Modular Retaining Wall Installation*

Modular retaining walls are easy, do-it-yourself retaining walls. Here are some helpful hints to enable you to achieve the results you desire in a retaining wall project. For more assistance, contact our knowledgeable office staff.

INSTALLATION:

General installation guidelines apply to all lip-type retaining walls. Currently applies to the following Western Interlock products: Slope Block™, Nursery Stone™ and Jumbo Nursery Stone™.

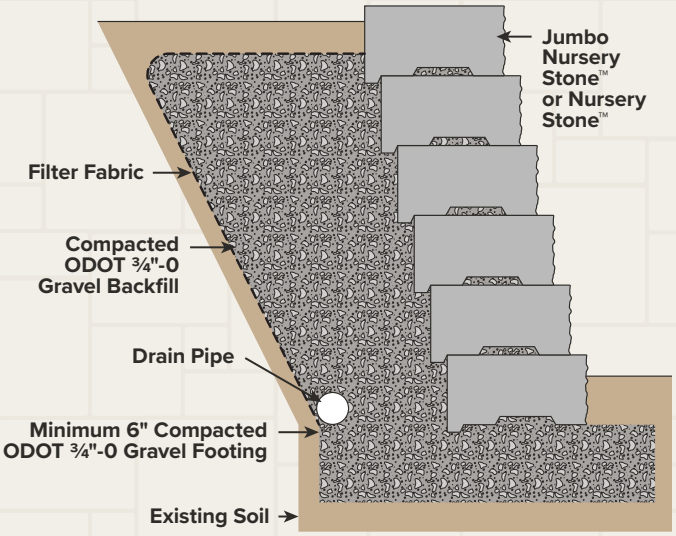
1. **Planning Your Project**
   Prepare a layout for your modular retaining wall project. To help plan the number of blocks you will need for your project, multiply the face area times pieces per square foot to figure the number of blocks required. For help measuring curves, lay a garden hose along the proposed length of your wall; then straighten it out and measure its length.

2. **Preparing the Base**
   Excavate the soil in the location where the retaining wall is to be, assuring adequate space on the rear side of the wall for gravel backfill. The amount of gravel fill will vary on application, but should not be less than 12″. Dig a trench for the first course of stone 30″ wide by 12″ deep. Fill the first 6″ of the trench with ODOT ¾″-0 gravel and compact well, making sure that the gravel is level. Place filter fabric against the back wall of the excavation. (*Refer to the diagrams*)

3. **Positioning the Bottom Course**
   Set the bottom course of block at the desired position on top of the prepared gravel. Using a large rubber mallet and a level, adjust the block until it is level, end to end, and front to back. Set the adjacent blocks in the same manner, using a string line or a level to keep long runs straight and flat.

4. **Building and Backfilling**
   Set the next course, making sure that the joints do not line up with the previous course. Back fill with ODOT ¾″-0 gravel and compact again before setting the next course. Place all the remaining courses until the wall has reached your desired height. Use the compacted gravel back fill to keep it straight by tamping lightly behind the rear of the stones, maintaining the same vertical angle from top to bottom.

5. **Finishing the Wall**
   Set the top course and back fill to within 3″ of the top. Finish back fill area with soil to the desired height. The top course can either be held in place by gravity, or fixed with an approved flexible adhesive. Modular walls can be capped off with Murata™ Cappello, Arena Stone, or any wetcast caps if desired.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- A drainage pipe should be used as shown in illustrations to prevent a problem with excessive water in the retained area.
- The standard wall angle set back is 12°. If a different angle is required, then the angle the first course is set at must be adjusted to accommodate the different angle. This angle is maintained as the following courses of stone and gravel are placed.
- Engineering is required on walls over 36″ high. Call manufacturer for details.
- Cutting will be necessary for 90 degree corners and possible to maintain the batter on the different courses.