

## INSTALLING ASPIRE IN-GROUND SYSTEMS PATIOS, WALKWAYS, AND DRIVEWAYS

### SUMMARY

This bulletin describes how to install the Aspire Paver system for ground level patios, walkways, and driveways.

### DESIGNING YOUR PROJECT

Whether you are installing a patio, walkway, or driveway it is important to take into account both the size and slope. With Aspire, the grids are 16" x 16" so if you layout your project in 16" increments you will not need to cut grids or pavers. The pattern in the grids repeats itself every 4", and if cut at 4", 8", or 12", you can avoid cutting pavers. To create curves or angles you can cut both grids and pavers. It is important to slope your patio, walk, or driveway away from any buildings to allow proper water drainage. The standard slope is 2% - 4% which equates to a 1/4" - 1/2" drop every 12". We do not recommend installing Aspire Pavers on slopes greater than 10%.

### DETERMINING THE BASE

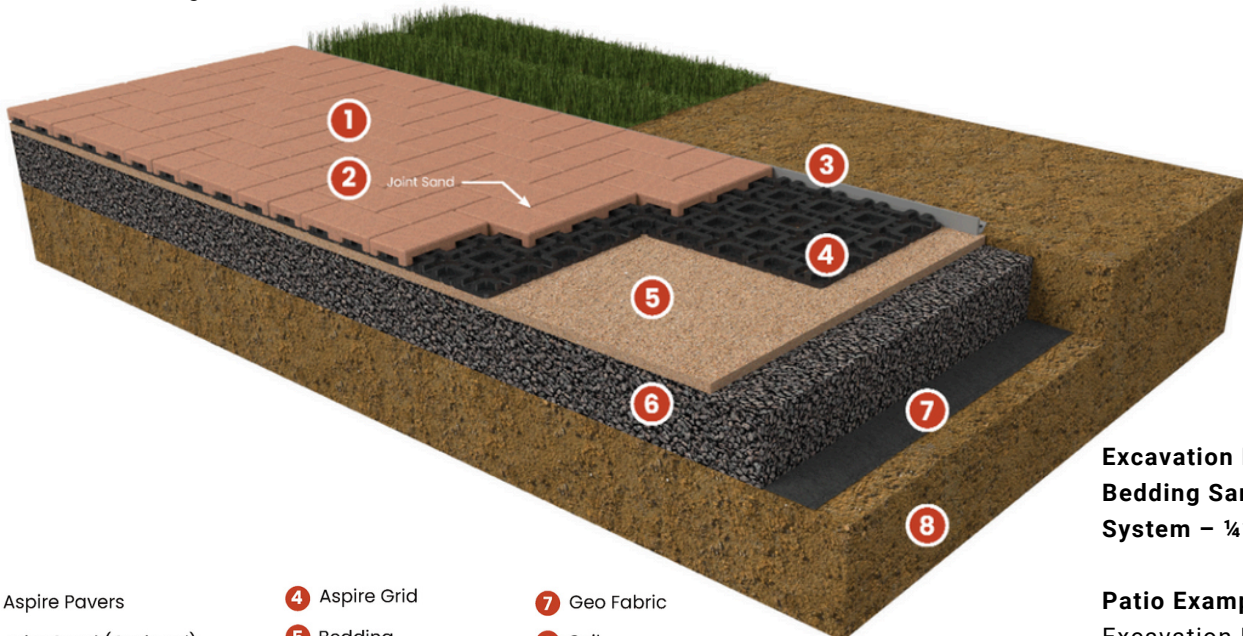
For any on-ground paver system, it is important to install a proper base, either a patio/paver base or a road base. The base should be compacted every 2" so that it is both solid and level (with a proper slope for drainage). Depth of the base depends on factors including soil conditions, climate, and application. For pedestrian applications (e.g., patios and walkways) a 2" - 4" base is recommended. For vehicle applications (e.g., driveways) a 6" - 12" base is recommended. Areas that see freeze-thaw cycles or have wet, clay or silt type subgrades generally require a deeper base. Refer to local requirements and specifications or consult a landscaper for more information.

### EXCAVATING

Once you determine the base, you need to determine the excavation depth. To do this, add the base, the bedding sand level, and the Aspire Paver system height, which is 1.75". We also recommend installing the system 1/4" higher than the landscaping to allow for settling.

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**Excavation Depth = Base + Bedding Sand + Aspire Paver System - 1/4" for settling.**

#### Patio Example:

Excavation Depth =  
4" + 0.75" + 1.75" - 0.25" = 6.25"

- 1 Aspire Pavers
- 2 Joint Sand (Optional)
- 3 Edging
- 4 Aspire Grid
- 5 Bedding
- 6 Base
- 7 Geo Fabric
- 8 Soil

## GEO FABRIC INSTALLATION

Once excavated to the desired depth, install a Geo Fabric on top of the dirt and before the base. This will form a separation layer and help prevent gravel from sinking into the earth. It will also help block weed growth.

## BASE INSTALLATION

Install the base and compact with a plate compactor or hand tamper every two inches (2"). Add material where needed to level.

## BEDDING SAND INSTALLATION

Once the base is compacted, the next layer is the leveling layer using bedding sand. Place  $\frac{3}{4}$ " metal conduit at the proper level and slope. Add bedding sand and then use a screed board to create a smooth level surface that is properly sloped away from any buildings. Remove the conduits and hand fill and level this space with bedding sand. Repeat until the entire area is properly leveled and sloped.

## ASPIRE PAVER INSTALLATION

Once the surface is level and properly sloped, place a few grids on the surface and then begin laying the pavers in the desired pattern. Be careful not to disturb the bedding sand layer. Continue laying grids and pavers until complete. Once all the pavers are installed, lift the pavers a minimum of 8" around the perimeter and adhere them to the top of the grid using Lexel Sealant.

## EDGING INSTALLATION

Once complete, install edging around the outside perimeter to keep the grids and pavers secure.

**Note:** You may also pre-pour concrete curbs after excavating and prior to installing the base.

## JOINT SAND INSTALLATION

With the Aspire Paver system, joint sand is optional for patios and walkways but recommended for driveways. Use the same bedding sand that you used for the leveling layer. Pour sand over the pavers and brush it into the joints. Use a plate compactor or hand tamper to ensure sand settles into the joints and to level out any imperfections in the surface. Once the joints are filled with sand, brush or hose off excess sand. Note: Do not use polymeric sand with Aspire Pavers as the pavers expand and contract, and when contracting, they could cause the polymeric sand to separate.

## RESOURCES

Check for updates to this and other [Technical Bulletins](#) on our [Resources Page](#).

Complete Installation Training, View Resources, and Contact Technical Support by visiting our [Website](#) or our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#).

Training before any installation can improve project outcomes.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions regarding Aspire products and accessories, call 844-290-4196 and ask for Aspire Paver Technical Support. Or contact us through the [Website](#).

