



*Turning your outdoor space
into a whole new world of
living with a great
driveway/patio or brickwork.*



HELPING YOU MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR INSTALLATION



Consumers Beware

Thank you for inviting our company to supply a quotation for the supply and installation of your driveway/patio. Our quotation attached to this brochure is a firm price and will not alter unless the specifications change.

You can now rest assured that we have taken into consideration : -

- 1. The direction and flow of rainwater away/towards your house**
- 2. Any soakaway and drainage channels needed***
- 3. Possible damage to your damp-proof course (DPC)**
- 4. Retaining walls/edgings to contain the blocks or slabs**
- 5. Recessed manhole covers and steps required**
- 6. Access and storage to/from your property**
- 7. The likely impact on your neighbours during installation**

** If your driveway slopes towards a public highway then it is a legal requirement that your new driveway does not direct rainwater into the public drainage system. Householders can be fined up to £2,000 and forced to rectify the installation. A suitable drainage solution may also be required to prevent rainwater flowing towards the house.*

We only supply quality material from reputable merchants and only use blocks from either Marshalls, Brett or Cemex. In most cases we recommend Cemex blocks. If removing a Tarmac driveway we always try to recycle the tarmac by putting it back into your driveway as part of the sub base. If we can source recycled aggregates locally we will always endeavour to use them.

Permeable Paving can be used in non-clay areas but adds considerably to the cost. G2H has been trained to install permeable paving.

Whilst working in your road we will put a card through your neighbour's letterboxes. However, you may rest assured that we will never "door knock" to solicit their business. This practice is reserved for the less ethical installers who offer cheap work and disappear into the night afterwards.

Every year Trading Standards receive in excess of 100,000 complaints for dodgy workmanship. Despite all the warnings and TV programmes exposing these people, householders are still taken in and can't resist a cash deal.

To assist your buying decision you may wish to consider a few pointers to a company that will do a good job of work for you.

- a) Make sure you get a written quotation**
- b) Make sure the company has a registered office**
- c) Make sure the company has a web site**
- d) Make sure the company has a proper phone, not just a mobile**
- e) Ask for references of recent work**

Bearing in mind that your new driveway or patio is going to cost the same as a small car, it's worth getting it done properly and with a little care and maintenance it will last a lifetime.

**Don't let the rogues
get away with it!**



HOW WE INSTALL A BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY



Site Preparation

All paving should be laid on a firm, level and well drained base to ensure long term service and stability - **getting the ground work right is essential.**

The existing driveway will be removed to an approximate depth of 200mm-250mm across the area to be paved. We mark out this area with pegs or retaining boards and adjust their height to the required finished surface levels, ensuring that we allow a fall of 1:80 away from any buildings and walls for surface drainage. We also make sure that the finished paving surface level is at least 150mm (two brick courses) below the level of any damp proof course. If that is not possible due to shallow footings, we leave a gap of 150mm away from the house and provide linear or shingle drainage. After excavation, we rake level to ensure an even depth and compact the whole area using a plate compactor.



The Survey

The next stage is to set up edge restraints around the area to be paved (these may include existing walls) using block kerbs or concrete edging. The kerbs or concrete edgings will be bedded into 100mm of concrete, to the required level, with a 45 degree haunch up the side of at least half the block or kerb height. This is essential to prevent the blocks and the sand on which they are laid from moving. Underground drainage, drainage gratings or recessed manhole covers will be installed at this stage if required (we provide specific product guidance information on drainage).



The dig out

The area will then be back filled with 150mm of MoT/crusher run, compacted to 100mm. Onto this, a layer of slightly damp sharp sand (sharp sand is more free draining than building sand and is less prone to being washed out) will be applied, to the depth of 50mm, and then compacted with a plate compactor. A second layer of sharp sand is then applied, to a depth of 20mm. using the string lines, screeding rails and straight edge, this second layer of sharp sand will be levelled to the correct falls.



Rubbish removal

Laying

The laying of concrete block paving should always begin from the bottom of any slope, preferably starting from a right angle or a straight edge. Working from several packs at a time will ensure an even distribution of colours, and is essential when using a mixed size product such as Cemex Chelsea blocks.



Edging and weed membrane

We place the blocks on top of the laying course, ensuring they are around 4-5mm above the desired finished level. Once all full blocks are laid, we use a mechanical block splitter to cut the blocks required for infill pieces or at the retaining edges. Pieces of blocks smaller than one third of a full block are best avoided. Once completed, we sweep the area and compact with two or three passes of the plate compactor.



Block laying

Jointing

Jointing of the block paving is preferably completed in dry periods. We apply kiln dried sand to the block paved area, then brush into the joints using a soft brush, ensuring the joints are filled fully.

Using the plate compactor on the paved area again, we push the sand into the joints. Once this has been done, we check for any gaps in the jointing and fill where necessary, compacting again afterwards. The sand in the joints may need to be topped up for the first few months after the job is completed. Thus we leave the customer with half a bag of kiln dried sand and several blocks for any emergencies. It is our normal practice to seal all driveways with trade block paving sealer to prevent stains and weeds and most algae growth. This can only be done in fine weather and preferably when the blocks have had time to settle.



The finished driveway completed and sealed

HOW WE INSTALL A SLAB PATIO



Site Preparation

The site is marked out and cleared of all debris and vegetation to a depth of 150mm. depending on the levels, edgings may be used and concreted in or we may build a brick retaining wall. Once we are happy with the subsoil, we lay a weed prevention membrane. Not that we expect weeds to penetrate but more that the membrane helps to stabilise the Type 1 hardcore which we lay and compact to a level of 100mm.



Uniform or Random lay?

In older properties customers want to replicate old-fashioned patio designs that you are likely to see in cities such as York or Canterbury. We can achieve this by using natural material such as Indian Sandstone or Limestone in different sizes. A more uniform approach can be achieved with both natural and manufactured stone.



Having agreed the pattern we set about laying the slabs at a slope away from the property at a 1:80 ratio. The slabs are laid on a good strong mixture of mortar at 30-50mm with each slab tapped down with a rubber mallet. The levels are checked all the way through to ensure a nice even finish.



With a natural material the slabs are often of different thicknesses which can give an uneven appearance and subject to pooling (little water puddles). This is part of the natural effect of the material and cannot be avoided. However, customers should consider if they would prefer a smooth finish which will avoid pooling.

Once the slabs are in place and firm, pointing is done by using a dry mixture in the joints and a gently watering.

Sealing

We will always seal patio slabs with a trade sealer as part of our service. This ensures that maintenance of the slabs is kept to a minimum and prevents staining by bird droppings.



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THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH**



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G2H PATIOS AND DRIVEWAYS

G2H LIMITED

G2H HOUSE

49c BEAVER ROAD

ASHFORD

KENT

TN23 7SE

Telephone: 0845 519 3246

Email: patios2drives@btinternet.com

Web: www.g2hpatiosanddrives.com