

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

# Building a Square Fire Pit

## Basic steps for building a square-shaped fire pit.



Enhance your home with a beautiful square fire pit using the AB Courtyard Collection. With this flexible system you can build a square fire pit to suit your space in just a weekend.

### Step 1: Layout

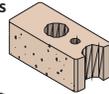
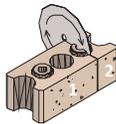
Determine the location of your fire pit. Use tape measures to mark out the location and size of the square. This example is for a 4.5 ft (1.4 m) square fire pit that is three courses high.



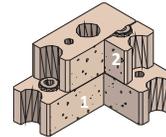
### Step 2: Split/Cut Blocks

When building with corners, keep in mind that you will need to use a cut AB Dublin Blocks for each course. See How-to sheet #210 for more information on modifying blocks. Start by cutting 6 AB Dublin blocks at a 3/4 split. Cutting the blocks creates a straight edge so there will not be a gap where the cut block and the corner block meet.

Cut AB Dublin Blocks into two pieces (3/4 and 1/4)



Use large piece (1) and place cut side against Corner Block



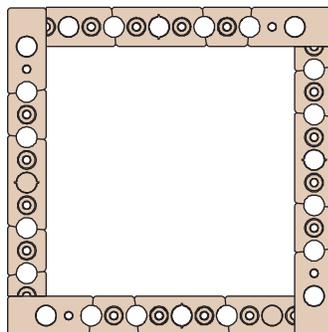
Use small piece (2) on second course with the cut side against Corner Block

### Step 3: Build

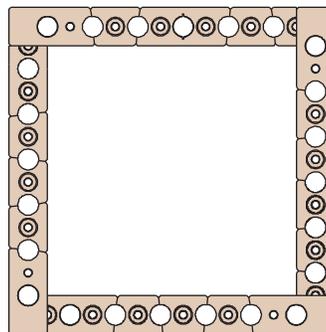
Starting at the corner place a Corner Block then place the large 3/4 size piece (1) of the AB Dublin with the cut side against the Corner Block to create the corner. Build out from the corner in both directions, placing AB Dublin and AB York blocks in the pattern desired.

On the second course, alternate the position of the Corner Block to face the opposite direction of the one on the first course. Place the small piece of the AB Dublin Block next to the corner. Continue building out from the corner in both directions.

Build the first two courses following the the patterns below or use your own pattern using the cut AB Dublin Blocks to create the corner.



First Course



Second Course

*\*Note: By installing the first two courses of block at the same time ensures that the blocks line up properly. The raised rings on the top of the blocks lock the courses together by fitting into the blocks above.*



AB York Block



AB Dublin Block



AB Corner Block



AB Wall Cap



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## Building a Square Fire Pit

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How-To Video  
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### Step 4: Continue Building

Build the third course using the same pattern as the first course. For more variation in the pattern you can change the order of some of the blocks within the wall segments.

### Step 5: Install Rock

Install decorative rock to line the interior of the fire pit. (optional)

### Step 6: Install Wall Caps

Finish your fire pit with Wall Caps. Starting at the corner, place the first two Wall Caps following the wall in the same direction. Place the first Wall Cap with the long end facing the outside of the wall. Alternate the direction of the second Wall Cap and continue this pattern to the next corner. (There will be a gap at the end of each wall section.)

Measure the gap and cut a cap to fit the space. Use a masonry saw with a dry cutting diamond blade to make a complete cut. Repeat this step for each corner.

### Step 7: Finish

Once all the caps are installed, secure them in place with a bead of flexible concrete adhesive.

Then place the metal fire ring in the center of the fire pit area. Your project is complete. Just add some wood, fire it up and enjoy your beautiful backyard fire pit.

**BUILDING ON SOIL\*** If you are building on soil, layout the first course of the fire pit to determine the location. Then mark the location of the blocks with a shovel and remove the blocks and sod. Dig a level trench that is 3 in. (75 mm) deep and 7 in. (178 mm) wide to create a foundation for the blocks. Then fill the trench with crushed rock and compact using a hand tamper. Continue to Step 3.

**NOTE:** *The soil beneath the foundation pad must be a good quality compactable 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.*

### Materials Needed: For a 3 course fire pit

- 12 Corner Blocks
- 24 AB York
- 9 AB Dublin (4 left angles, 5 right angles)
- 6 AB Dublin End Split blocks (3 left angles, 3 right angles)
- 28 AB Wall Caps with 4 of these cut to fit
- 2 Tubes of Flexible Concrete Adhesive
- Decorative Rock (Optional)
- 1 Metal Fire Ring

### Tools Needed:

- Shovel
- Level
- Wheelbarrow
- Work Gloves

### When Building on Soil\*:

- Dead Blow Hammer
- Hand Compactor
- A 2 x 4 for Leveling
- 6 - 50 lb (23 kg) Bags of Crushed Rock

\* See How-to sheet #120 for more information.



Step 5



Step 6



Step 6



Step 6



Step 7



Step 7



Finished

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



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