a masonry saw to cut each cap.

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Use a masonry saw to cut each cap.

For more information on curves and other installation instructions, refer to the All Landscape Walls Guide by Allan Block or visit our website at allanblock.com.
**Getting Ready To Build**

You are planning to build a retaining wall, you have the design laid out, and have even picked out the block style and color, you're all set right? — well not quite.

**HAVE A PLAN**

Having a detailed plan drawn to scale will help you locate any areas in the design that could be potential challenges on the jobsite and give you a more accurate measure when estimating the amount of material for your project. Be sure to get a copy of the projects lot survey. The city should have a copy available for you to determine where the lot lines are which can provide an accurate template for your site plan.

**CONSIDER YOUR SITE**

Take the time to consider the jobsite to avoid common construction issues and problems. Here are just a few things to consider:

- **Site Access** — Make sure you can get your equipment and materials to the project site. Keep in mind where you will store your materials and plan any special needs your site may have.
- **Soil Type** — Be sure to determine the type of soil on your project prior to construction. If poor soils are present, you will have to make arrangements to have the poor soil removed and proper soils brought in to replace them.

**HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS**

Having the right tools when starting any project is important. This extra planning ahead of time will save you time, money and frustration during construction. Make a list of all the tools you need and remember safety always comes first. Depending on the scope and style of your project you may need to rent additional equipment such as a plate compactor, concrete saw or even a Bobcat to move dirt around.

**GET READY... GET SET... GO!**

Now that you have your plan, your design and all the site preparations complete you are ready to get out there and build your Allan Block wall. Make sure you contact the local utility company and have your lines marked before you dig — and you go, with just a little bit of planning your project will be a snap!

**CONSIDER YOUR SITE**

Take the time to consider the jobsite to avoid common time crunchers and other pitfalls. Here are just a few things to consider:

- **Site Access** — Make sure you can get your equipment and material to the project site. Keep in mind where you will store your materials and plan any special needs your site may have.
- **Soil Type** — Be sure to determine the type of soil on your project prior to construction. If poor soils are present, you will have to make arrangements to have the poor soil removed and proper soils brought in to replace them.

**GET READY... GET SET... GO!**

Now that you have your plan, your design and all the site preparations complete you are ready to get out there and build your Allan Block wall. Make sure you contact the local utility company and have your lines marked before you dig — and you go, with just a little bit of planning your project will be a snap!

**Have A Great Landscape Wall Project?**

Have a great Allan Block project and want to show it off? Well here is your chance to let your project shine. Allan Block is looking for Allan Block landscape projects that show the beauty and versatility of building with Allan Block.

**YOUR JOB IS SIMPLE**

Submit your project photos to Allan Block Corporation via email at info@allanblock.com. Submitted projects have the opportunity to be featured on the cover of the next Allan Block Landscapes newsletter. Get your project selected and enjoy the benefits of FREE advertising for your company within this internationally circulated publication. In addition, you will receive free copies of the publication to hand out in your community.

**BUT THERE IS MORE!**

All projects submitted have the opportunity to be featured within a wide variety of literature, videos, tools and even on the Allan Block website. Some of our projects have even been featured within the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) national publications. So the possibilities for FREE exposure are limitless!

Don’t let your beautiful landscape go unrecognized. Submit your Allan Block projects and let the world see the beauty and versatility you can create using Allan Block products.

**Inside:**

- Get Ready With Allan Block
- Important Steps Before BuildingANY Project
- Tips and Tricks for Dipping Curves
- Get Your Project Promoted for FREE

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