

INSTALLATION GUIDE How to Install a Gabion Wall

DISCLAIMER

Please use the following information as guidance only. If you are unsure about how to install your retaining wall or the foundations required for your project, please contact a civil engineer.

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS & USES

Wire Diameter	3mm (10 Gauge)	4mm (8 Gauge)
Free Standing Wall	No	Yes
Retaining Wall (Up to 5m)	Yes	Yes
Retaining Wall (Over 5m)	No	Yes
Erosion Control	Yes	Yes

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Survey

Before constructing your gabion wall, it is important to consult a civil engineer to identify the area that the wall should be placed.

2. Excavate

Regulations state that retaining walls should start at 500mm below ground. Smaller gabion walls are often placed at ground level.

3. Add Basecourse

Add a layer of MOT Type 1 made up of crushed granite limestone, basalt or gritstone.

- 1m high = 10cm basecourse
- 2m high = 20cm basecourse
- 3m+ high = 30cm basecourse

4. Compact Basecourse

Use a plate compactor to compact the basecourse.

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5. Geotextile

Use <u>geotextile</u> or <u>weed membrane</u> to cover the back of the cages to prevent soil and earth clogging up behind the gabion baskets.

6. Concrete Foundations (If Required)

Most gabion walls do not require a foundation. If you have a large amount of groundwater or the soil is weak, please consult a civil engineer. Civil engineers can perform a Scala Penetrometer Foundation Test to accurately measure the strength of the soil.

STABILITY



2.1 Ratio

The height of the retaining wall should not be more than double the size of the base.

6-Degree Slope

The retaining wall should be on a 6degree slope. It is possible to have a straight wall, but they need to be deeper.

Base Width

The wider the base, the lower the pressure on the soil. Spreading the load in this way allows for the wall to be placed on weaker soils. If in doubt, consult a civil engineer.

DRAINAGE

Gabions are porous, allowing water to run through and prevent pressure build-up that can cause other types of retaining walls to collapse. When installing the gabion baskets, ensure that a <u>geotextile</u> (commercial jobs) or <u>weed membrane</u> (residential projects) is covering the back of the wall. This will stop clay and thicker earth clogging up the back of the cages and preventing water from passing.

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