

Project Planner

Build a Concrete Walkway

You don't have to be a mason to create walkways or stepping-stone garden paths. Installing decorative concrete patios and walkways that resemble brick or cobblestone is a fun and relatively easy outdoor project.

- Step 1: **Locate the walk.** Lay out the walk location using stakes and string for a straight line. Remove any sod and 1 inch of soil in the location.
- Step 2: **Position the mold.** Place concrete mold adjacent to the fixed starting point. Level the form side to side with a 2' spirit level.
- Step 3: **Mix concrete.** Prepare packaged concrete in a wheelbarrow or on a 4' x 4' piece of plywood, following package instructions.
- Step 4: Fill the form. Shovel concrete on the form and spread it to fill each cavity.
- Step 5: Even the surface. Use a mason's float or block of wood to smooth the surface.
- Step 6: Remove the form. Touch up the edges of the stones with a mason's trowel.
- Step 7: **Reposition the form.** Place the form adjacent to the just-placed concrete and repeat steps 4. 5 and 6.
- Step 8: **Cure or seal the concrete.** Allow the concrete to harden; keep the walk moist by misting it with water and covering it with plastic sheeting or a tarpaulin.
- Step 9: **Fill in the walk.** Once the concrete is solid, backfill and replant the excavated areas around the walk. Fill the joints between the stones with soil or sand.



What you'll need:

- Dust mask, goggles and gloves
- Wooden stakes and string
- Concrete mold
- 2' spirit level
- Packaged concrete mix
- Wheelbarrow or 4' x 4' plywood
- Shovel
- Mason's trowel
- Float or block of lumber
- Plastic sheeting or tarp
- Sand mix or mortar mix
- Stiff brush or broom
- Soil or sand

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