

KEYSTONE[®] CONSTRUCTION MANUAL STONEGATE[®] SYSTEM



Charming Versatility

Successful designers and contractors across the country favor the appeal and design flexibility of the Keystone Stonegate wall system. Want to set your project apart? Utilize the Keystone Stonegate wall system to create signature structures, from retaining walls to dream outdoor living spaces.

The Keystone Stonegate wall system features face options to best match the personality of the project. The Stonegate units offer a smooth face for a more refined appearance.

Country Manor unit sizes are identical to Stonegate. Thus, details, outdoor living environments and design charts contained within this manual can be used with either system.



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Unmatched Flexibility

Positive Mechanical Connection with
Keystone Pins

Vertical, Battered and
Parapet Options

Simplicity of Construction

Wall Solutions from Gravity
to Soil-Reinforced

Freestanding Walls and Outdoor Living
Elements such as Fireplaces, Kitchens,
Fire Pits, Benches and More...



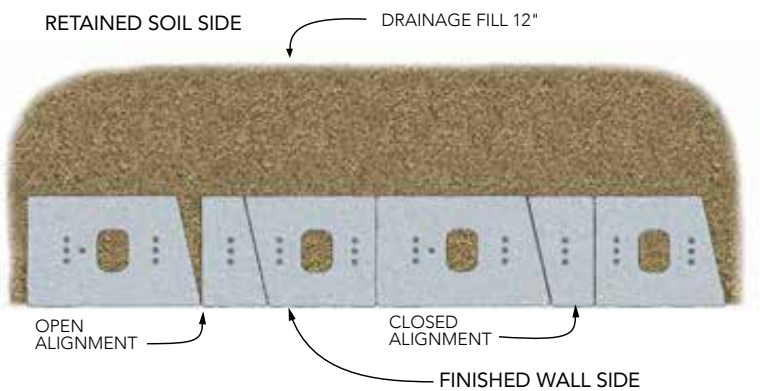
Country Manor®

The Product

In addition to providing strength and beauty, these units can create signature hardscape designs that set your project apart from all others. The ability to create freestanding walls allows for the creation of barbecues and outdoor kitchens, bench seating and the concealment of outdoor lighting and speaker systems. Use the Keystone Stonegate wall system to provide detail and accent to a large lawn or green space, add grandeur to a drive or walkway, or create a truly unique pool/patio area.



Stonegate® - Contemporary



Product Specifications

	HEIGHT	WIDTH	DEPTH	WEIGHT
6" Large	6"	16"/14"	10"	60-65 lbs
6" Medium	6"	12"/10"	10"	47-51 lbs
6" Small	6"	6"/4"	10"	21-24 lbs
*Cap Option 1	3"	12"/10"	11"	27-30 lbs
*Cap Option 2	3"	14"/8"	12"	27-31 lbs

* Cap shapes and sizes may vary by location. Confirm dimensions with local manufacturer.



Stonegate®

Stonegate® - Contemporary

Clean, non-tumbled lines provide a contemporary appeal.



Large

Medium

Small

Stonegate® Old World

Smooth, weathered, tumbled appearance for an Old World look.



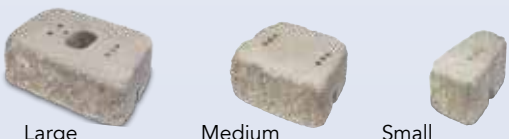
Large

Medium

Small

Country Manor®

The rustic charm of hand-laid stone with textured tumbled units.



Large

Medium

Small

Capping Options



Option 1

Option 2



Stonegate® - Contemporary

Each unit has three finished sides. The third finished side is created by the closed end of the receiving channel at the bottom of each unit which allows for finished end aesthetics on 90° corners, pilasters and wall end conditions. At times, a pin from a unit below may interfere with the closed channel. To clear this interference, the upper unit may be rotated 180° or the pin may be removed.



The receiving channel on the bottom surface of each unit connects over the pins from the course below. With the structural pin connection, walls can be built in 90° corners, curves and straight wall geometry without loss of connection strength or unit stability.

Pins

Keystone's shouldered pin is made from high strength pultruded fiberglass. The plastic alignment DOM pin utilizes a unique friction fin design and is intended for use in gravity walls up to 3' high.



Specifications	Shouldered Pin	DOM Pin
Total Length	3¾"	1⅞"
Pin Diameter	½"	½"
Shoulder Diameter	¾"	¾"
Shoulder Length	⅞"	½"

Features

Three or More Face Dimensions

- The three units can be placed with either side facing outward to obtain six distinct block shapes.

Colors

- Produced in color blends that enhance the natural stone-like appearance.
- The color of manufactured concrete units will vary. Color variations can arise from numerous factors. Slight variations in the cement and aggregates used can cause color variations. Changes in temperature and humidity during the curing process can also affect color consistency. Other issues can affect color variations and consistency as well. Since it is very difficult to accurately control all factors related to color, variations in color and color consistency should be expected with manufactured concrete units.

Three Textured Sides on Each Unit

- Each unit can be used as an exposed end unit or a 90° corner unit.
- Allows each unit to be used in multiple positions within the wall.
- Allows construction of small freestanding walls, parapet walls, pilasters and columns in addition to retaining walls, without the need to field cut any units.

Shape

- Each unit has a 90° angle and a tapered (angled) side, allowing the units to be used in 90° corners, tight-fitting straight line walls, and radii at curves.

Packaging

- 3-piece systems are packaged in sets, eliminating the need for the contractor to pull from multiple pallets to maintain a random appearance.

High Strength Pins

- Multiple pin positions allow for near vertical, 9.5° batter (1" positive setback for retaining walls), and the opportunity to randomly pull a unit forward to accent the wall.



Stonegate® - Contemporary

Outdoor Living Environments

With the Keystone Stonegate wall system, outdoor living options are almost endless. Providing unsurpassed design flexibility, outdoor living environments can be built all at once, or as time and budget allow. Use one or multiple step-by-step projects to take an outdoor space from ordinary to extraordinary.





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Columns



Stonegate®

Benches



Stonegate®

Mailboxes



Stonegate®

Outdoor Kitchens



Visit our website for a variety of step-by-step outdoor living designs: keystonewalls.com.

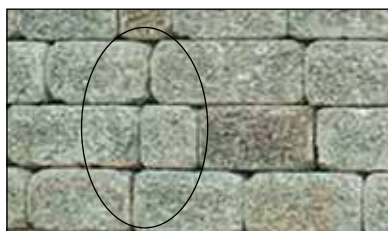


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Wall Installation

Pattern & Appearance

"Rule of Thumb" for bond pattern between courses: construct the wall using the units as they come off each shipping pallet. Randomly utilize the various unit shapes, trying to avoid a repetition of same unit size frequency along a horizontal line (some unit repetition is unavoidable). Avoid stack bonding of unit joints (vertical joint line between adjoining units) for more than two courses vertically. If some units seem to have a blemish or too much texturing in a specific area, orient them so the blemish faces the soil side of the wall to hide imperfections or use these units along the wall base.



Avoid "stack bond" conditions where more than two courses create weak areas in the wall.

Embedment

Unit embedment below the grade line shall be a minimum of one unit buried, under all conditions, along with a general provision of $H/20$ (wall height divided by 20) for total wall embedment of taller walls. Note H =total height of wall from top of base leveling pad to top of wall. Consult a qualified engineer for sloping grade conditions in front of wall or steep slopes and surcharge loads on top of wall. Deeper embedment may be required in areas prone to surface scouring where base erosion is possible, or in areas where freestanding walls are desired and frost depths require deeper foundations.

Drain tile

Retaining walls should be installed with drain tiles. Refer to the Keystone Construction Manual for Compac and Standard Units for a more thorough discussion of drain tile use and placement.

1. PREPARE BASE LEVELING PAD



Remove all surface vegetation and debris. Do not use this material as backfill. After selecting the location and length of the wall, excavate the base trench to the designed width and depth (min. 20" w x 12" d). Start the leveling pad at the lowest elevation along wall alignment. Step up in 6" increments with the base as required at elevation changes in the foundation. Level the prepared base with 6" of well-compacted granular fill (gravel, road base, or 1/2" to 3/4" crushed stone). Compact to 95% Standard Proctor or greater. Do not use PEA GRAVEL or SAND for leveling pad.

2. INSTALL THE BASE COURSE



Place the first course of units end to end (with front corners touching) on the prepared base. The long groove (receiving channel) on the unit should be placed down and the three pin holes should face up, as shown. Make sure each unit is level - side to side and front to back. Leveling the first course is critical for accurate and acceptable results. For alignment of straight walls, use a string line aligned on the unit pin holes for accuracy. Minimum embedment of base course is 6" below grade.

3. INSERT THE PINS



Place the pins into the holes of the units (note: place one pin only per each grouping of three holes). Place pins in the middle hole for near vertical alignment or the holes nearest the embankment for a 9.5° +/- batter per course. According to wall requirements and design, the front pin hole (towards the face of the wall) can be used randomly to allow a forward projection of a specific unit for accent and variation in the wall appearance.

4. INSTALL FILL & COMPACTION



Once the pins have been installed, provide 1/2" - 3/4" crushed stone drainage fill behind the units to a minimum depth of 12". Fill open spaces between units and open cavities/cores with the same drainage material. Proceed to place backfill in MAXIMUM 6" layers (lifts) and compact to 95% Standard Proctor with the appropriate compaction equipment. Do not use heavy ride-on compaction equipment within 3' from back of wall. Do not use jumping or ramming type compaction.

5. INSTALL ADDITIONAL COURSES



Place the next course of units over the pins, fitting the pins into the long receiving channel recess of the units above. Note: some removal of debris in the pin holes and channel may be necessary prior to placement. Push the units toward the face of the wall until they make full contact with the pins. If pins do not connect with channel but align in open core of upper unit, place drainage fill in core to provide unit interlock with pin.

6. CAPPING THE WALL

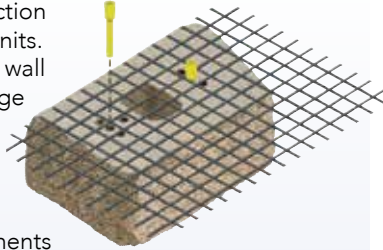


Continue all steps until ready to place the wall cap. Clean off the last course of unit in preparation for the cap or coping to finalize the wall. With units dry and clean, use exterior grade construction adhesive to secure the caps to the units. Install the 3" capping unit, architectural precast concrete or cut stone as a coping element. Cap may be flush or overhanging as required by aesthetics and design. Note: for taller, more critical walls, refer to geogrid soil reinforcement instructions on the following page.

Geogrid Soil Reinforcement

For unreinforced (non-structural) landscape walls see chart page 18, Gravity Walls (Maximum unreinforced wall height).

Taller walls, or walls supporting surcharge loads, require the use of geogrid reinforcement material to reinforce a soil mass directly behind the retaining wall and provide connection to the concrete facing units. Geogrid properties and wall design require knowledge of wall heights, soil properties (Phi angle and moist unit weight), surcharge loads and manufacturer's requirements for specific geogrid types and strength capabilities. See the Design Charts in the back of this manual for assistance in determining the lengths and placement locations. A qualified professional should be consulted for final design assistance.



Excavate Reinforced Soil Area: Remove existing soil in the reinforced soil zone to the maximum embedment length of the geogrid design. Level and compact soil behind the wall prior to placement of each geogrid layer.

Cut Geogrid: Cut sections from the geogrid roll to the specified length (embedment length). Check manufacturer's criteria for biaxial or uniaxial geogrids. In most cases, the correct orientation is to roll the geogrid perpendicular to the wall face.

Install Geogrid: Place geogrid over the Keystone shouldered pins already in place. Note: allow approximately 3" of geogrid material to rest on the unit top surface ahead of the pin (from pin to face of wall). This will ensure that the next course above will be fully supported on geogrid. Place all sections of geogrid, abutting each other side-to-side as per manufacturers' instructions.

Secure Geogrid: Pull the pinned geogrid taut to eliminate loose folds. Stake or secure the back edge of geogrid before backfill and compaction. Compact from back of wall area toward embankment to avoid loosening geogrid. Remove stakes, as required, once backfill is placed.

Install next course of wall units.

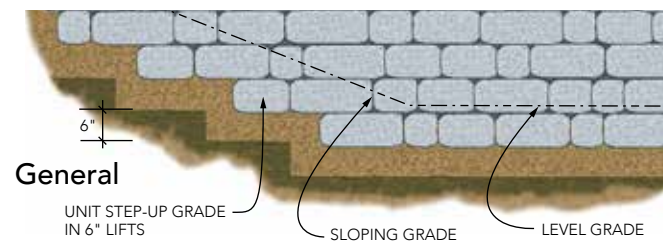
Follow steps 3-5 (on page 8) until next geogrid layer or completion of wall.

Stepped Footing (Leveling Pad)

Leveling pad options:

The minimum leveling pad width shall be unit depth plus 12 inches. Leveling pad shall be level front-to-back and side-to-side and consist of 6" of well-compacted (95% standard proctor or greater) angular granular fill (road base or 1/2" - 3/4" crushed stone). Lean low strength unreinforced concrete is also acceptable to use as a leveling pad.

Always start wall at lowest elevation of site where wall is to be constructed. Build step-ups in leveling pad to match 6" unit height. When using non-reinforced concrete for the leveling pad option, it is critical that the step-ups exactly match the unit height. With a concrete leveling pad, there are few options for correction if the step-up is built higher than the unit height.



NOTE: MAINTAIN A MINIMUM ONE UNIT OF BASE COURSE BURIED

Notes

- Clean out pin holes and receiving channel as required to assemble wall. During manufacturing, some concrete crumbs may deposit in these areas and should be removed to permit pins to be placed in the appropriate holes and receiving channel.
- Use exterior grade construction adhesive for all units in parapet walls, columns, etc. where wall is built freestanding (not retaining soil). Use adhesive as required at 90° corners or where pins do not interconnect units.

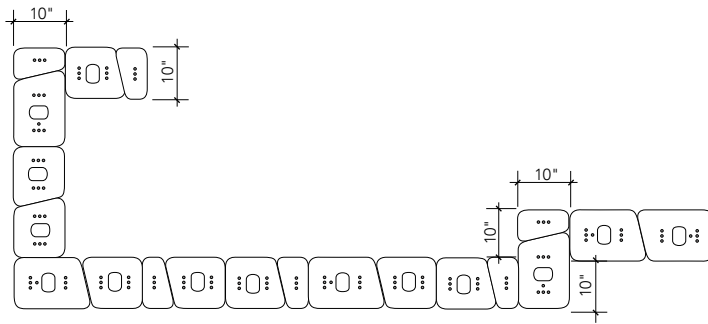


Design Details

Corners

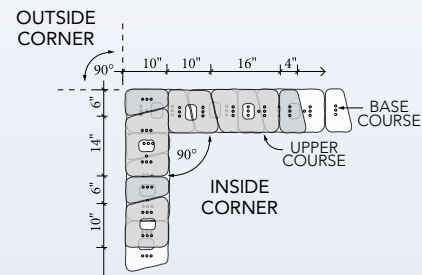
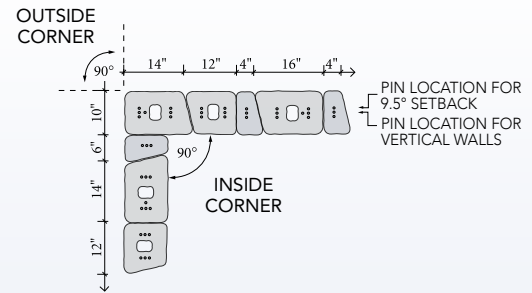
With the Keystone Stonegate wall system, corners are a natural part of your creative design. All units are capable of being used in a 90° corner due to having one end square and three sides textured. This allows units to build retaining and freestanding structures with one, two, or three faces exposed. For taller walls, it is recommended that the "Large Unit" be used at corners to achieve greater strength through overlap and interlock with units above and below.

90° Corners



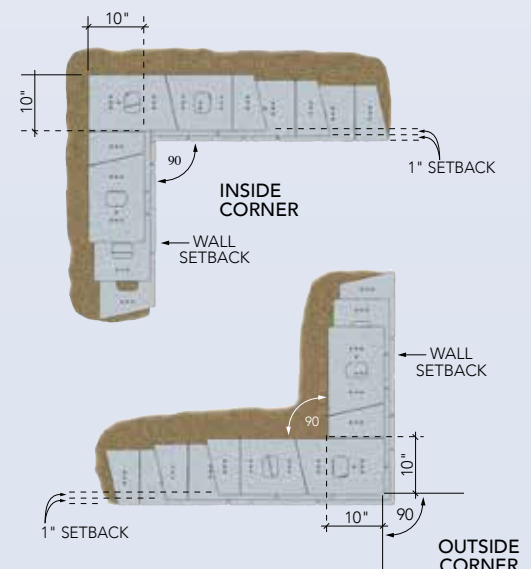
Near Vertical Corners

All units have one square end and an angled end. Use the square end of any unit to create the corner condition on an inside or outside corner. It is beneficial to use the largest unit for construction of the corner for strength.



Corners With Setback

Corners with a positive setback build in a similar random course pattern to the near vertical corner. In the setback version, each course of pins is set in the 1" offset position. Units shift laterally as required to achieve the 1" setback.



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Retaining wall curves can be built in both convex (outward) and concave (inward) layouts using the "near vertical" or 1" setback options. For freestanding walls (above grade), always build in the vertical position.



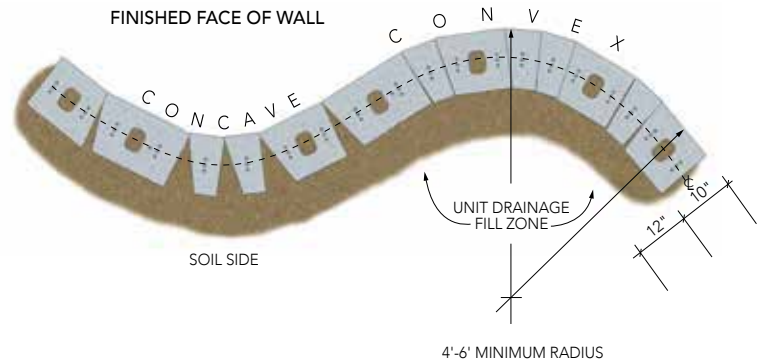
Curves

The unit design makes it easy to construct a variety of serpentine curves. Convex and concave curves will add gentle grace, beauty and strength to any installation.

Retaining Walls: Place the units to follow the desired curve. If unit-to-unit geometry creates small V-shaped voids on the retained soil side, just fill these areas with drainage fill.

Parapet Walls: When units are exposed on two sides, select the proper unit layout that provides tight closed-end conditions for all units to avoid a gapped look on either side of the parapet. Cutting of units may be required to avoid gaps in freestanding walls.

Radius: The minimum radius that can be built using the random pattern of units without cutting or using a disproportionate amount of the smaller units is 4.5'. To build smaller radii, a larger proportion of small units and some cutting may be required.



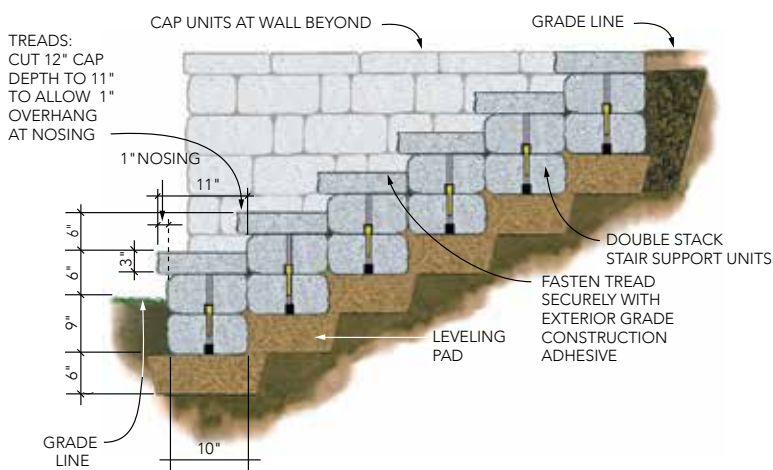


Design Details

Step Designs

The Keystone Stonegate wall system can be used on your step/stair projects with the following considerations:

- Provide the same material at the step foundation as used on the wall leveling pad.
- Compact leveling pad material to a minimum 95% Standard Proctor.
- Double stack the base support units to create a foundation for the stair "tread" units. Use pins and construction adhesive as required for a unified step assembly.

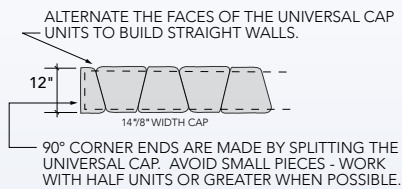


Provide handrail/railing/fence as per local building code. The railing/fence posts should be grouted into sleeves placed within the wall backfill during construction. Consult Keystone or a local engineer for guidance.

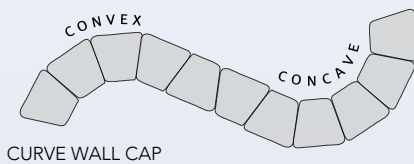


Capping / Coping Options

The 3" high cap unit has two textured sides allowing the unit to have either textured side as a finished face for straight and curved wall applications. The 12" depth from face to face of the cap allows for a 1" overhang or "shadow" effect over each side of the wall below. For retaining walls, the overhang can be eliminated if desired by pushing the cap back flush with wall plane. Use exterior grade construction adhesive to fasten caps in place.



The two parallel faces of the universal cap unit are textured such that either side can be the finished face.



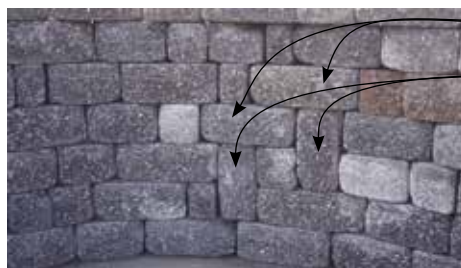
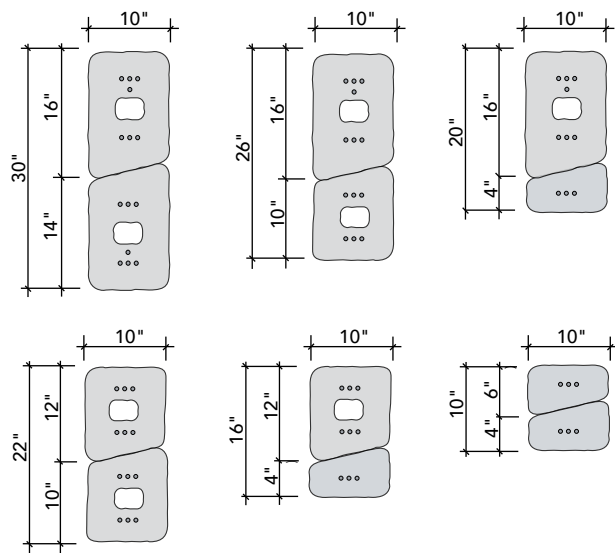
Small gaps between cap units or some cutting may be required to achieve specific cap course radii.



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Unit Dimension Combinations

When developing the wall design and layout for straight or curved walls with corners, offsets, pilasters, etc., use the following guidelines. Due to all units being 10" deep (between parallel faces), it is best to work in increments of 10" for geometry offset. In reviewing the design details in this brochure, note that all geometry offsets are measurements of 10", 20", 30", etc. For running walls, either straight or curved, work in even dimensional increments for single units or combination of units as shown below. Build walls in random layout, adjusting with unit selection or unit cutting as required to fit between fixed dimension points.



UNIT ABOVE VERTICAL UNIT SPANS TO BEAR ON EACH SIDE.

VERTICAL UNITS - 6" x 12"

Vertical Unit Orientation

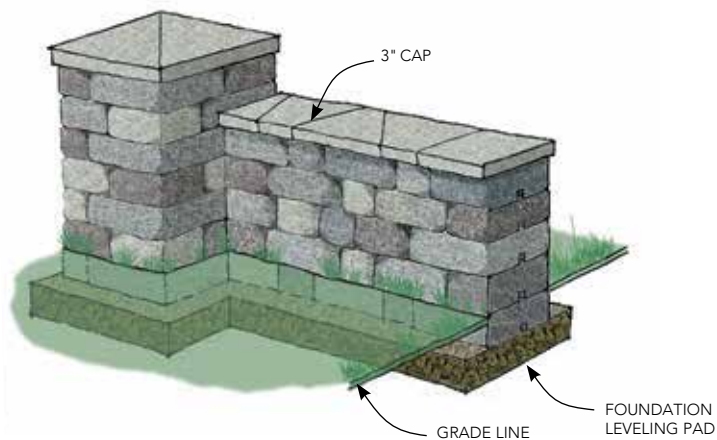
A creative design option is to occasionally place units vertically in the wall to provide a break of horizontal lines. To span two 6" high courses, use the unit with the 12" length. The pins will not interlock in this position, so use exterior grade construction adhesive to fasten this unit in place. Make sure the unit above the 12" vertical piece spans over or beyond the 6" width of the vertical unit, resting on the units at each side.

Design Details

Freestanding Wall Applications

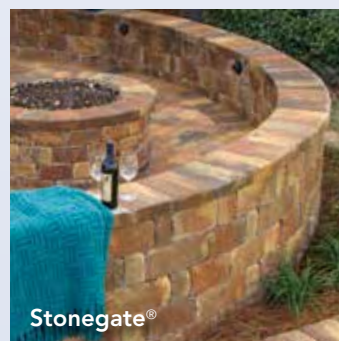
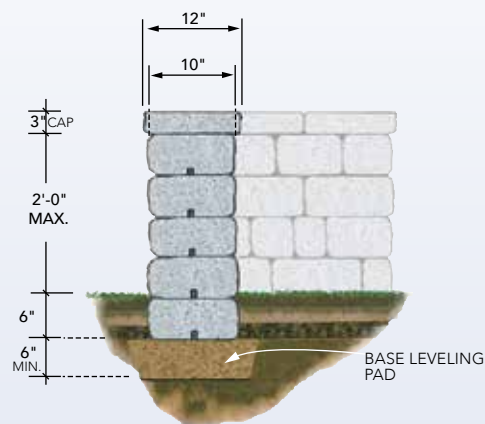
When considering freestanding wall conditions of any height, the designer must consider the requirements of geometry and internal reinforcing to resist overturning and seismic forces (where applicable). Reinforced footings/foundation depth must be considered to provide support and bearing as applied to soil and frost conditions. Due to the variable nature of each site situation, a qualified engineer should be consulted for appropriate design in accordance with local building codes.

The design details shown on the next few pages are for concept representation only and are not intended to represent final design. Consult a qualified engineer for specific design considerations.



Freestanding Border Wall

With the Keystone Stonegate wall system, you have the added option of building unreinforced freestanding walls to various plan geometry and limited heights. From low border walls, which define the edge of patios and decks, to freestanding entry monuments, pilasters and parapets walls these units use interlocking geometry to achieve wider wall areas which provide strength and resistance to overturning forces.



Wall End Column

The wall end column is a larger version of the "Column Corner" detail. The benefit of this design option is the development of internal reinforcement to provide for greater strength and height, along with a larger footprint dimension for aesthetic purposes.

INTERNAL COLUMN REINFORCING SHOULD PROVIDE FOR STEEL REBAR AND SOLID CONCRETE GROUTING IN CONNECTION WITH A REINFORCED CONCRETE FOUNDATION.

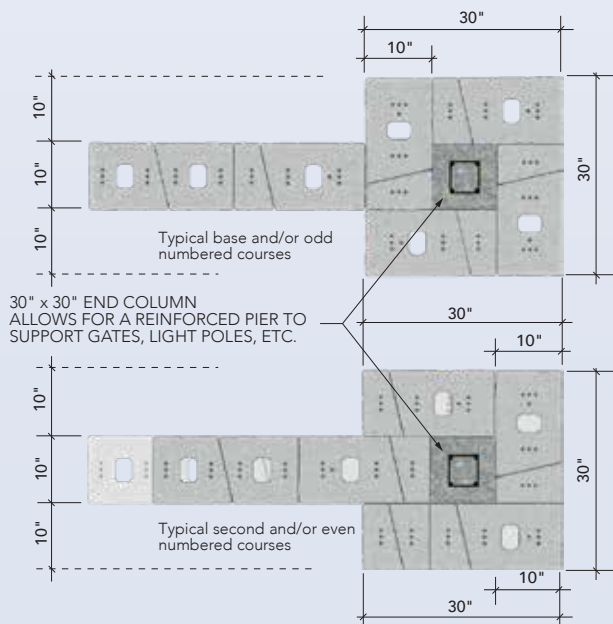
OPTIONAL
CAPPING PATTERN

CUT CAPS TO FIT AGAINST
PERPENDICULAR SURFACE

3" CAP

FOUNDATION
LEVELING PAD

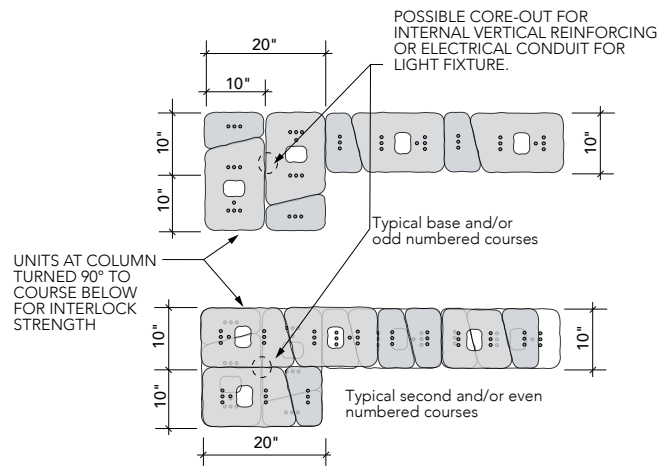
GRADE LINE



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Column Corner

A typical column corner utilizes a 20" x 20" column geometry to develop an integrated pier at the end of a running wall. This detail offers visual aesthetic interest and provides strength at the end of the freestanding wall.



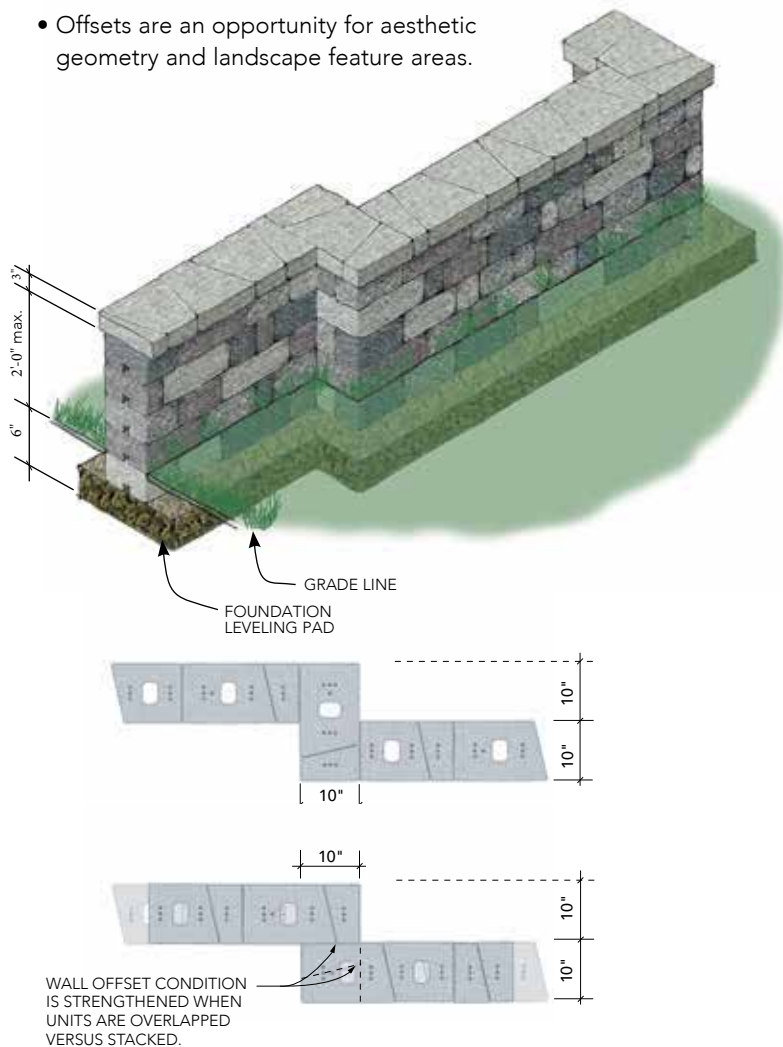
Column Top Options:

- Landscape lighting/entry
- Planter with flowers or ornamentals
- Yard figurine/sculpture
- Mailbox
- Street address monument

Design Details

Wall Offset

- Wider wall geometry (footprint) provides greater strength for parapet walls, to resist overturning.
- Offsets allow for graceful changes in wall direction.
- Offsets are an opportunity for aesthetic geometry and landscape feature areas.



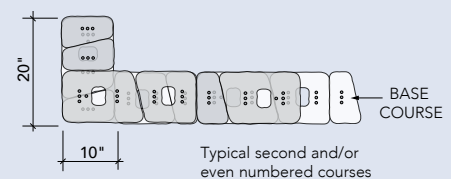
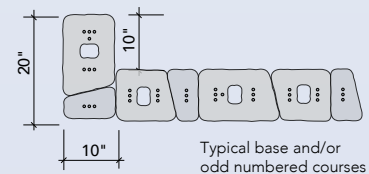
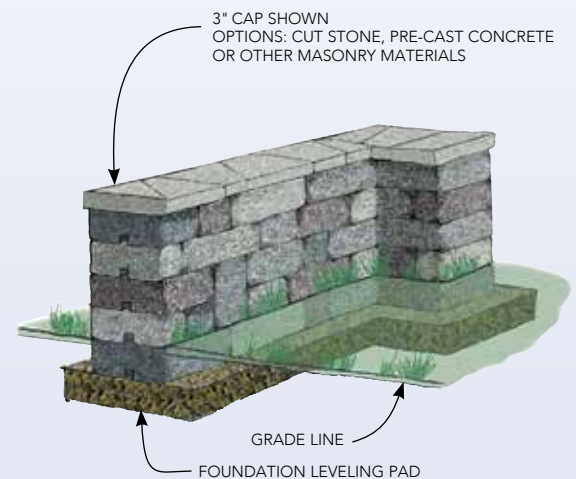
Notes:

- The minimum offset for two parallel walls as shown in the details on this page, is 10". Continuous offsets @ maximum 10'-0" O.C. will provide strength at parapet walls in coordination with exterior grade construction adhesive.
- It is important to use overlapping unit combinations at the offset location where two units combined together equal 20" in length (see plan geometry above).
- Details showing freestanding wall applications are showing partial sections of walls. The unfinished ends, with channel openings visible, are not meant to portray a finished condition.



"L" Return End

Similar to column corners, this detail offers stability and strength to resist overturning forces at the end of a freestanding wall.



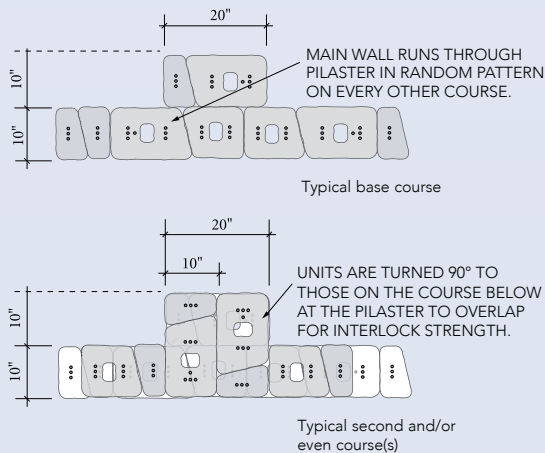
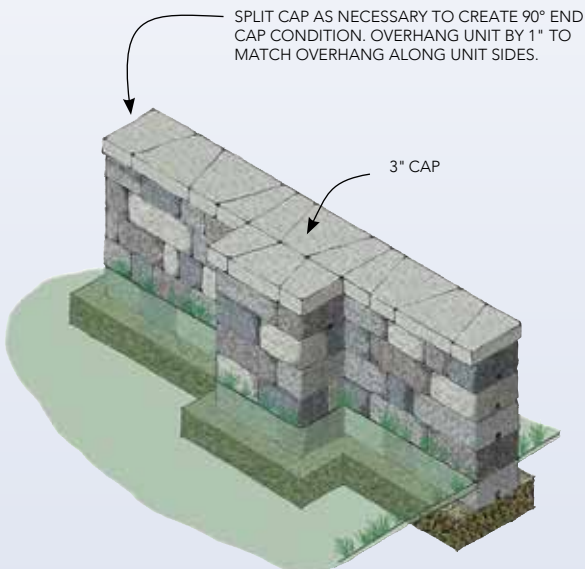


Terraces

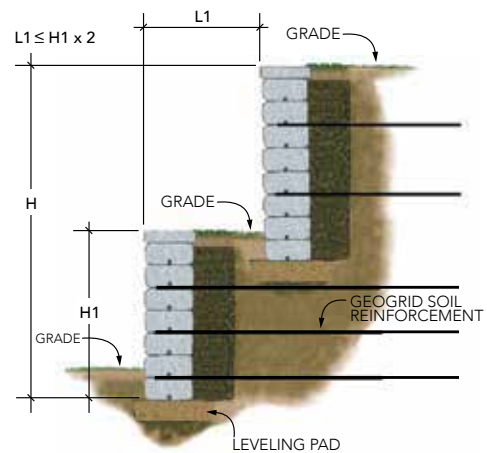
Terraces are a visually pleasing way to build a taller retaining wall when aesthetics dictate the separation of walls to reduce the wall height and large mass appearance. Closely spaced terraces need to be reviewed by a qualified engineer to avoid global instability issues and to make sure soil reinforcement (geogrids) are properly designed to handle the loads for the entire wall structure. Terraced walls should be analyzed as a complete wall system versus individual walls unless they are spread apart greater than twice the wall height of each terrace and the soils are free-draining and granular in nature.

Pilaster Detail

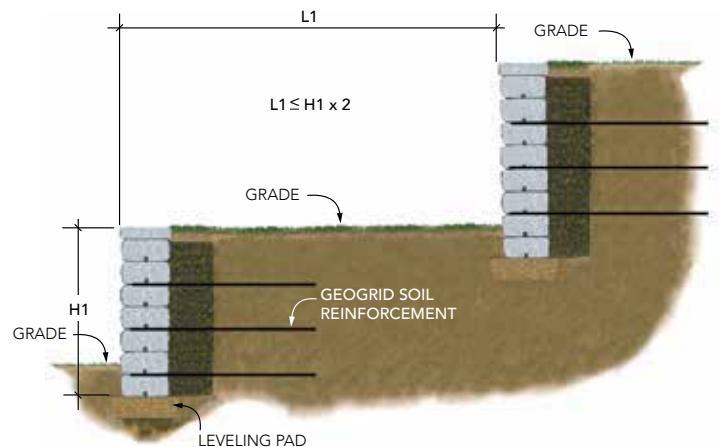
The pilaster detail creates a deeper wall section within the wall which can provide stability for a retaining structure, freestanding wall or parapet.



Terrace Wall Proximity Evaluation



For walls where $L1 \leq H1 \times 2$, then the walls are to be considered as a composite and the entire wall height (H) needs to be considered in the design.



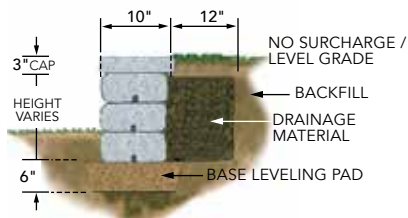
For walls where $L1 \geq H1 \times 2$, then the walls typically are analyzed separately. Walls built on slopes $\geq 4:1$ or on soft soils need to be analyzed for "global stability". Consult a qualified engineer.

Design Considerations

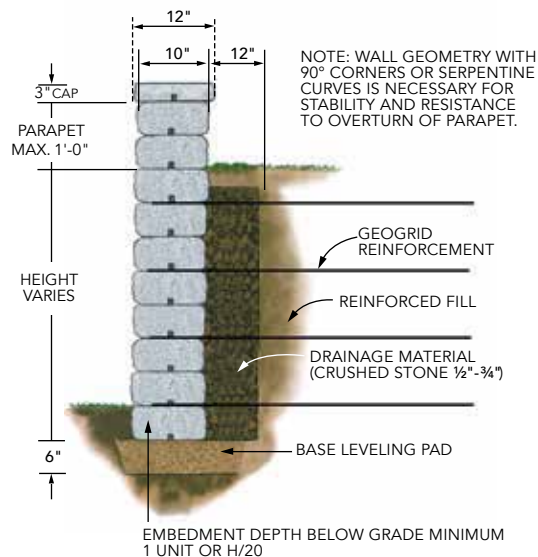
Design Assumptions

- Friction angle (PHI) for earth pressure calculations of geogrid reinforced walls is evaluated at 26°, 30° and 34° only. For other soil type analysis, refer to the KeyWall® PRO design software program or consult with a qualified engineer.
- Moist weight of the three soil types indicated is 120 lb/ft³.
- Sliding calculations use 6" crushed stone leveling pad as compacted foundation material.
- All backfill materials are compacted to 95% Standard Proctor density.
- The term "vertical" is a wall built to a near vertical alignment, or having a slight positive setback (1°+).
- The information provided herein is for preliminary design use only. A qualified engineer should be consulted for design and analysis of structures. Keystone Retaining Wall Systems LLC assumes no liability for the improper use of this information.

Gravity Wall: Near Vertical Detail



Reinforced Wall: Near Vertical Detail



Design Notes

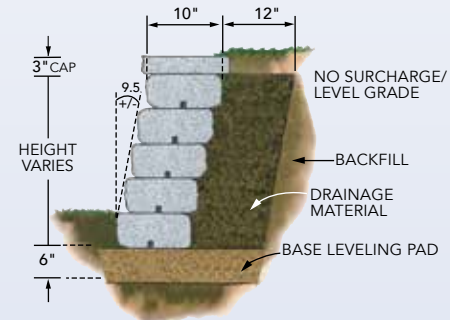
For low (non-structural) landscape retaining walls, Stonegate / Country Manor units can be constructed as a non-reinforced gravity wall as shown in the chart below.

GRAVITY WALLS (Maximum unreinforced wall height)				
MAXIMUM HEIGHT*	NEAR VERTICAL		9.5° +/- BATTER	
	LEVEL	3H:1V	LEVEL	3H:1V
SAND / GRAVEL PHI = 34°	2'-0"	1'-6"	3'-0"	2'-6"
SILTY SAND PHI = 30°	1'-6"	1'-6"	2'-6"	2'-0"
SILT / LEAN CLAY PHI = 26°	1'-6"	1'-0"	2'-0"	1'-6"

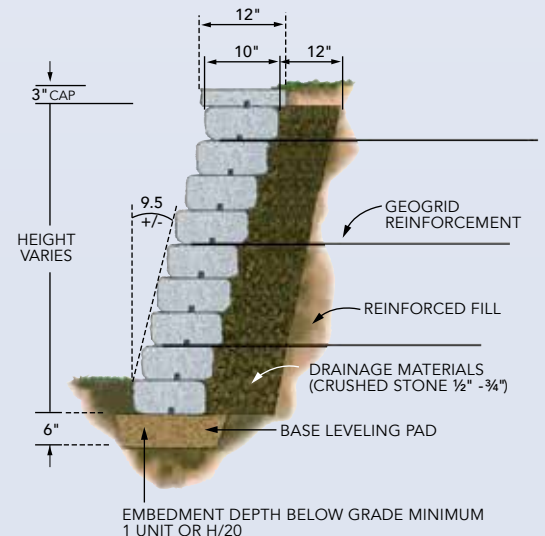
*Height does not include 3" cap

Note: use pins and construction adhesive at low border/parapet walls.

Gravity Wall: Setback Detail 9.5°± Batter



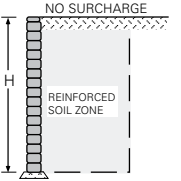
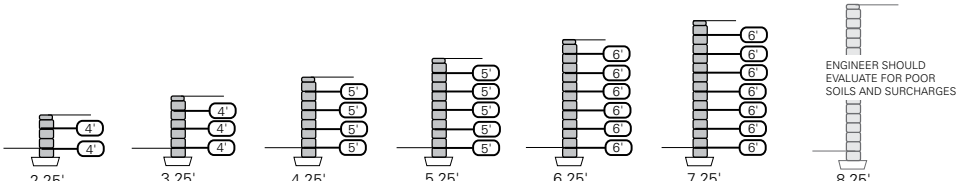
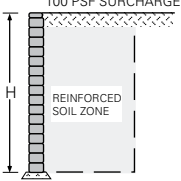
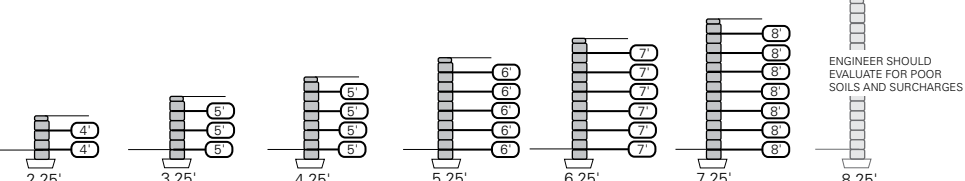
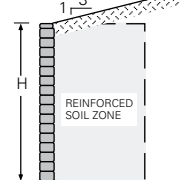
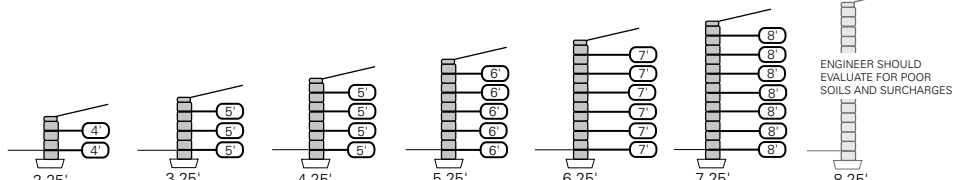
Reinforced Wall: Setback Detail 9.5°± Batter



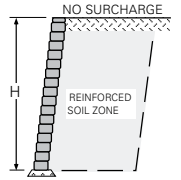
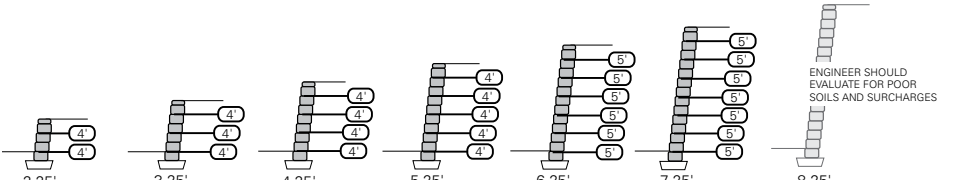
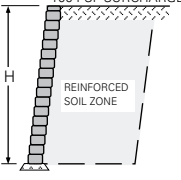
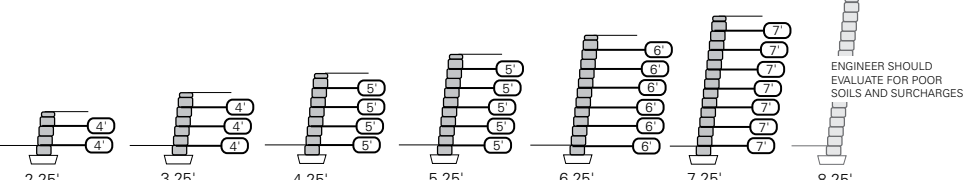
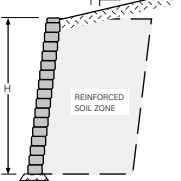
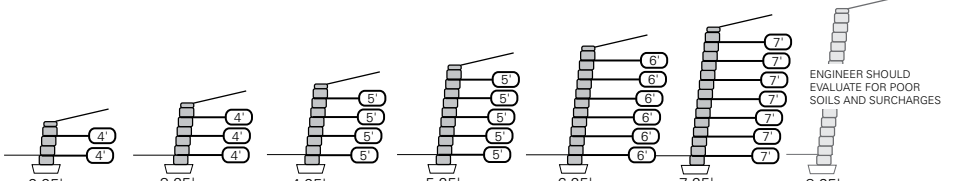
The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:
LTDS = 750 plf or Tal = 500 plf

Design Charts

Silt/Lean Clay: $\phi=26^\circ$, $\gamma=120$ pcf

CASE 1	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	
CASE 2	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	
CASE 3	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	

*FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEAR VERTICAL BATTER (CENTER PIN HOLE), CONSTRUCT WITH POSITIVE BATTER BY TILTING UNITS BACK TOWARDS FILL ON LEVELING PAD.

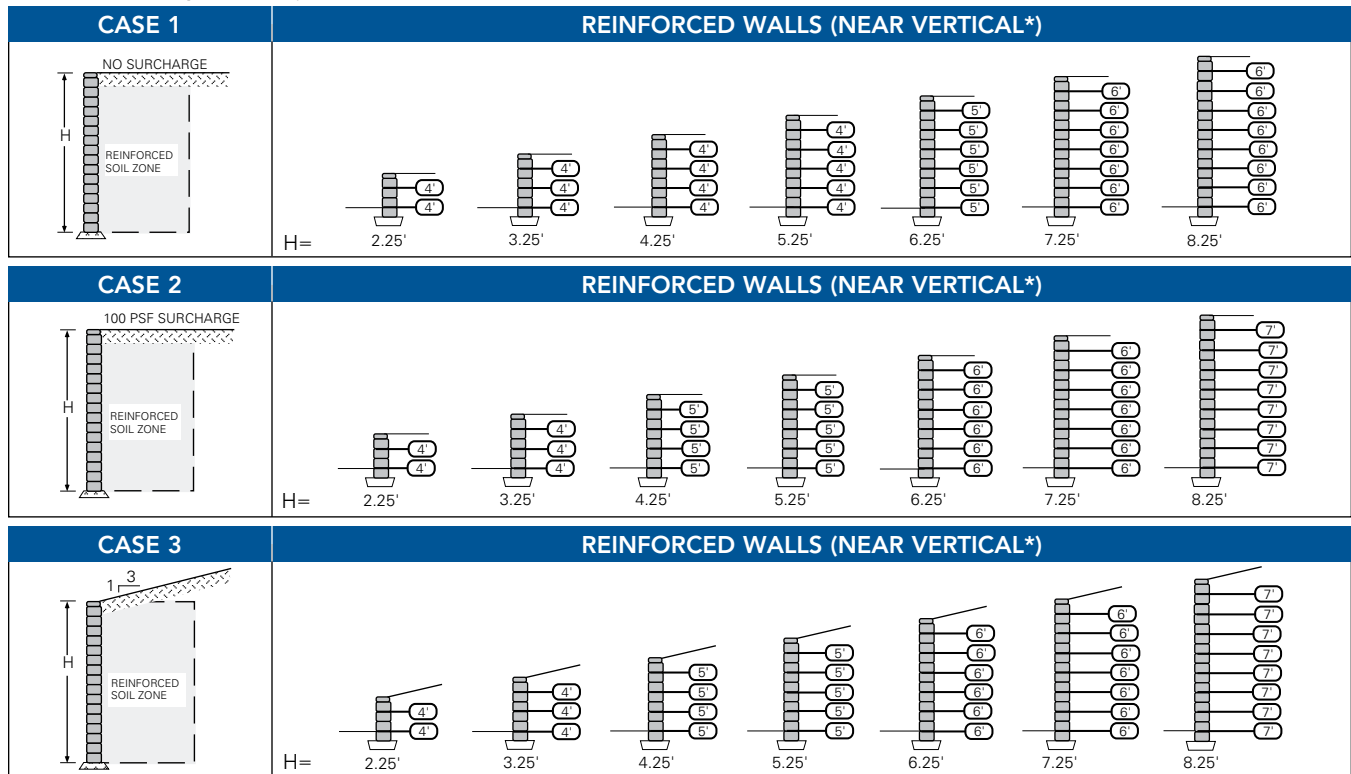
CASE 1	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	
CASE 2	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	
CASE 3	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	

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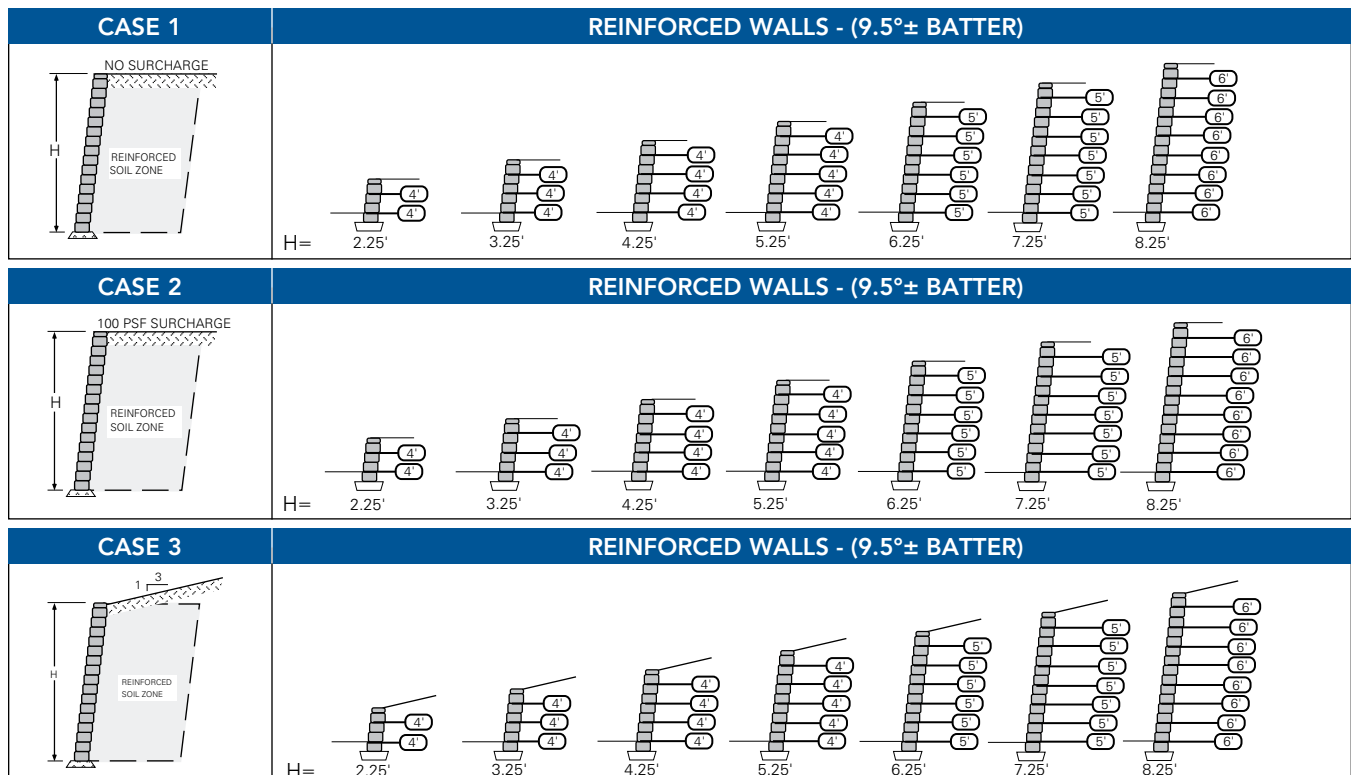
Design Charts

Silty Sand: $\phi=30^\circ$, $\gamma=120$ pcf

The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:
LTDS = 750 plf or Tal = 500 plf



*FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEAR VERTICAL BATTER (CENTER PIN HOLE), CONSTRUCT WITH POSITIVE BATTER BY TILTING UNITS BACK TOWARDS FILL ON LEVELING PAD.

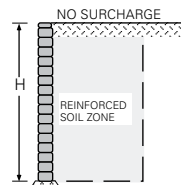
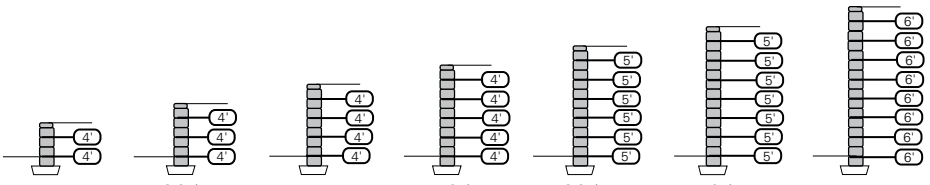
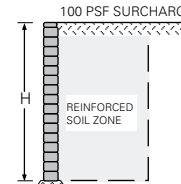
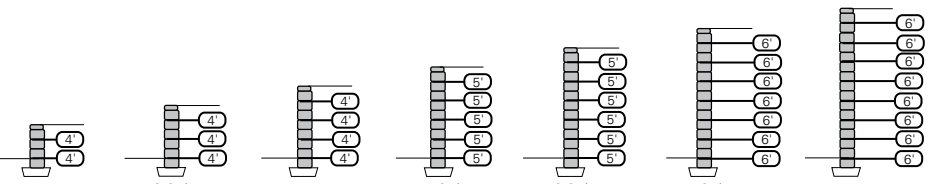
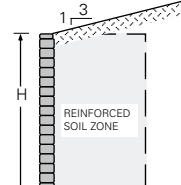
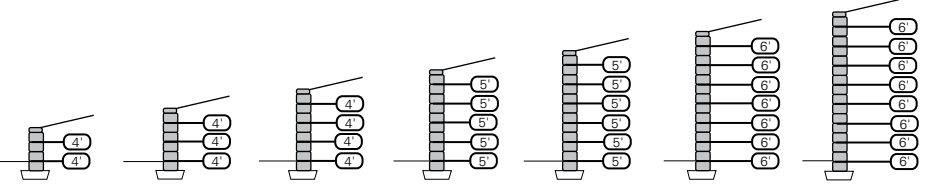


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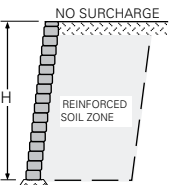
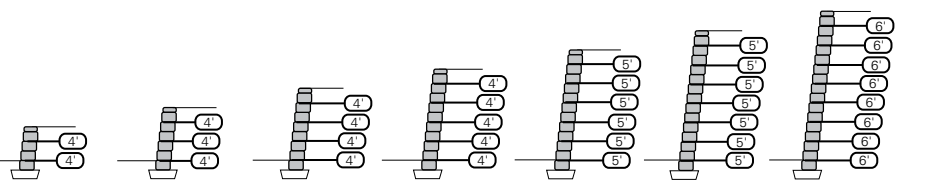
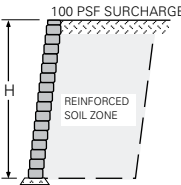
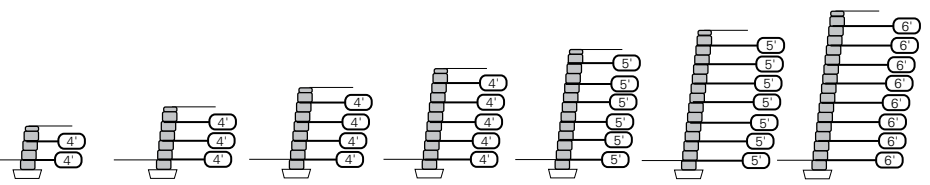
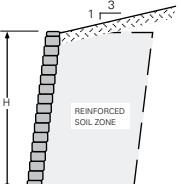
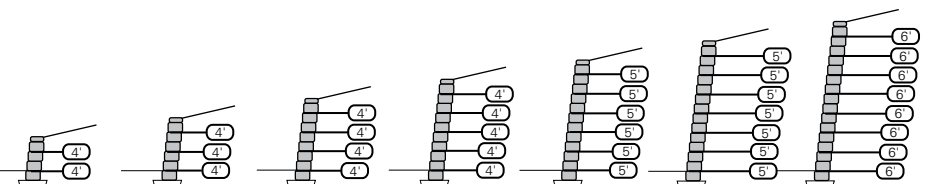
The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:
LTDS = 750 plf or Tal = 500 plf

Design Charts

Sand/Gravel: $\phi=34^\circ$, $\gamma=120$ pcf

CASE 1	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	
CASE 2	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	
CASE 3	REINFORCED WALLS (NEAR VERTICAL*)
	

*FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEAR VERTICAL BATTER (CENTER PIN HOLE), CONSTRUCT WITH POSITIVE BATTER BY TILTING UNITS BACK TOWARDS FILL ON LEVELING PAD.

CASE 1	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	
CASE 2	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	
CASE 3	REINFORCED WALLS - (9.5°± BATTER)
	

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Keystone Retaining Wall Systems LLC
4444 West 78th Street • Minneapolis, MN 55435
(952) 897-1040 • keystonewalls.com



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