



[Watch the video here](#)



Having a classic garden bench as a way to add beautiful accents and seating to any landscape. Create a quiet space in your backyard for a place to enjoy the outdoors.

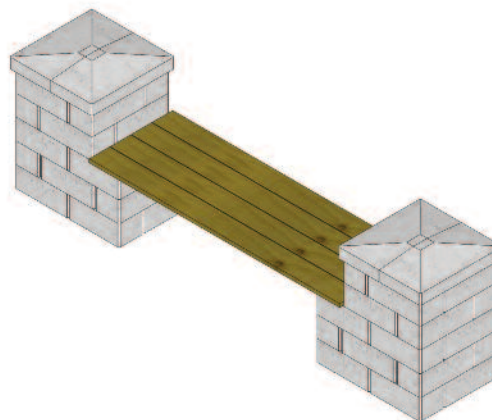
[allanblock.com](http://allanblock.com)

### Provided are instructions to build the following:

Expanded Posts

### Number of blocks needed for this project:

- 52 Corner Blocks
- 4 Post Caps
- Flexible Concrete Adhesive
- 1 Bench Material
- 2 - Cedar Studs - 2 in. x 4 in. x 22 in. (approx.)  
(50 mm x 100 mm x 560 mm)
- 4 - Cedar Planks - 1 in. x 6 in. x 73 in. (approx.)  
(25 mm x 150 mm x 1.9 m)
- Outdoor Sealant



These are the exact numbers based on our installation. We would recommend purchasing additional block to accommodate for design changes, shipping or breakage.

### Some of the tools you will need:

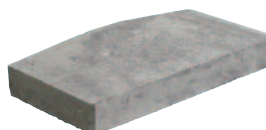
- |              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Tape Measure | Work Gloves        |
| Level        | Safety Glasses     |
| Square       | Circular Saw       |
| Shovel       | A 2x4 for Leveling |

### Blocks used in this project.

Corner Block



Post Cap



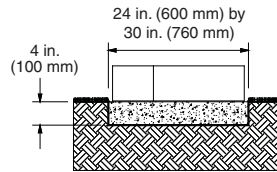
# Installation

## Step 1: Layout

If building on an existing surface, skip ahead to Step 4. When building in soil, first determine the location of the 2 posts/columns and lay the first course of blocks to establish where to dig the foundation pad using the pattern layout shown below. Make sure the posts/columns are directly across from each other and are appropriately spaced to accommodate your desired seating material.

## Step 2: Build Foundation

Mark the location of the posts/columns with a shovel, remove the blocks and dig two 24 in. wide, 30 in. long and 4 in. deep holes (600 mm x 760 mm x 100 mm).



## Step 3: Fill

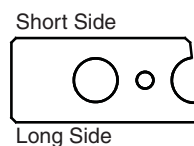
Using a hand tamper, compact the bottom of the hole, then place 4 in. (100 mm) of base rock in the hole and compact again. Check for level.

**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 base rock. A good foundation will ensure a stable bench for years to come.*

## Step 4: Build First Post/Column

Install the base course of the first post/column using 6 Corner Blocks on the base rock foundation, or on the existing surface, using the pattern for Course 1 shown below. Square up the blocks, tamp into place and level. If building on an existing surface, shims can be used to help level the blocks.

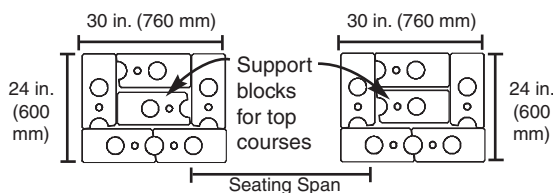
Corner Block



## Step 5: Build Second Post/Column

Install the first Corner Block of the 2nd post/column. Use a level and a 2x4 to span across to ensure that the Corner Block of the 2nd post will be level with the 1st post/column. This will ensure the seating area will be level. Make adjustments as needed by adding or removing the base rock or installing shims if building on an existing surface. Install remaining blocks to complete the first course, check again for level with the 1st post/column.

Pattern for Course 1 and 3



Use a 2x4 to span across to ensure both posts/columns are level with each other



Determine Location



Build Foundation



Fill and Compact



Install First Post

# Installation

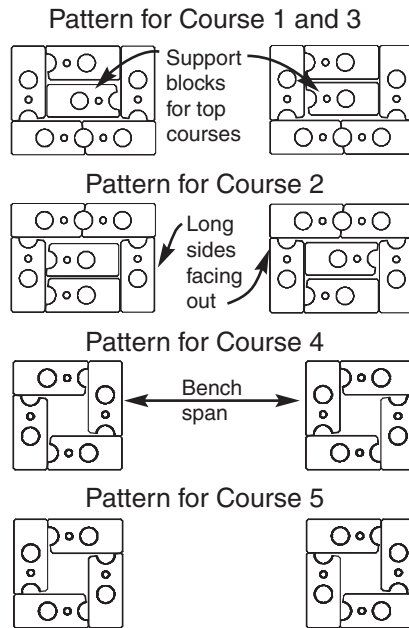
## Step 6: Continue Building

With both posts/columns level, continue stacking 2 more courses, alternating between the patterns shown to offset the seams from the course below. Do not stack the blocks up using only one pattern (seams should not create a straight line the full height of the post/columns).

On the 4th course, change the pattern to create the area for the seating material to rest. Only 4 Corner Blocks will be needed for the next 2 courses and all blocks will be installed with their long sides facing out.

## Step 7: Capping

Finish each post /column with two Post Caps. Secure them in place with a bead of flexible concrete adhesive along the outside edge of the Corner Blocks. Then set the Post Caps in place.



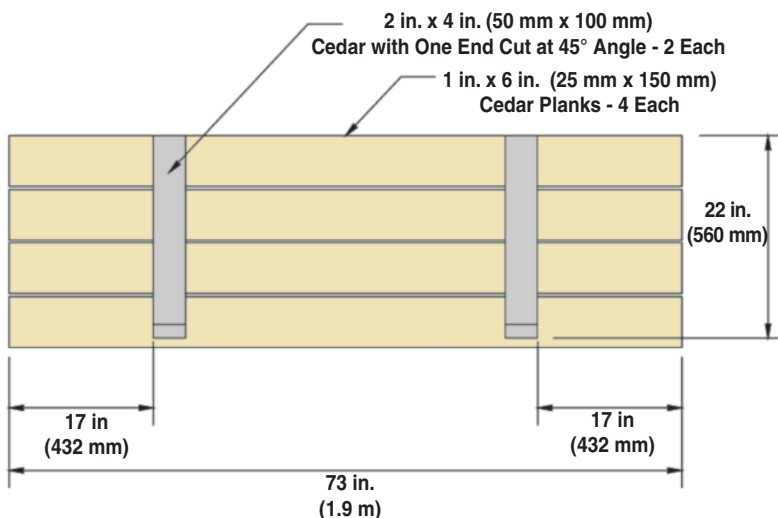
Second Post Placement and Alignment



Additional Courses

## Step 8: Bench Material

Measure and install the seating material. Cedar deck boards or a slab of natural stone make good seating materials. To construct this seating bench you will need 4 pieces of cedar planks and 2 pieces of cedar studs cut to the dimensions shown. **You will want to double check the dimensions of your bench by measuring the distance between the top courses of the posts prior to cutting your bench material.** You will want to seal each piece of wood with an outdoor sealant designed for wood (prior to construction is recommended).



Post Caps



Bench Material

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