

Building an Outdoor Kitchen

Basic steps for building an Outdoor Kitchen



An Outdoor Kitchen made with AB Courtyard Collection is an impressive application that can easily be added to any backyard. You can build it on an existing surface like a patio, pavement or a compacted stone base.

The dimensions for this outdoor kitchen are: 9.4ft. wide and 5.6 ft. deep (2.9 m by 1.7 m).



This example shows the installation steps for a 7 course high bar area with a 6 course high grill area.



Corner Block



AB Dublin Block



AB York Block

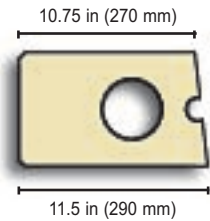
Step 1: Layout

Determine the location of the kitchen. Remember to leave enough space around the kitchen area to accommodate the chef and any additional seating. Then draw a guideline using chalk or tape where the wall panels of the kitchen will be constructed.

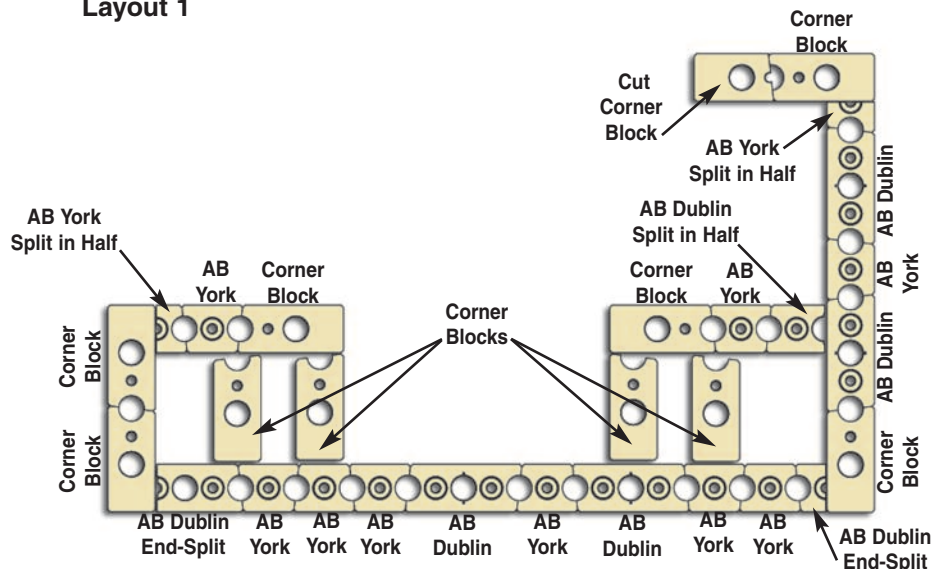
Step 2: Lay out the First Course

Lay out the first course of blocks as seen in Layout 1. Use a square to line up the blocks to ensure your corners are square. An AB York Block and an AB Dublin Block will need to be split for this course. Save the other half of the split AB Dublin for use on the third course. A corner block will also need to be cut at an angle so that the blocks match up on the end (Figure 1). **For more information on splitting and cutting blocks, see How-to sheet #210.**

Figure 1: Cut Corner Block



Layout 1



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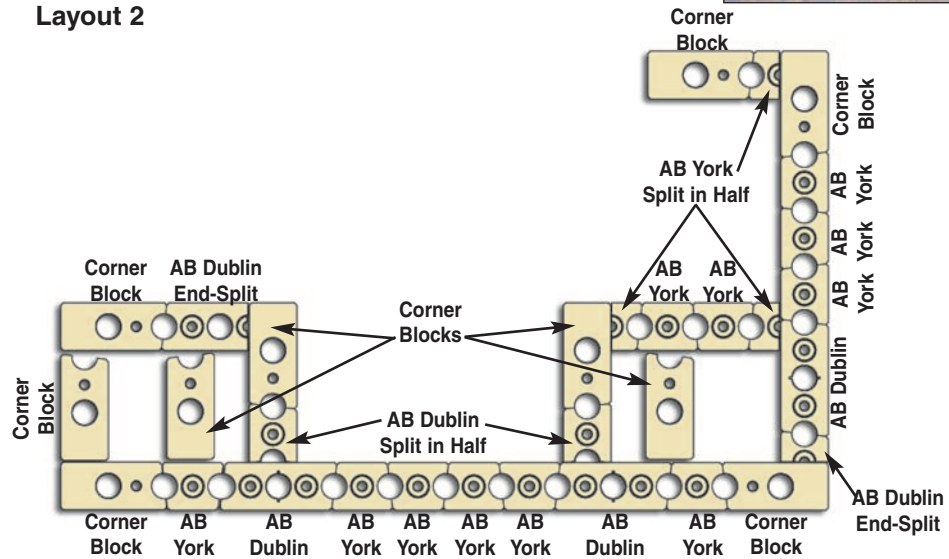
Step 3: Lay Out the Second Course

Begin laying out the second course as shown in Layout 2. You will need to split two AB York Blocks and an AB Dublin End-Split Block to complete this course. Save any remaining split pieces to be used on the next course.



Step 3

Layout 2



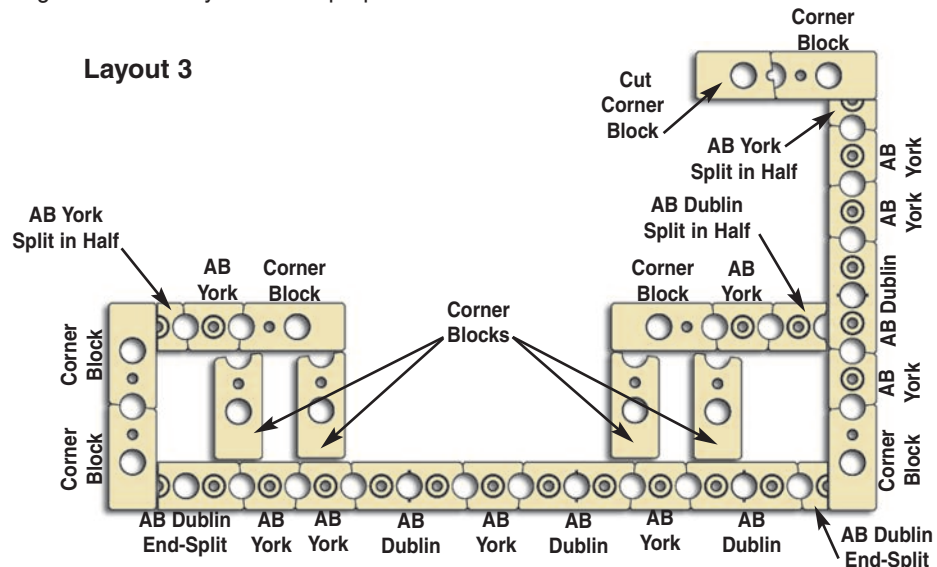
Step 4: Building the Third Course

Construct the third course as shown in Layout 3, splitting the AB York and AB Dublin Blocks as needed. A corner block will again need to be cut at the end of the wall, see Figure 1. We recommend measuring the distance on your project before cutting to make sure you have a proper fit.



Step 4

Layout 3



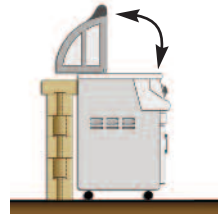
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Step 7: Building the Grill Area

In this example the wall panel behind the grill is one course lower than the bar area panel to allow for movement of the grill hood (Figure 2).

On this course you will need to flip the blocks over along the first post/pillar and the back wall of the grill area**. This will allow the countertop to be flush and level when installed.

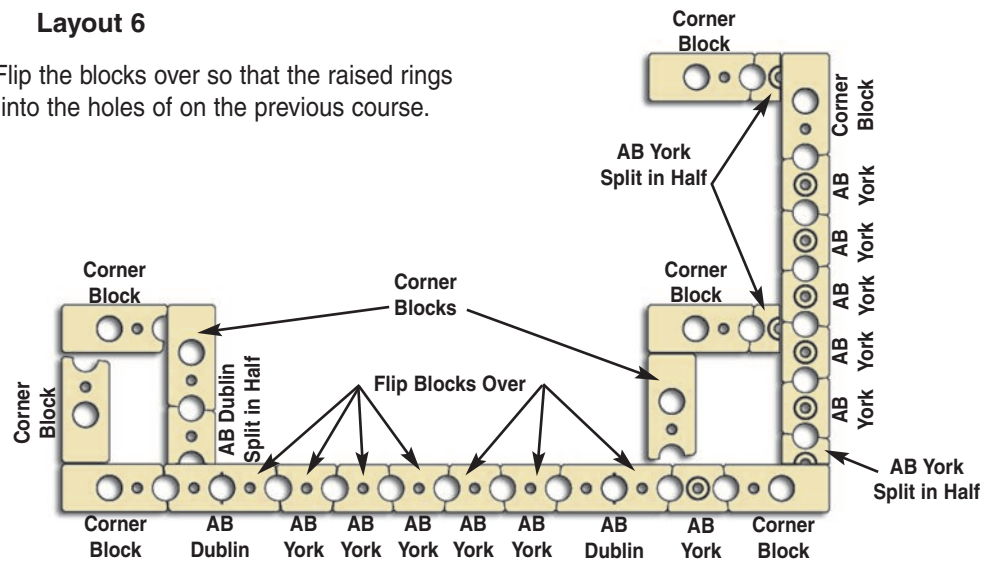
Figure 2:
Hood Movement



Step 7

Layout 6

** Flip the blocks over so that the raised rings go into the holes of on the previous course.

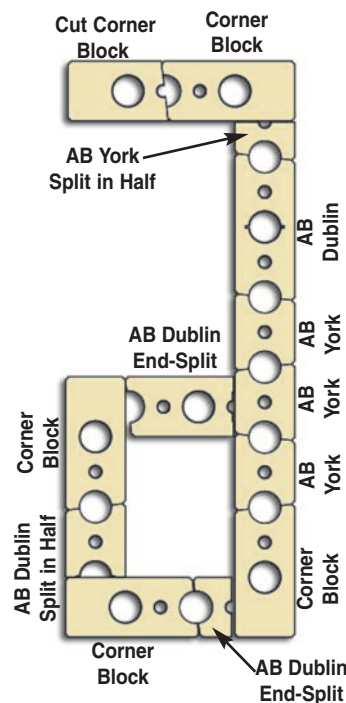


Step 8: Building the Raised Bar

Once you have reached your desired height of the grilling area, it is now time to finish the raised bar. Underneath the bar is a perfect spot to place a mini refrigerator or add shelves for storage.

To build the top course of the bar, you will need to flip these blocks over to create a level surface for the countertop. Install the blocks using the pattern in Layout 7.

Layout 7



Step 8



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Step 9: Finishing

Now that the construction of the kitchen frame is complete, it is time to install your countertop material. In this example we used concrete slabs that are cut to size. However any outdoor countertop material will work, so choose a countertop that fits your design.

Set your countertops in place and check for level. Shims may be used if adjustments are necessary. Secure the countertops in place with masonry adhesive, move your grill into place and you are ready to fire up the BBQ!



*NOTE: A larger opening will be needed if your grill is a larger size than the one shown in this example. To increase the width of the grill area opening, add additional AB Yorks, AB Dublins and or split blocks to your wall panel to enlarge the grill area. The minimum increment you can increase your width by is approximately 4 in. (102 mm).

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



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Materials Needed:

- 73 AB York Blocks
- 31 AB Dublin Blocks
- 67 Corner Blocks
- 2 Tubes of Masonry Adhesive
- Outdoor Countertops (cut to size)

Tools Needed:

- Tape Measure
- Masking Tape
- Chalk Line
- Hammer & Chisel
- Masonry Saw
- Safety Glasses
- Dust Mask & Work Gloves

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