

AB<sup>®</sup>  
Courtyard  
Collection™

# Building a Fire Pit

## Basic steps for building a fire pit.

Enhance your home with a beautiful fire pit using the AB Courtyard Collection. With this flexible system you can build a fire pit in a weekend using these few simple steps.



AB York  
Block



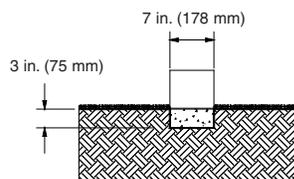
Wall  
Cap

### Step 1: Layout

Determine the location of your fire pit. Then lay out the first course of blocks to find the size of your fire pit and establish where the sod and soil will be removed to construct the base. In this example we used 28 AB York blocks to construct each course, making the diameter 81 in. (2.0 m).

### Step 2: Build the Foundation Pad

Mark the location of the blocks with a shovel, remove the blocks and sod, and dig a level trench that is 3 in. (75 mm) deep and 7 in. wide (178 mm). Fill the trench with crushed rock and compact using a hand tamper.



### NOTE:

*The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactible material. If soft soils are encountered, they will need to be removed and replaced with additional crushed rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable wall for years to come.*

### Step 3: Level

Place 4 AB York blocks at the cross points of the circle. Use a straight 2x4 and a level to check the entire trench for level. Make adjustments as necessary by adding or removing crushed rock.

### Step 4: Build the First Course

Place the base course of block on the foundation pad, checking each block for level from front to back and side to side before placing the next block. This will ensure a level base course.

### Step 5: Build the Second Course

Stack the next course of blocks, making adjustments as necessary. Once the second course is installed, remove any sod or vegetation from the center of the fire pit area. Lay in approximately six 50 lb (23 kg) bags of clean rock within the circle to cover the bottom of the fire pit. Then using a shovel, rake smooth.



Step 2



Step 2



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



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## Step 6: Install Decorative Rock and Fire Ring

Install decorative rock to line the interior of the fire pit then place the metal fire ring in the center of the fire pit area. (Decorative rock and metal fire ring optional. Contact local supplier for availability.)

## Step 7: Install Wall Caps

Finish your fire pit with Wall Caps. Place all caps with the long side facing the outside of the curve centered over the two AB York blocks.

## Tips and Tricks

The Wall Caps are manufactured with a standard and end cap finish. There is an average of 1 end cap for every 4 standard caps when offered by the local manufacturer - check for availability.

There are two ways to install an end cap when it meets up with the raised ring of the AB York block. See [allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com) for video on installation.

Option 1: When the end caps meets up with a raised ring of a AB York block, flip this AB York block over to create a flat surface. This will allow the cap to be placed with no modification needed.

Option 2: Using a hammer and chisel, break off the finished end piece on the bottom of the cap to allow for proper installation.

Once all the caps are installed, secure them in place with a bead of masonry adhesive on both sides of the raised rings.



Your project is complete. Just add some wood, fire it up and enjoy your beautiful backyard fire pit.

### Tools Needed:

Shovel  
Level  
Wheelbarrow  
Dead Blow Hammer  
Hand Compactor  
A 2 x 4 for Leveling  
Work Gloves  
Hammer  
Chisel

### Materials Needed:

56 AB York Blocks  
28 Wall Caps  
2 Tubes of Masonry Adhesive  
10 - 50 lb (23 kg) Bags of Crushed Rock\*  
6 - 50 lb (23 kg) Bags of Decorative Rock\* (Optional)  
1 Metal Fire Ring (Optional)



Watch Install Video



\* Quantities will vary depending on the required depth of crushed and decorative rock.

The information shown here is for use with the Allan Block Courtyard products only.



[allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com)

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