



# GRAVITY RETAINING WALL INSTALLATION





Below is a step by step Gravity Retaining Wall Installation process. This is to be used as a guide and instruction manual of the proper procedures needed to install a MagnumStone® project correctly and efficiently. All information provided is to be used at the discretion of the user.

- MagnumStone® is available in 0 / 2.4 / 4.5 degree batter (setback). Check with your local producer for availability.
- ▶ Face textures vary from producer to producer. Please check with your local sales representative for more information and styles available.
- It is always recommended that a qualified engineering consultant be hired for all projects by the owner of the gravity retaining wall project.
- Soils test and analysis should be completed before design and excavation are performed. Understanding and utilising the correct soils information will help to determine the length and depth of excavation and gravity retaining wall units.



#### **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

These are typically free services in most counties and jurisdictions. They will come to the site and mark out where all of the utilities are underground.

Canada - digsafe.ca

USA - call811.com

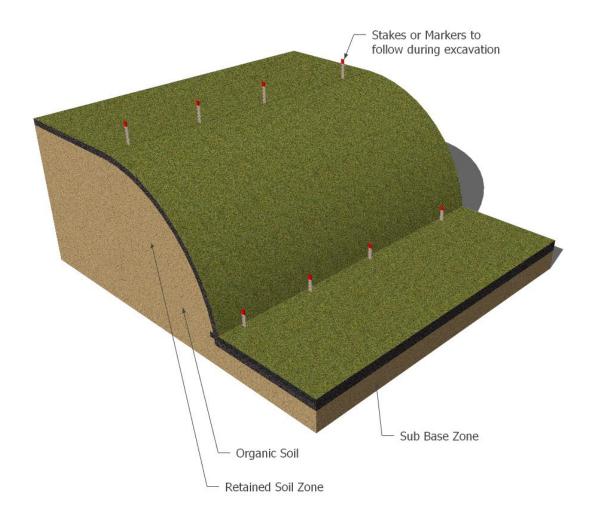
Australia - byda.com.au

UK - national-one-call.co.uk

New Zealand - beforeudig.co.nz

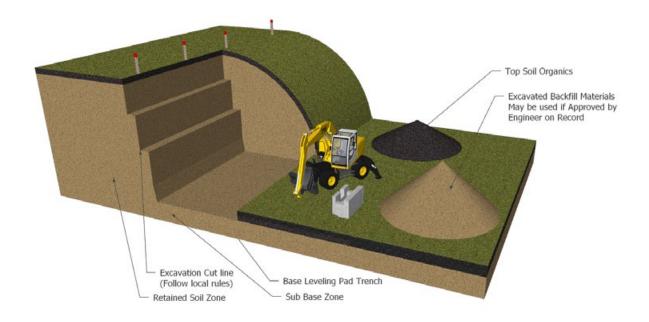


## PLANNING THE GRAVITY RETAINING WALL

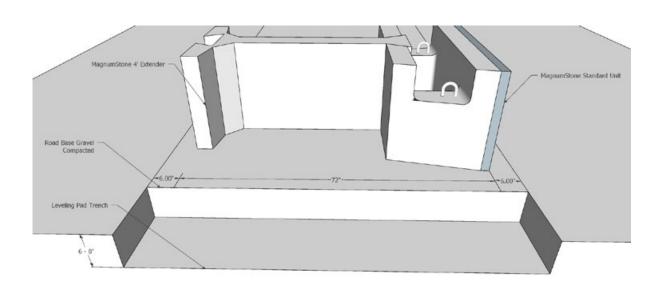


- Mark the bottom and top of the gravity retaining wall excavation location with spray paint or stakes.
- Establish proper elevation points for both the bottom and top of the wall before starting excavation.
- Organic Materials should not be used in any Backfill Zones
- Store and protect good quality Backfill Materials from inclement weather during construction.

## **EXCAVATING THE GRAVITY RETAINING WALL**

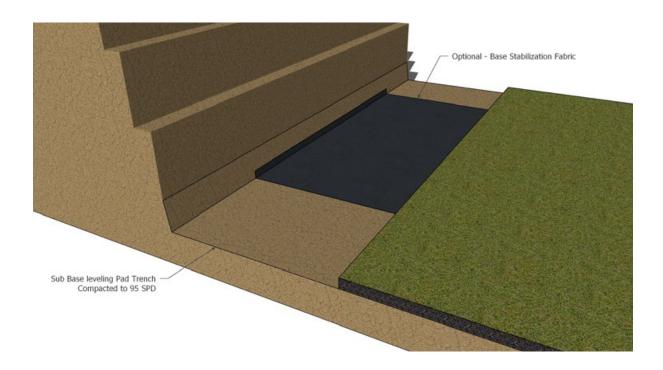


- Excavate and prepare Sub Base Levelling Trench 6 to 8" (150 to 200mm) below first course. This will be filled with a good 3/4" (20mm) road base material.
- Typical retaining wall burial depth or embedment Depth is 6" to 12" (150 to 300mm). Follow engineers cross section details or design parameters to ensure the correct embedment depth is being followed.
- Excavate cut line to a 2 to 1 slope or greater. Check with local codes and regulations to ensure they are being followed correctly.



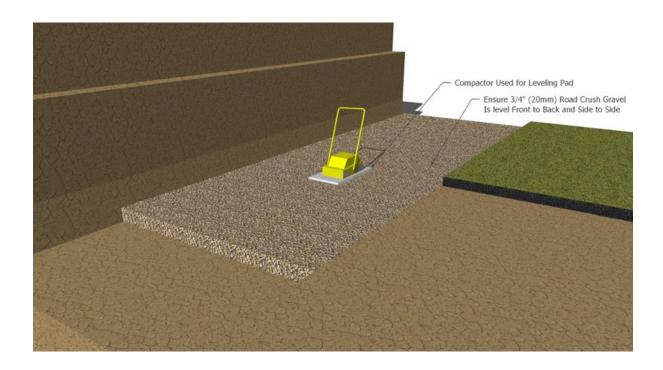
▶ The Leveling Pad Trench Depth should be cut out to approximately 6" (150mm) from the back and and the front of the total depth of the base course. For instance, MagnumStone® Standard Unit 24" + 6"(front) + 6"(back) = 36" total (610mm + 150mm + 150mm = 910mm).

## **SUB BASE AND BASE STABILIZATION FABRICS**



- Compact Sub Base to 95% Standard Proctor Density or greater.
- Remove any Organic or poor soils in the Sub Base and replace with proper reinforced fill materials before compacting.
- Optional) place 5" to 6" (127 to 152mm) wide Base Stabilization Fabric on top of leveling pad trench.
- ▶ Base Stabilization Fabrics will help prevent sub base materials from mixing with the gravel base leveling pad during compaction.
- Fabric also provides extra Structural Bearing Stability to the base leveling pad.

## **COMPACT GRAVEL LEVELING PAD**



- Typically a 3/4" (20mm) road crush gravel or equivalent is used for the base leveling pad.
- ▶ Compact Gravel Leveling Pad to 95% Standard Proctor Density or greater.
- Correct Moisture Content in the gravel will help to reach proper compaction.
- It is crucial that the base is level front-to-back and side-to-side. Any imperfections will be exaggerated as the wall goes taller.

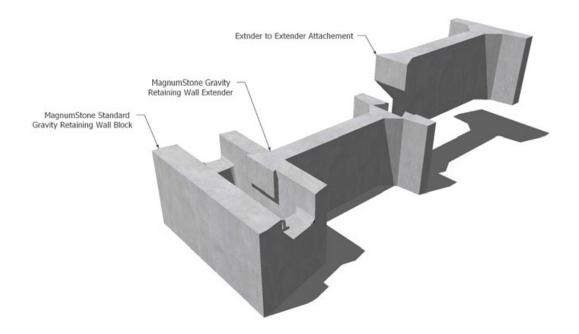


# **LAYING FIRST COURSE OF THE GRAVITY RETAINING WALL**



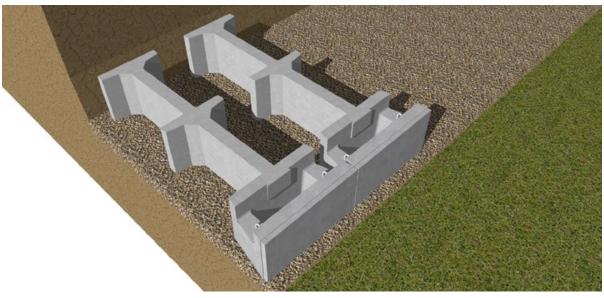
- Place a steel stake at either end of the leveling pad to establish the back of the first course of units.
- Secure tightly a string line to the stakes at either end which will provide the guide to line up the back of each MagnumStone® base unit.
- The distance of the string line between the steel stakes may vary due to heavy winds.
- MagnumStone® base units, placed on the leveling pad, are manufactured without SecureLugs.
- Place each unit on top of the leveling pad in such a way as not to disturb the level gravel.

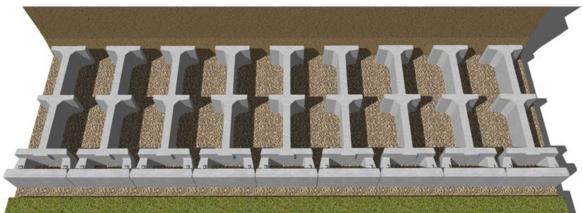
# **INSTALLING EXTENDER UNITS TO MAGNUMSTONE® BLOCK**



Place the tongue of the extender block inside the groove of the MagnumStone® Base Block If extender to extender blocks are required place them in the same manner as the previous ensuring that the blocks stay level and true.

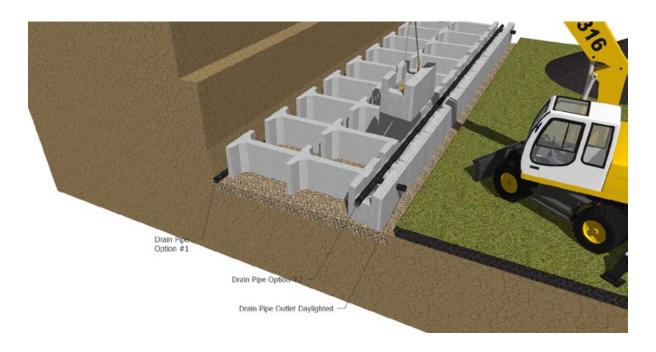
## **COMPLETE BASE ROW INSTALLATION**





- Install the MagnumStone® base block on the leveling pad. The base block should not have the lugs on the bottom.
- ▶ Place the next MagnumStone® Retaining Wall blocks level and aligned front-to-back and side-to-side.
- D Complete the first course of the gravity retaining and all extender units that are in the design.

# DRAIN PIPE OPTIONS AND USES FOR GRAVITY **RETAINING WALL**



#### **OPTION 1**

- A fabric wrapped or Perforated Drain Pipe should have adequate slope to drain water in the right direction towards each Drain Pipe Outlet.
- Drain Pipe Outlet can be every 30 to 50 feet (9 to 15 meters).
- Perforated Drain Pipe, laid in the Horizontal Cores, can be a Sock Wrapped system to help prevent fines from migrating into the pipe.

#### **OPTION 2**

A fabric wrapped or perforated drain pipe may also be placed at the back of the of the retaining wall blocks near the excavation cut line.

# **BACKFILL THE GRAVITY RETAINING WALL**



■ Backfill the MagnumStone® blocks and extender units with a clear crush gravel (#57 Stone) or equivalent slightly above the units. Run a plate vibratory compactor over the stones and units allowing them to settle in the hollow cores. Sweep any excess stones off the top of the units and blocks.

# **INSTALLING SOIL SEPARATION FABRICS**



Install a soil separating fabric (Filter Fabrics) to separate the fines and compacted backfill material from the drainage aggregate. The filter fabric can be installed directly behind the MagnumStone® extender units. They can also be installed directly on top of the drainage gravel.

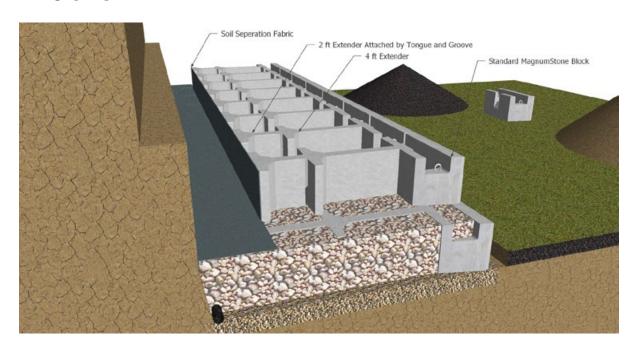


# **INSTALLING NEXT ROW OF MAGNUMSTONE® RETAINING WALL BLOCKS**



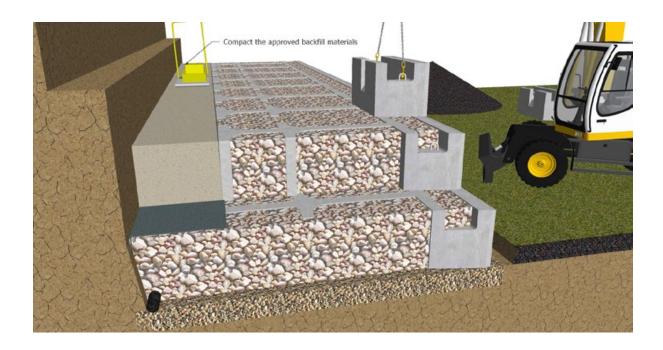
▶ Lay the next row on a running Bond pattern with the SecureLugs connected in the hollow core below. The SecureLug Connection provides a strong block to block connection and alignment throughout building your retaining wall.

# **CONTINUE INSTALLATION OF RETAINING WALL BLOCKS**



■ Continue to place the MagnumStone® blocks on top of the retaining wall blocks below. Ensure they are level front-to-back ans side-to-side. Small adjustments may need to be made during the construction process. Soil separation fabrics can be added wherever the backfill meets the drainage gravel to keep fines from migrating into the drainage zone.

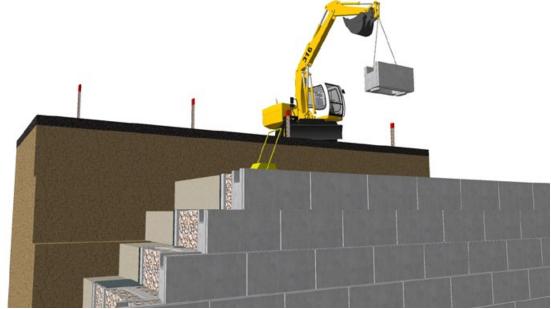
# **BACKFILL AND COMPACT APPROVED MATERIALS**



Compact the approved backfill materials in between the excavation cut zone and the back of the retaining wall blocks. Ensure that it compacted in lifts of no more than 8" (203mm) and also compacted to 95% standard proctor density. It is crucial that these areas do not have loose fill where settlement can occur. drainage gravel to keep fines from migrating into the drainage zone.

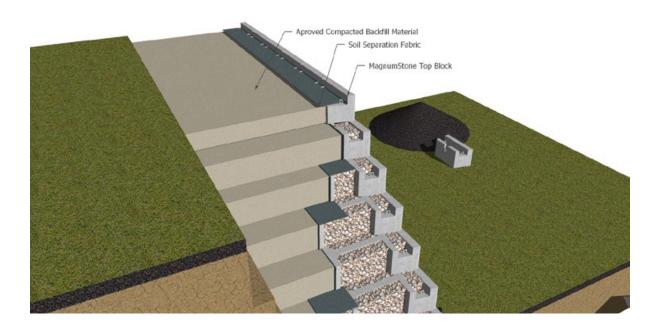
# **CONTINUE INSTALLATION OF MAXUMSTONE® GRAVITY RETAINING WALL**





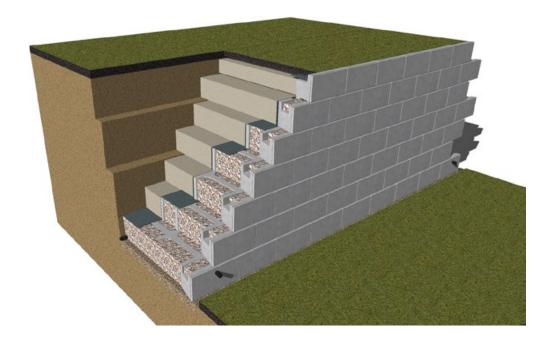
▶ Continue the installation of MagnumStone® big block gravity retaining wall as per the design provided. Cross section drawings will show you where the units are placed in order of depth.

## TOP BLOCK OF GRAVITY RETAINING WALL



- Complete the top of the wall with MagnumStone® Top Units.
- MagnumStone® Top Units are manufactured with the back panel 8" (203mm) lower than the front face panel.
- The Clear Crush Drain Gravel and backfill materials will be placed flush to the top of lowered back panel. There are times when more than 8" (203mm) of top soils may be required.
- Place a 6ft (1.8m) wide Soil Separating Filter Fabric on top of the backfill and drainage gravel and against the back of the last units before placing the planting soils.
- The fabric will prevent planting soil fines from staining the face of the wall and migrating into the Clear Crush Drain Gravel (Angular Aggregate free of fines).

# **FINISH YOUR GRAVITY RETAINING WALL**



- ▶ Grade the final elevations of your gravity retaining wall.
- Ensure that final grading is done on top and bottom of the retaining wall.
- Make sure to protect newly placed planting soil from erosion during heavy rains or surface runoff.