

# HOW TO

## LAY A PATIO



1. Prepare the ground by removing all plant matter and top soil, including 150mm or more beyond the edges.
2. Dig out to the depth required and lay a substrate of hardcore on top of the level soil.
3. Compact and level the substrate with a heavy garden roller or whacker plate.
4. Set out the work with string lines and level pegs. To avoid puddles on your patio you should plan a cross fall of 1 in 40, that's 25 mm per metre, to provide a run off for rain water.
5. Spread Slablayer to the required depth of at least 25mm and rake level.
6. Sprinkle with clean tap water, using a hose pipe or watering can with a fine rose, until the Slablayer is wet through (but with no standing water) and rake level again.
7. Place the paving slabs, ensuring that they are level and flat, and that no cement material is on the slabs, as this will result in staining.  
As a guide to quantity three 440mm by 440mm paving slabs can be laid with one bag, when the Slablayer is used at 25mm thick.
8. Slabs can be cut to shape using a masonry saw, with a suitable blade. Always follow the manufacturer's recommended instructions when using power tools.
9. One or two days after laying, fill the joints between the slabs with Quality Assured Mortar.
10. Point the joints and brush clean with a soft brush.
11. Alternatively a dry mix of Slablayer can be poured over the area, brushed into the joints and compacted with the edge of a piece of wood.
12. Remove any excess mortar from the surface of the slab. Sprinkle with clean water using a fine rose and point with a pointing tool.
13. Cover the slabs with plastic sheeting for at least one day.



# WHAT YOU NEED

## MATERIALS

- Slablayer
- Quality Assured Mortar
- Hardcore (Gravel, Crushed Hard Rock)
- Concrete Slabs

## TOOLS

- Whacker Plate or Garden Roller
- Spirit Level
- Bolster Chisel
- Lump Hammer
- Garden Rake
- Wooden Straight Edge
- Hose Pipe or Watering Can
- Soft Brush
- Plastic Sheeting
- String and Wooden Pegs
- Shovel

## TECHNICAL HELPDESK

Tel: 0845 812 6232

E-mail: [info-cement@tarmac.com](mailto:info-cement@tarmac.com)

## ONLINE

Scan the QR code to visit our website at <https://tarmac-bluecircle.co.uk>, packed full of information and video guides for DIYers.

