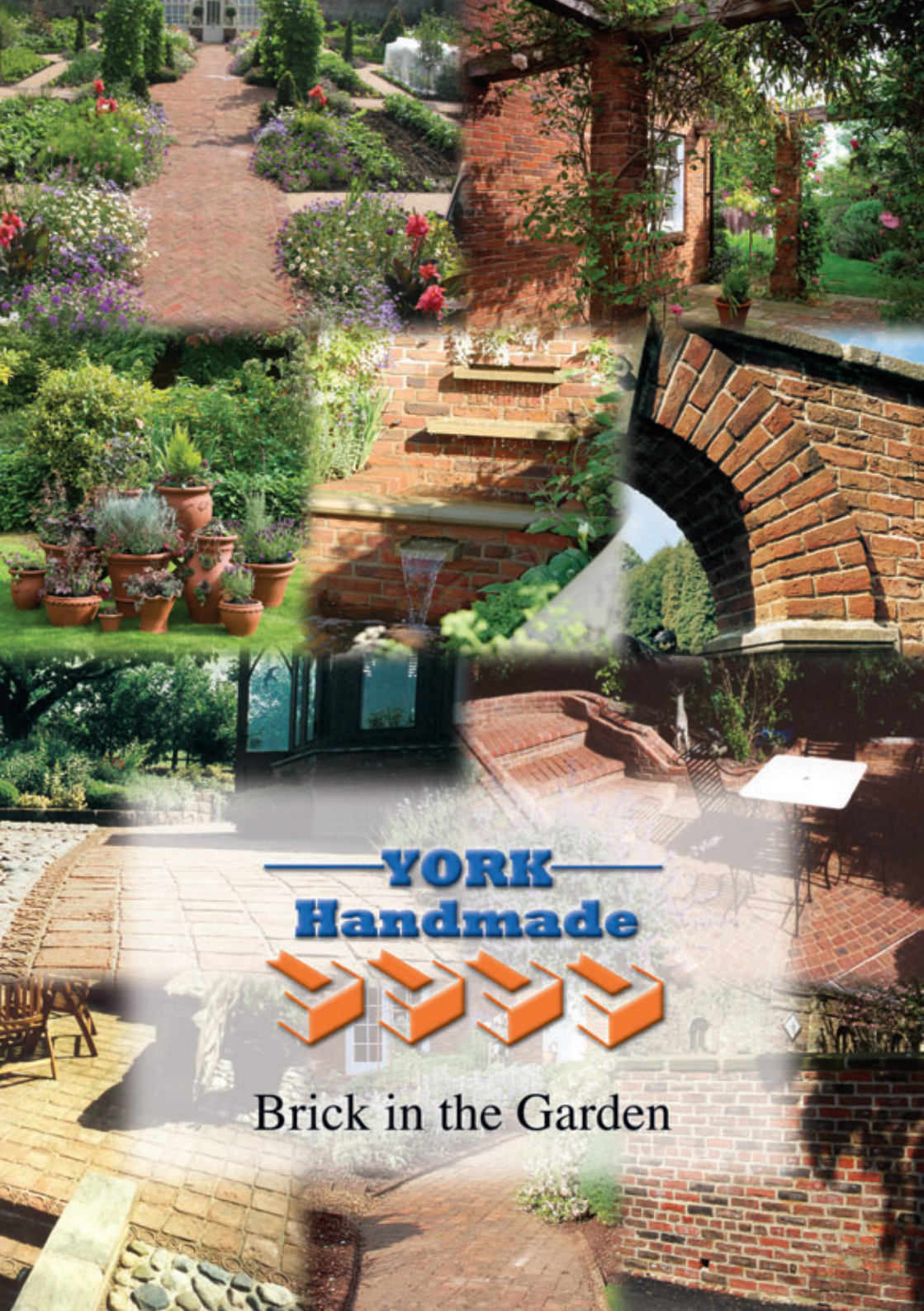




YORK
Handmade



Brick in the Garden

Introduction

Gardens are now often designed to form an integral part of our living space and what better material to use in construction than natural brick made from indigenous clay. It is an ideal way to blend and match the house and the garden by using brick in walls, features and paving to give design cohesion.

Many designs are based on curves and circles and York Handmade landscape products provide the flexibility to create the desired shape. Patio edging for example can be done with purpose made edging bricks. We have an exciting range derived from the Victorian styles which were themselves a throwback to Italian designs of former times.

A brick Herringbone path leads the eye and gives a strong sense of directional movement, basket weave creates a more static pattern. Even if your property is not built out of York Handmade brick there is always a brick or clay landscape product in our range to match or blend. We have a brick matching service to help select the right product.

It is equally true however that other traditional products such as natural stone in the garden lend themselves to the use of handmade brick or pavers. Building a boundary wall gives your home privacy and quiet and reduces external noise levels by providing an excellent backdrop for planting. A walled garden is always a joy and many interesting shrubs and climbers can be grown on any aspect. More important a brick wall is virtually maintenance free. Plants can be left to grow there secure in the knowledge that the wall structure won't let them down.

Focal points, seats, pergolas, steps, pools, barbeques and retaining walls can all be built in brick. Remember to use the flexibility of brick to be original and creative.

This publication will give you a few ideas as to how to use brick in the garden along with simple technical advice. It is important that sub base footings and wall thicknesses are adequate - properly constructed they will last a lifetime. York Handmade have contributed to many award winning schemes including a gold award at the Chelsea Flower Show 2007. We were also recently featured on Television. The Haddon Lake House in the Isle of Wight which used copious amounts of our brick pavers was featured in the Channel 5 series "I own Britain's best home and garden".

Brick gardens are able to lift the spirit and offer a haven in an increasingly hectic world.



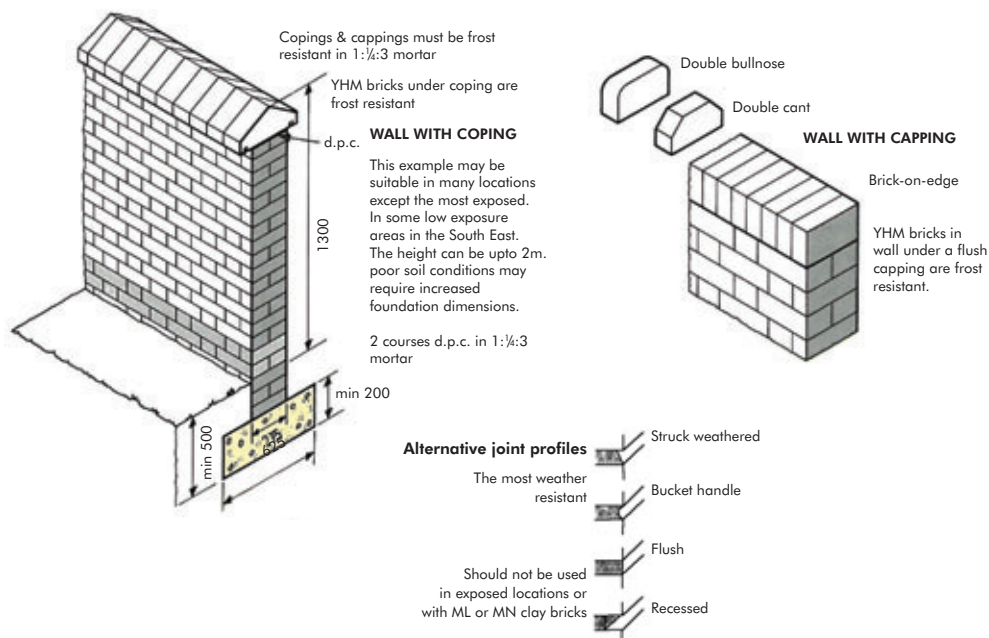
This picture illustrates YHM brick pavers

Freestanding Walls

The use of brick boundary walls is widespread in large historic houses and in their gardens.

Boundary walls on modern housing developments and in private gardens endure as long as brick-built houses, and eliminate the need to replace worn-out fencing. Brick's minimal maintenance requirements ensure low life-cycle costs. As well as the aesthetic and low maintenance advantages, brick boundary walls can also act as good sound barriers to traffic and other noise.

The right choice of bricks, mortars, dpcs, copings and cappings will minimise deterioration of brickwork from saturation and frost attack. The dimensions on the drawing are a general indication only. They are not applicable to any particular circumstances because wind forces, exposure and soil conditions vary greatly. Professional advice should be taken. Standard design information is published by The Brick Development Association.





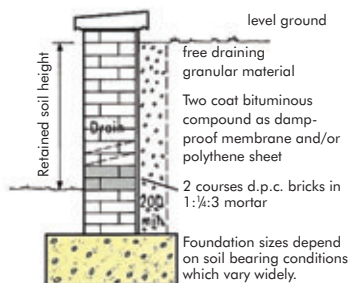
This picture illustrates YHM old clamp blend facings with a semi circular segmental arch

Retaining Walls

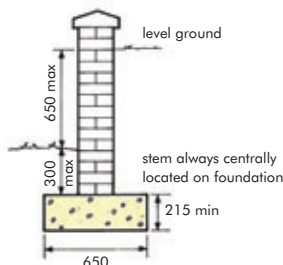
Advantage can be taken of sloping ground to enhance the garden by making dramatic changes of level with vertical faces. Such faces can be effectively supported by brick retaining walls which at the same time provide attractive features, particularly if the top of the retained soil contains plants which cascade over the tops of the walls. Brick retaining walls naturally complement brick steps as well as essentially supporting the ground under them at either side.

Solid brick walls can be used up to 1.2m high based on the rule of thumb that the height of retained soil should not be more than three times the thickness of the wall as illustrated in the two examples. The dimensions on the drawings are a general indication only. They are not applicable to particular circumstances as soil conditions vary greatly. Seek professional advice. The engineering design of retaining walls is described in a publication by the Brick Development association.

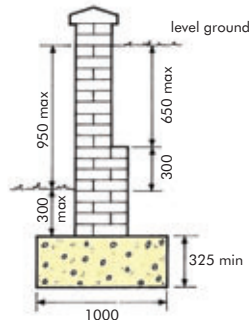
A RETAINING WALL
Typical Construction



ONE-BRICK THICK WALL
Typical Dimensions



ONE AND HALF-BRICK THICK WALL
Typical Dimensions





This picture illustrates YHM brick old clamp blend

Driveways and Paths

The natural beauty of clay bricks has often been used to remarkable effect in historic towns and gardens. With its ability to withstand frost, rain and heavy traffic, brick is a popular choice for driveways and paths where the aesthetic element is essential.

Modern purpose-made clay pavers and bricks possess the same virtues and are increasingly being specified to add quality to front and rear gardens.

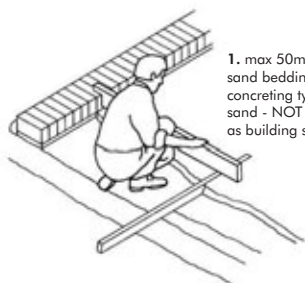
Using clay bricks or pavers means paths and driveways can be design features enhancing the visual appearance of a house, rather than a mere means of access. As well as enjoying these aesthetic benefits clay pavers are extremely robust and unlike many other products, are resistant to damage by oil and petrol. They are also less susceptible to permanent staining by oil spills.

Flexible paving is described in a publication by the Brick Development Association.

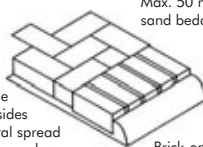
LAYING A PATH OF PAVERS

Sub-base of compacted crushed stone, quarry waste, etc to form flat surface laid to falls

Note: the sand bedding course must not be used to adjust levels - this will cause uneven settlement



1. max 50mm thick sand bedding course of concreting type sharp sand - NOT that described as building sand



Pavers
Max. 50 mm compacted sand bedding course

Permanent edge restraint at all sides to prevent lateral spread of sand bedding and pavers

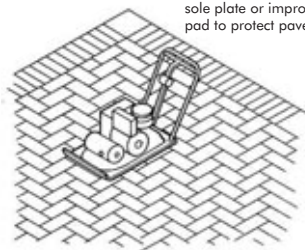
Brick-on-edge bedded on 1:3 mortar and with concrete haunching



2. Lay pavers with approx 2mm joints, unless nibbed, on sand bedding course



3. Brush fine, dry joint-filling sand into joints



4. Remove excess sand and compact pavers by vibrator with rubber faced sole plate or improvise a pad to protect pavers



This picture illustrates YHM cobbles

Steps

Brick steps in gardens are not only useful, they add interest and delight, their form, colour and pattern provide foils for planting, and readily blend with and complement brick walls, driveways, garden paths and patios. They may follow gentle slopes for unhurried strolls through the garden or be steeper for quick access to other levels.

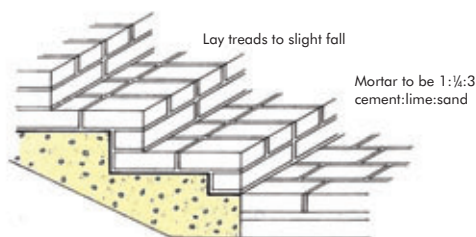
Steps may be built from clay pavers or frost resistant bricks.

If steep, they will require retaining walls to keep the supporting ground in place. When the total length and rise have been decided the number and dimensions of treads and risers can be determined. This should take into account the type and sizes of the bricks to be used as well as any mortar joints and the need to minimise the cutting of bricks.

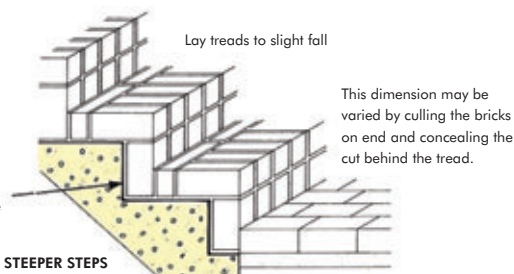
The illustrations highlight other matters to be discussed between the householder and contractor.

TWO EXAMPLES OF STEPS WITH DIFFERENT RISER AND TREAD DIMENSIONS

Ensure that the appearance of exposed header and stretcher faces of clay pavers is acceptable.
Consider the effect of chamfered and nibbed pavers.



EASY GOING STEPS





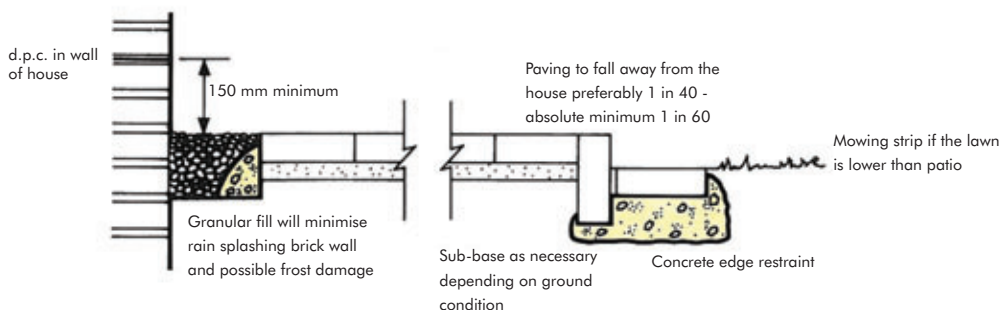
This picture illustrates YHM cobbles

Patios

A patio, as an outdoor family living space, requires at least a hard well drained easy to clean durable and attractive surface, flat enough for a table and chairs. All this can be provided by simply laying clay pavers on 50 mm compacted sand bedding without mortar just as described under driveways. As traffic is unlikely to have access to a patio the sub-base may be less substantial, depending on the soil conditions. Expert advise should be sought.

The drawing provides a reminder of the other points to be considered.

If there is space, freestanding walls to provide shelter, privacy and support for climbing plants; retaining walls and steps where there are changes of level as well as flower boxes, barbecues and permanent seating can all add to the usefulness and attractiveness of a patio either initially or as funds permit.





**This picture illustrates YHM square landscape pavers
and patterned pavers at the edge**

Barbecues and other features

The house, driveway, patio, paths and walls will set the main theme of the garden, but other carefully considered brick built features can add harmoniously to its enjoyment. Built-in benches take up less space than separate chairs and avoid the need for storage space in winter. Barbecues with work surfaces for food and plates can save space and time putting tables into position.

But make sure they are in the right place, if in doubt assemble a temporary feature without mortar so that you can move it if you change your mind. Small planter boxes and raised beds treated like small retaining walls enhance the garden as growing plants spill over and soften the outlines. Bricks are also suitable for water features, bird tables and sundials. As plants grow and the brickwork mellows you will not be the first to appreciate how well they complement each other.





Handmade

York Handmade Flower pots are all hand thrown using Vale of York clay using traditional throwing methods which promote lasting strength and beauty.



Frost Proof

All our pots are frost proof and come with a ten year guarantee. The clay is specially prepared to ensure frost free resistance by weathering the clay for 2 years outside and then processing all our potting clay through a special filtering process to ensure maximum durability.



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