

The Ultimate in Plantable Blocks for Retaining Walls, Lawn Borders & Planting Beds

We created the VERDURA® line of Yardstone® products with the do-it-yourselfer in mind. Our products combine VERdant (green with vegetation) with DURability that offers the homeowner the only 100% plantable dry stack modular system that will provide a lifetime of beauty.



The Fast, Cost-effective Way to a Beautifully Landscaped Yard

- Fewer blocks per square foot mean lower cost
- The only 100% plantable block available
- NO Mortar
- NO Rebar
- Same block does footings, face, corners & ends
- Design flexibility - accommodates vertical & horizontal curves
- Designed for efficient irrigation & fast drainage
- Attractive even without plants - use it for xeriscapes, too!

VERDURA®

fully
plantable
unbeatable
strength
timeless
beauty



Distributed By

Rev. 040422



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VERDURA®



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Our Favorite "Weekend Warriors" Had This to Say About VERDURA® Products

"We used both VERDURA®10 and VERDURA®30 on several retaining walls with outstanding results in beauty, value, strength and durability."

Pat Grundy, Vista, California

"We looked at all the alternatives and the VERDURA® system is the best! Thanks!"

Jack Adichem, Encinitas, California

"VERDURA®10 was the perfect size for me to handle. In two short weekends, I built a beautiful herb garden right outside the back door. My husband still gets to enjoy his football Sundays while I'm tending my garden - and I completed the entire project all by myself. Thanks for making it so easy."

Kathleen McMinn, Arizona, California

"After comparing price per square foot, I realized that the VERDURA® products were the best value for my dollar."

Emil Haueter, Bishop, California

"Your VERDURA® products' ability to provide a heavy-duty concrete retaining wall that can be hidden behind fast-growing greenery really impressed us. It blends right in - you wouldn't even know the wall is there! After the first few months, all you can see is a wall of bright colorful flowers!"

Dirk Zonneveld, Murietta, California

TREE RING



PLANTING BED



LAWN BORDER



Choose the Size, Finish & Style of Block



BUFF/TAN



EARL GRAY



AGGREGATE



GRAY

Table 1



The Basics	VERDURA® 10	VERDURA® 30
CH-Crown Height	6"	9.5"
RH-Rail Height	4"	6.5"
W-Width	12"	18"
D-Depth	8"	12"
Block Weight	23 lbs.	72 lbs.
Maximum Spacing Between Blocks	6"	9"
Area Covered Per Space of Block	0.5 sq ft	1.25 sq ft

Figures:

A. Wall Height *

VERDURA® 10 recommended up to 3 feet; may go higher for non-structural walls.

VERDURA® 30 can be engineered* up to 6 feet exposed height using our Standard Design and Post-Dura® reinforcement. Visit www.soilretention.com to view standard wall design.

* Local ordinances vary. Check with your local building department for permit requirements.

B. Number of Blocks Needed

VERDURA® 10

$$\frac{\text{Area to be Retained (length x height)}}{0.5 \text{ sq. feet}} = \text{No. of blocks}$$

VERDURA® 30

$$\frac{\text{Area to be Retained (length x height)}}{1.25 \text{ sq. feet}} = \text{No. of blocks}$$

SAMPLE WALL **Area	VERDURA® 10 No. of blocks needed	VERDURA® 30 No. of blocks needed
1' high x 20' long	40	16
2' high x 20' long	80	32
3' high x 100' long	600	240

** Includes calculating dimension of one (1) block embedment (RH) in wall height for footing.





1

Tools You'll Need:

- Shovel
- Leveling Stakes
- Tamper
- Hammer
- String Line
- Planting Soil
- 6-foot-long 2x4

Getting Started!

Whether you're a "Weekend Warrior" that lives for the next project, or a first time do-it-yourselfer, **VERDURA**® plantable blocks allow you to build retaining walls, lawn borders, and planting beds with a professional look. One of the benefits of constructing with the **VERDURA**® system is that you can build a little at a time or, for the more serious "Weekend Warriors", knock a project out in a weekend - it's your choice.



2

Diggin' It

Grab a shovel to start digging. The first row of block that you lay will need to be buried below the earth so it acts as a support or "footing" for the wall. Dig a trench that is the "RH" (lip is exposed above the trench) and "D" plus a few inches on each side of the block you are using (See TABLE 1). Then you'll want to set the stakes at both ends of the trench along the center line and run a string line between them to measure trench depth. Adjust the footing grade to be parallel with the string line. Remove the string line to start laying blocks.



3

Laying Down the Line

For straight walls lay the blocks, lip side out, along the trench. Blocks should be uniformly placed in the trench at a spacing of 9" between blocks for **VERDURA**® 30 or 6" apart for **VERDURA**® 10. You can use a string line set across the face of blocks to ensure a straight wall.

Tip: To make equal spacing of blocks easier, cut a 6" spacer (**VERDURA**®10), or a 9" spacer (**VERDURA**®30) from your 6" length of 2x4. For borders and non-plantable walls lay blocks without spacing.



Curved Walls

A. For a concave curve, simply make the spacing between the blocks narrower at the lip side (front) of the block, so it is angled like a fan.

B. For a convex curve, make the spacing between the blocks wider at the front of the block than the back. You may wish to use a hose to layout the alignment of your wall.

Half Blocks:

Use a circular saw with a masonry blade to cut blocks in half. To score the block, cut approximately 1/4" deep at the halfway point on the front block face and bottom of the block. Tap lightly with a hammer along the cuts, and the block will split. Make sure to wear protective eyewear.

Corners:

A. Convex: Turn the end of the block in Row 2 at a 90-degree angle and place on the lower block as shown in the figure to the left. The spacing between the first corner block that you lay and the next corner block that makes up the adjoining wall should be about 6" for Row 2. Repeat the turned block for even rows until you have reached your desired wall height.

B. Concave: Build walls into each other and cut blocks as needed to fit.

Tip: In general curves look better than corners. Corners can be difficult to construct.



4

Fill'er Up

Backfill with soil within, between, and behind each block ensuring the entire row is covered. Compact the soil with the tamper all along the row so you have a firm base upon which to place the next row.



5

Push Me - Pull Me

Even out the surface of the soil by using a "rod board" to smooth the earth. Place a 6-foot-long 2x4 board just behind the lip of the block. Exerting some even pressure on the board, push or pull (depending on what side of the blocks you're on) the excess soil from the top of the block's rails. This will provide you with a flat surface on which to lay your next row of blocks.



6

Repeat After Me

Each additional row of blocks should be centered over the space between blocks in each row below to allow for planting. Repeat Steps 3-5 until you have attained your desired wall height.

Tip: **VERDURA**® walls can be irrigated with a mist, drip or sprinkler system. View our website at www.soilretention.com for valuable tips.



Relax & Enjoy: After planting with the foliage of your choice, you can sit back, put your feet up, sip on your favorite beverage, and enjoy the beauty of your **VERDURA**® retaining wall for years to come.

Do-it-yourself
Instructions inside