

*The Beauty
of CHOOSING
The Best
PAVEMENT*

PAVEMENT TYPES		APPEARANCE	INITIAL COST & INSTALLATION	MAINTENANCE	WINTER DURABILITY	SNOW REMOVAL
	CONCRETE PAVERS <i>Best Buy</i>	A wide range of surface finishes—smooth to textured. Many available colors, shapes, and laying patterns can compliment the architectural style of your home.	Moderate—Tightly fitted, uniform units are placed over a sand bed and a compacted aggregate base. Immediately ready for use. Can be installed by homeowner. Factory-made pavers last for decades.	Low—Stained or broken pavers can be easily replaced without patches. Dark colored pavers can help hide stains. Ants and weeds in joints can be prevented with sealers or herbicides.	High— Small, high density units resist cracking as well as damage from freeze-thaw and salts. Pavers are stronger than ordinary or stamped concrete.	Smooth surface allows for easy snow removal. Pavers can be colored dark to help melt snow faster. Snow-melt systems can be installed to eliminate snow and ice removal.
	COBBLE STONE	Gives elegant, permanent, yet informal “Old World” feel.	Very High—Each unit must be fitted together by hand.	Low—High quality stone lasts for decades. Wide joints may encourage weeds and ants. Rough surface makes walking and driving difficult.	High—High density stone resists cracking and salts.	Rough surface makes plowing difficult.
	STAMPED CONCRETE	Surface is usually colored. Patterns look good from a distance, but close up surface looks artificial.	High—Difficult for homeowner to install. Requires special equipment to stamp stone or paver patterns into surface. Surface sealer often used.	Moderate—Cracking will likely develop. Difficult to match original color or pattern in repaired areas. Repairs leave unattractive patch.	Low—Subject to deterioration from de-icing salts. Surface sealer may provide some protection from salt attack.	Uneven surface of some patterns and textures can make plowing difficult.
	CLAY PAVERS	Mostly shades of red and red-brown. Limited number of shapes available.	High—Concrete base often required which increases cost. Inconsistent dimensions make units slow to install and difficult to maintain straight pattern lines.	Low—Irregularities in surface make them prone to damage, especially edge chipping.	Moderate—Salts can attack and deteriorate some clay pavers.	Rough surface can make snow removal difficult.
	ORDINARY CONCRETE	Grey or light brown. Can be colored throughout or on surface only.	Moderate—Difficult for homeowner to install. Must wait 5 to 7 days for hardening before use. Surface quality depends on weather at time of pour and expertise of installers.	Moderate—Cracking will likely develop. Repairs and replaced sections leave unsightly patches. Oil stains difficult to remove.	Low—Cracks from freeze-thaw, settlement and deteriorates from salts.	Smooth surface allows for easy removal. Light colored surface may not melt snow rapidly.
	ASPHALT	Limited color options. Difficult to get neat looking edges. Cracks will likely develop. Stamped and colored asphalt looks fake.	Low—Goes in quickly over compacted aggregate base. Can't be installed by homeowner.	High—Wear and weather will break down surface. Black seal coat required every 2-3 years. Ruts or pothole repairs make ugly patches. Subject to erosion from oil drippings.	Low—Cracks from freeze-thaw, settlement and deteriorates from de-icing salts.	Smooth surface allows for easy removal. Dark surface accelerates snow melting.
	CRUSHED STONE OR GRAVEL	Typically a rustic look. Appearance varies with color and shape of stones.	Low—Dumped and spread over soil (no base required).	High—Scattered stone must be replaced and leveled regularly. Ruts from tires will likely develop.	High—Stones resist freeze-thaw cycles and salts.	Stones will scatter when plowing snow.

HOW TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT CONTRACTOR

Most interlocking concrete pavements are built by professional contractors who specialize in their construction. They can complete a high-quality job quickly and safely because they have the right equipment and materials.



To assist in choosing a contractor, ICPI offers a free Consumer Guide brochure to guide you in the selection process.

The ICPI recommends using contractors with a Basic Level Certificate from the ICPI Contractor Certification Program, as well as suppliers who have ICPI-certified concrete pavers.

A contractor can show you the range of paver colors, shapes, and patterns available in your area, or use those selected by you.

For further information on concrete pavers, installation, and contractors, contact your local ICPI member supplier.



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The Best Plan

THERE IS MORE TO KNOW WHEN CHOOSING A PAVEMENT THAN SIMPLY MEETS THE EYE



As a conscientious owner, you want assurance that the pavement for your walkway, driveway, patio or pool deck will look beautiful for a long time, require little maintenance, stand up to the weather, and return its cost to you. It should also be easy to clean or repair as well as compliment the style of your home.

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

The beauty of your completed project—well designed, properly installed with the right materials—will make you feel your research was worthwhile. This brochure provides the information and comparisons you need to make the best choice.



The Best Buy

FOR PATIOS, POOL DECKS, WALKS, OR DRIVEWAYS

Interlocking concrete pavements offer beauty and long-term performance to the home landscape. Their pattern, colors, and texture will enhance the character and value of your home. To get the most from your paver project, consider the following aspects before you start.

Patios, pool decks, walkways, and driveways should be wide enough to fit people, lawn furniture, or in the case of driveways, cars and people. Walks should be at least 3 ft (1 m) wide and a wider walk lends more grace to an entrance. People enjoy walking on paths with gentle curves, and pavers can define and enlarge space for planting beds.



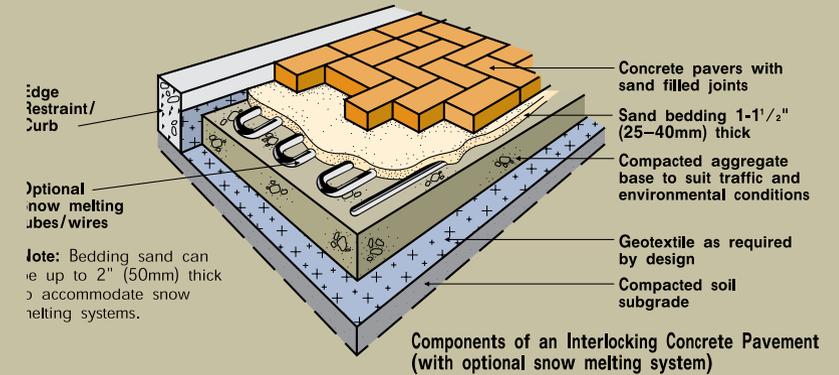
Layout of patios and pool decks is like planning a new room. What part of the day will it be in

the sun and shade? Is it going to be blocked from the wind? Where will plants be around it? A fountain or pool? How easy is access to the house? Are steps needed? Consider all the furniture that will be on the patios such as chairs, lounges, tables, umbrellas, and grilles. Patio furniture requires room around it in order to be used comfortably. A minimum of a few hundred square feet is needed for a table and chairs. Allow for a generous area because you're likely to



rearrange the furniture occasionally or add a few more pieces.

that fit right into the paver pattern. These systems include wiring and a transformer that plug into a standard 110-volt outdoor receptacle.



Driveways should be at least 10 to 12 ft (3 to 4 m) wide when straight and at least 14 ft (4.2 m) wide at

curves. Consider providing a space in front of the garage to turn around or to fit an extra car for guest parking. A turn-around space needs to be at least 12 by 18 ft (4 x 6 m). The driveway should join a walkway to the house.

Be sure to plan where water will flow. All pavements should slope away from the house to drain rainfall. The driveway center should be a bit higher than the sides in order to shed water into the grass or drainage channels. If possible, keep the slope of the driveway less than 15 ft per 100 ft (5 m per 30 m) to minimize the possibility of slipping. The surface you choose for the driveway should resist oil and antifreeze that leak from cars, and, depending on where you live, damage from snowplows and deicing salts. Interlocking concrete pavers offers superior durability under these conditions.



Innovative lighting set into pavers.

lighting the edges of the pavement. Interlocking concrete pavements can accommodate lighting fixtures

LIGHTING

Lighting defines patios, walkways, and driveways at night, increasing safety and adding a bit of mystique to your home. Lighting can be from overhead, such as from spotlights, or regularly spaced fixtures placed above the ground for

SNOW MELT SYSTEMS

Interlocking concrete pavements can accommodate snow melting systems. These consist of hot water filled tubing or radiant wires placed right in the pavement. They turn on automatically when a snowstorm starts, eliminating plowing, ice hazards, and the need for de-icing salts.

INSTALLATION—HIRE A CONTRACTOR OR DO-IT-YOURSELF?

You may be an ambitious and skilled do-it-yourselfer who would like to install a patio or walkway. To start, make a sketch of the project with dimensions so the area of pavers can be calculated. Take the plan to your paver supplier and decide on the colors, shapes, and patterns.

Most concrete paver suppliers can supply printed step-by-step instructions for patios, walkways, and driveways, as well as help you locate tools and materials required to complete the project. In addition, the ICPI offers brochures on installation and videos on how to construct a patio, walkway, or driveway project.

