

KEYSTONE  
COUNTRY  
MANOR®

# DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION



•  
Corners

•  
Curves

•  
Steps

•  
Freestanding Walls

•  
Terraces

# OLD WORLD CHARM

Successful designers and contractors are using the old world charm of Keystone Country Manor® to provide a new look on wall projects. Keystone Country Manor offers the appearance of rustic, hand-laid stone walls with the strength and ease of installation provided by the latest in dry-stacked, modular, pin-connected technology.

Random and rugged, these high-strength concrete modules conjure images of old English estate walls, adding character to any project.



*Positive Mechanical Connection with  
Keystone Fiberglass pins*

*Vertical, Battered and  
Parapet Options*

*Simplicity of Construction*

*Wall Solutions from Gravity  
to Soil Reinforced*



## UNMATCHED FLEXIBILITY

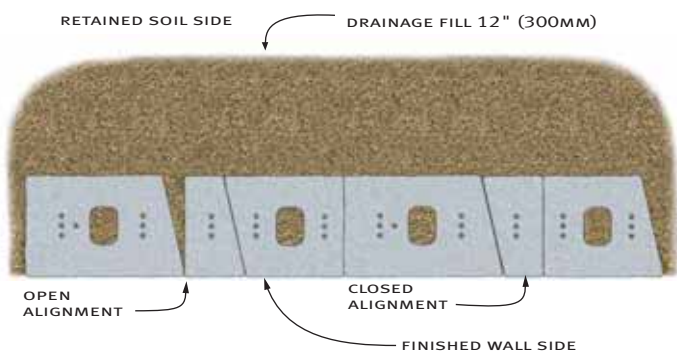
Keystone Country Manor® offers an infinite number of wall assembly combinations.

This design flexibility ensures that every Country Manor wall will be one of a kind. Add multiple color and texture options, and the ability to function as either a reinforced retaining wall or a freestanding landscape wall, and Keystone Country Manor lends itself to an almost limitless number of applications.



# THE PRODUCT

In addition to providing strength and beauty, Keystone Country Manor can create signature hardscape designs that set your project apart from all others. The ability to create freestanding walls allows for the creation of barbeques and outdoor kitchens, bench seating and the concealment of outdoor lighting and speaker systems. Use Keystone Country Manor to provide detail and accent to a large lawn or green space, add grandeur to a drive or walkway, or create a truly unique pool/patio area.



\*6"h x 10"d x 16"/14"w  
(150 x 250 x 400/350mm)  
60 lbs. (27 kg)



\*6"h x 10"d x 12"/10"w  
(150 x 250 x 300/250mm)  
40 lbs. (18 kg)



\*6"h x 10"d x 12"/12"w  
(150 x 250 x 300/300mm)  
45 lbs. (20 kg)  
(Two smooth ends for vertical stacking capability)



\*6"h x 10"d x 8"/10"w  
(150 x 250 x 200/250mm)  
45 lbs. (20 kg)



\*6"h x 10"d x 6"/8"w  
(150 x 250 x 150/200mm)  
35 lbs. (16 kg)



\*6"h x 10"d x 4"/6"w  
(150 x 250 x 100/150mm)  
25 lbs. (11 kg)



Keystone Country Manor Cap Unit  
\*3"h x 12"d x 14"/8"w  
(75 x 300 x 355/200mm)  
30 lbs. (14 kg)

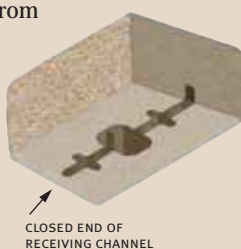


\*Note: The number and size of the units in the Keystone Country Manor System vary by region. The most common configurations are the 3 piece, 5 piece, and 6 piece systems. Please contact your local representative for additional details.



The closed channel end at the unit bottom allows for finished end aesthetics on 90° corners, pilasters and wall end conditions. As required for pin interlock, remove the solid closed end of the receiving channel. Remove only if pin from unit below strikes this area.

The receiving channel on the bottom surface of each unit connects over the pins from the course below. Walls can be built with positive mechanical connection in 90° corners, curves and straight wall geometry without loss of connection or strength.



## FIBERGLASS PINS

Keystone interlocking connection and alignment pins are made from high strength pultruded fiberglass. Minimum short beam shear strength is 6400 psi.

### Specifications:

5-1/4" (130mm) total length  
1-1/4" (32mm) shoulder length  
1/2" (13mm) diameter at pin shaft  
3/4" (20mm) diameter at shoulder



## KEYSTONE FEATURES

### Three or More Face Dimensions

- Provides the greatest degree of random layout due to variations from unit side dimensions.
- Each unit has two side dimensions.
- All units other than the 12"/12" have two different side lengths to provide random width appearance to the wall.

### Colors

- Keystone Country Manor is produced in color blends that enhance the natural stone-like appearance.

### Three Textured Sides on Each Unit

- Weathered or antiqued finish to provide a more natural stone look to the units.
- Allows each unit to be used in multiple positions within the wall.
- Each unit can be used as an exposed end unit or a 90° corner unit.
- Allows construction of small freestanding walls, parapet walls, pilasters and columns in addition to retaining walls.

### Shape

- Each unit has a 90° angle and a tapered (angled) side, allowing the units to be used in 90° corners, tight fitting straight line walls, and radii at curves.

### Units are Packaged in Sets

- Eliminates the need for the contractor to pull from multiple pallets to maintain random appearance.
- Provides for a simple method of construction and a random appearance to the wall system.

### High Strength Pins with Shouldered Cap

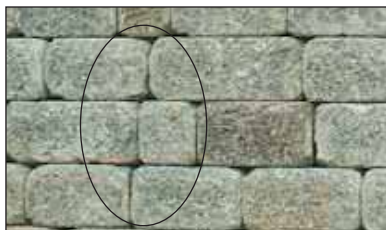
- Multiple pin positions allow for near vertical, 9.5° batter (setback), and the opportunity to randomly pull a unit forward to accent the wall.



# INSTALLATION

## PATTERN & APPEARANCE

“Rule of Thumb” for bond pattern between courses: Construct the wall using the units as they come off each shipping pallet. Randomly utilize the various unit shapes trying to avoid a repetition of same unit size frequency along a horizontal line (some unit repetition is unavoidable). **Avoid stack bonding of unit joints (vertical joint line between adjoining units) for more than two courses vertically.** If some units seem to have a blemish or too much texturing in a specific area, orient them so the blemish faces the soil side of the wall to hide imperfections or use these units along the wall base.



Avoid “stack bond” conditions where more than two courses create weak areas in the wall.

## EMBEDMENT

Unit embedment below the grade line shall be a minimum of one unit buried, under all conditions, along with a general provision of  $H/20$  (wall height divided by 20) for total wall embedment of taller walls. Note  $H$ =total height of wall from top of base leveling pad to top of wall. Consult a qualified engineer for sloping grade conditions in front of wall or steep slopes and surcharge loads on top of wall. Deeper embedment may be required in areas prone to surface scouring where base erosion is possible, or in areas where freestanding walls are desired and frost depths require deeper foundations.



1. PREPARE BASE LEVELING PAD



2. INSTALL THE BASE COURSE



3. INSERT THE FIBERGLASS PINS



4. INSTALL FILL & COMPACTION



5. INSTALL ADDITIONAL COURSES



6. CAPPING THE WALL

Remove all surface vegetation and debris. Do not use this material as backfill. After selecting the location and length of the wall, excavate the base trench to the designed width and depth (min. 20" W x 12" D) [500mm x 300mm]. Start the leveling pad at the lowest elevation along wall alignment. Step up in 6" (150mm) increments with the base as required at elevation changes in the foundation. Level the prepared base with 6" (150mm) of well-compacted granular fill (gravel, road base, or 1/2" to 3/4" [10 - 20 mm] crushed stone). Compact to 95% Standard Proctor or greater. **Do not use PEA GRAVEL or SAND for leveling pad.**

Place the first course of Country Manor units end to end (with front corners touching) on the prepared base. The long groove (receiving channel) on the unit should be placed down and the three pin holes should face up, as shown. Make sure each unit is level - side to side and front to back. Leveling the first course is critical for accurate and acceptable results. For alignment of straight walls, use a string line aligned on the unit pin holes for accuracy. Minimum embedment of base course is 6" below grade.

Place the shouldered fiberglass pins into the holes of the Country Manor Units (note: place one pin only per each grouping of three holes). Place pins in the middle hole for near vertical alignment or the holes nearest the embankment for a 9.5° +/- setback per course. According to wall requirements and design, the front pin hole (towards the face of the wall) can be used randomly to allow a forward projection of a specific unit for accent and variation in the wall appearance.

Once the pins have been installed, provide 1/2" - 3/4" (10 - 20mm) crushed stone drainage fill behind the units to a minimum depth of 12" (300mm). Fill open spaces between units and open cavities/cores with the same drainage material. Proceed to place backfill in maximum 6" (150mm) layers (lifts) and compact to 95% Standard Proctor with the appropriate compaction equipment. Do not use heavy ride-on compaction equipment within 3' (1m) from back of wall. Do not use jumping or ramming type compaction.

Place the next course of Country Manor units over the fiberglass pins, fitting the pins into the long receiving channel recess of the units above (Note: Some removal of debris in the pin holes and channel may be necessary prior to placement). Push the Country Manor units toward the face of the wall until they make full contact with the pins. If pins do not connect with channel but align in open core of upper unit, place drainage fill in core to provide unit interlock with pin. For near vertical alignment, center the unit above over the center placed pins below.

Continue all steps until ready to place the wall cap. Clean off the last course of Country Manor in preparation for the cap or coping to finalize the wall. With units dry and clean, use construction adhesive (Keystone Kapseal) for a mechanical bond. Install the Country Manor 3" (75mm) capping unit, architectural precast concrete or cut stone as a coping element. Cap may be flush or overhanging as required by aesthetics and design. Note: For taller, more critical walls, refer to geogrid soil reinforcement instructions on the following page.

## GEOGRID SOIL REINFORCEMENT

Taller walls or walls supporting surcharge loads require the use of geogrid reinforcement material to reinforce a cohesive soil mass directly behind the retaining wall and provide connection to the concrete facing units. Geogrid properties and wall design require knowledge of wall heights, soil properties (Phi angle and moist unit weight), surcharge loads and manufacturer's requirements for specific geogrid types and strength capabilities. For general design of limited height walls, refer to the "Design Charts" in the back of this brochure. For conditions beyond these basic charts, consult a qualified engineer. To install geogrid into your wall, continue the installation process with the following steps.

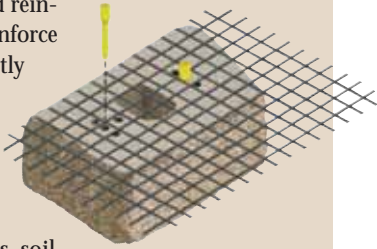
**Excavate Reinforced Soil Area:** Remove existing soil in the reinforced soil zone to the maximum embedment length of the geogrid design. Level and compact soil behind the wall prior to placement of each geogrid layer.

**Cut Geogrid:** Cut sections from the geogrid roll to the specified length (embedment length) by design charts or engineers design analysis. Check manufacturer's criteria for biaxial or uniaxial geogrids. In most cases, the correct orientation is to roll the geogrid perpendicular to the wall face.

**Install Geogrid:** Place geogrid over the Country Manor shouldered pins already in place. NOTE: Allow approximately 3" (75mm) of geogrid material to rest on the unit top surface ahead of the pin (from pin to face of wall). This will ensure that the next course above will be fully supported on geogrid. Place all sections of geogrid, abutting each other side-to-side as per manufacturers instructions.

**Secure Geogrid:** Pull the pinned geogrid taut to eliminate loose folds. Stake or secure the back edge of geogrid before backfill and compaction. As possible, compact from back of wall area towards embankment to avoid loosening geogrid or putting compaction pressure on wall. Remove stakes, as required, once backfill is placed.

**Install next course of Country Manor units.** Follow steps 3-5 (on page 5) until next geogrid layer or completion of wall.



## STEPPED FOOTING (Leveling Pad)

Leveling pad options:

Compacted free draining granular fill (inorganic)

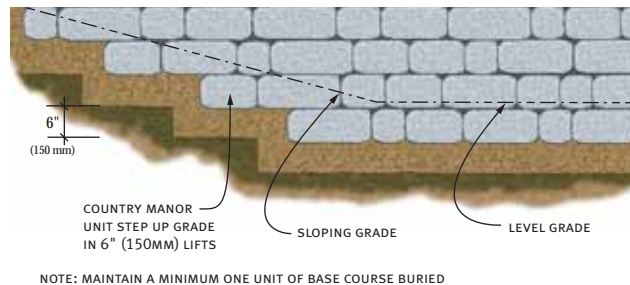
Crushed stone road base

3/8" - 3/4" crushed stone

Non-reinforced concrete (2000 psi)

Leveling pad thickness: 6" (150mm) ± granular materials  
3" (75mm) ± concrete option

Always start wall at lowest elevation of site location where wall is to be constructed. Build step-ups in leveling pad to match 6" Country Manor unit thickness. When using non-reinforced concrete for the leveling pad option, it is critical that the step-ups exactly match the Country Manor unit thickness! With a concrete leveling pad, there are few options for correction if the step-up is built higher than the unit height.



## GENERAL NOTES:

- Units may vary due to texturing processes and unit sizes by region. Verify unit type, size, weight availability by region. Units may vary up to 1" ± (25mm) due to texture variations.
- Clean out pin holes and receiving channel as required to assemble wall. During manufacturing, some concrete crumbs may deposit in these areas and should be removed to permit pins to be placed in the appropriate holes and receiving channel.
- Cut or split units as required (with a mason saw, hydraulic break or chisel and hammer) for corners, caps or wherever units need to be altered to allow construction to be finalized. (Cuts produce smooth finish; splits produce textured finish.)
- When cutting concrete units, always wear safety goggles, gloves and filter mask per manufacturer's recommendations.
- Use Keystone Kapseal™ construction adhesive for all units in parapet walls, columns, etc. where wall is built freestanding (not retaining soil). Use vertical bead of adhesive between units in freestanding wall to avoid daylight view through wall units. Use adhesive as required at 90° corners or where pins do not interconnect units.

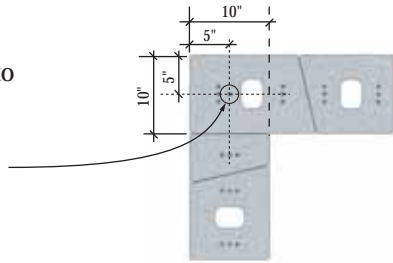


# DESIGN DETAILS

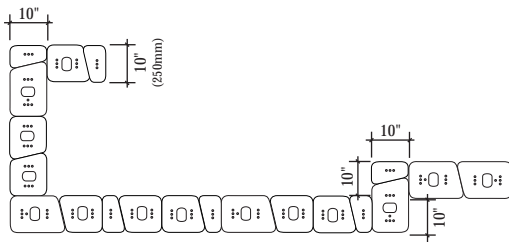
## CORNERS

With Country Manor, corners are a natural part of your creative design. All Country Manor units are capable of being used in a 90° corner due to having one end square and three sides textured. This allows units to build retaining and freestanding structures with one, two, or three faces exposed. For taller walls, it is recommended that the “Large Unit” be used at corners to achieve greater strength through overlap and interlock with units above and below.

The large unit has an extra pin position for connection to the next course above in a 90° corner which runs in a perpendicular orientation.

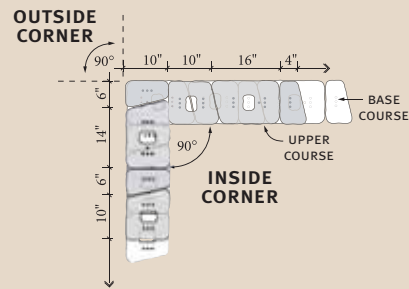
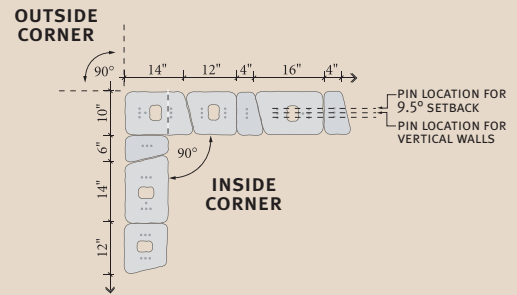


## 90° Corners



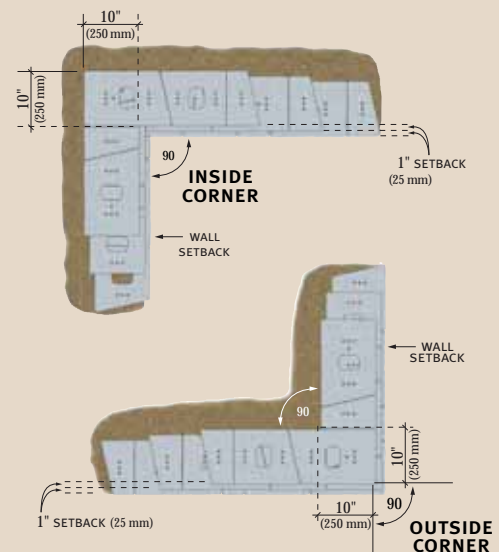
## Near Vertical Corners

All units have one square end and an angled end. Use the square end of any unit to create the corner condition on an inside or outside corner. It is beneficial to use the largest unit for construction of the corner for strength.



## Corners With Setback

Corners with a positive setback build in a similar random course pattern to the near vertical corner. In the setback version, each course of pins are set in the 1" offset position. Units shift laterally as required to achieve the 1" setback.



*Retaining wall curves can be built in both convex (outward) and concave (inward) layouts using the “near vertical” or 1” setback options. For freestanding walls (above grade), always build in the vertical position.*



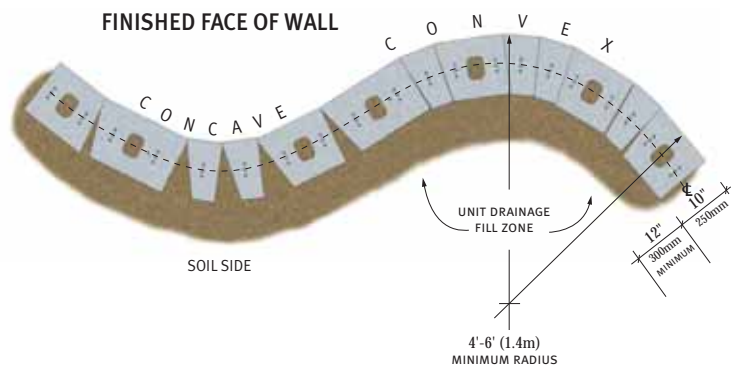
## CURVES

The Keystone Country Manor design makes it easy to construct a variety of serpentine curves. Convex and concave curves will add gentle grace, beauty and strength to any installation.

**Retaining Walls:** Place the units to follow the desired curve. If unit to unit geometry creates small “V” shaped voids on the retained soil side, just fill these areas with drainage fill.

**Parapet walls:** When units are exposed on two sides, select the proper unit layout that provides tight closed-end conditions for all units to avoid a gapped look on either side of the parapet. Cutting of units may be required to avoid gaps in freestanding walls.

**Radius:** The minimum radius that can be built using the random pattern of units without cutting or using a disproportionate amount of the smaller units is 4'-6" (1.4m). To build smaller radii, a larger proportion of small units and some cutting may be required.



# DESIGN DETAILS

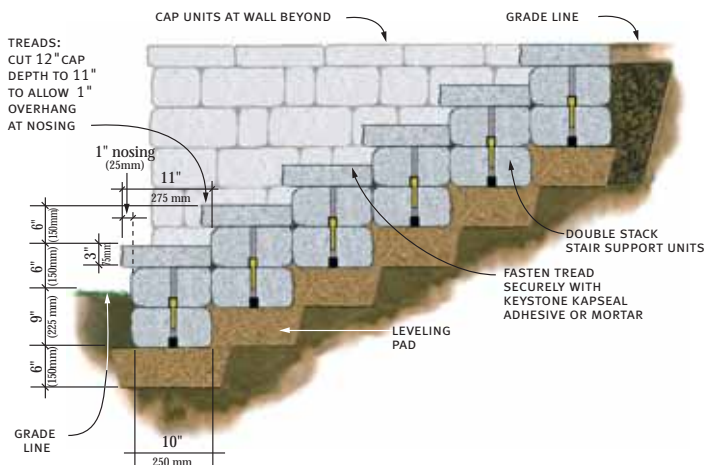


## STEP DESIGNS

Keystone Country Manor can be used on your step/stair projects with the following considerations:

- Provide the same material at the step foundation as used on the Country Manor wall leveling pad.
- Compact leveling pad material to a minimum 95% Standard Proctor. Note: adding cement can provide the additional benefit of firming up this area in a cemented soil composite.
- Double stack the base support units to create a foundation for the stair “tread” units. Use pins and construction adhesive as required for a unified step assembly.

Note: A cemented soil composite can help shape the step/stair foundation and eliminate the need to double stack the “tread” units.



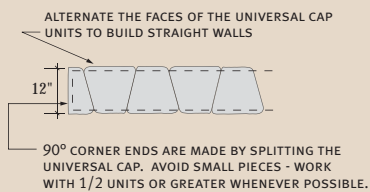
Provide handrail/railing as per local building code. Core drill for handrail and secure with non-shrink grout as required. Core drill through cap unit into the base support units for handrail support.



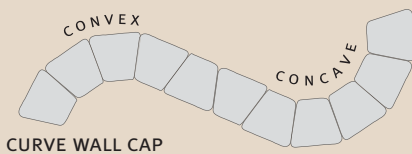
## CAPPING / COPING OPTIONS

### Keystone Universal Cap:

The 3" high cap unit has two sides textured allowing the unit to have either textured side as a finished face for straight and curved wall applications. The 12" depth from face to face of the Universal Cap allows for a 1" (25mm) overhang or "shadow" effect over each side of the wall below. For retaining walls, the overhang can be eliminated if desired by pushing the cap back flush with wall plane. Use Keystone Kapseal construction adhesive to fasten caps in place.



The two parallel faces of the universal cap unit are textured such that either side can be the finished face.



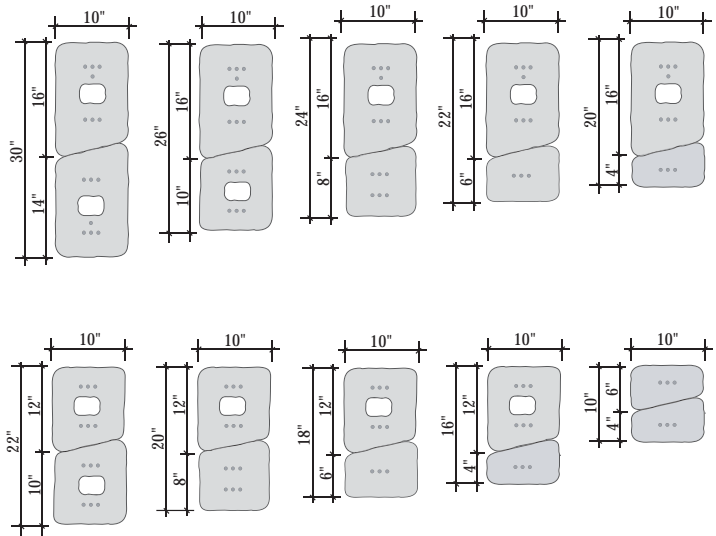
Small gaps between cap units or some cutting may be required to achieve specific cap course radii.



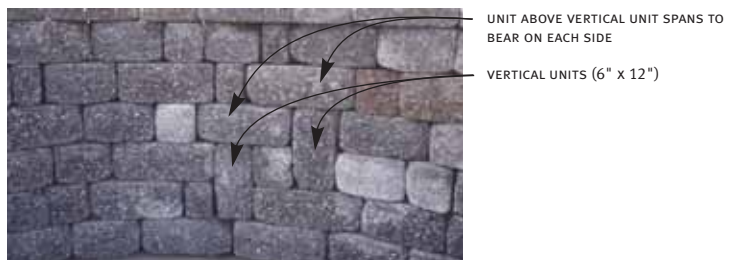
## UNIT DIMENSION COMBINATIONS

When developing the wall design and layout for straight or curved walls with corners, offsets, pilasters, etc., use the following guidelines. Due to all units being 10" deep (between parallel faces) it is best to work in increments of 10" for geometry offset. In reviewing the design details in this brochure, note that all geometry offsets are measurements of 10", 20", 30" etc. For running walls, either straight or curved, work in even dimensional increments for single units or combination of units as shown above. Build walls in random layout, adjusting with unit selection or unit cutting as required to fit between fixed dimension points.

*Note: Some manufacturers offer different unit sizes, which yield greater dimensional variation and layout options. Consult with your local manufacturer/distributor for additional information.*



## Vertical Unit Orientation



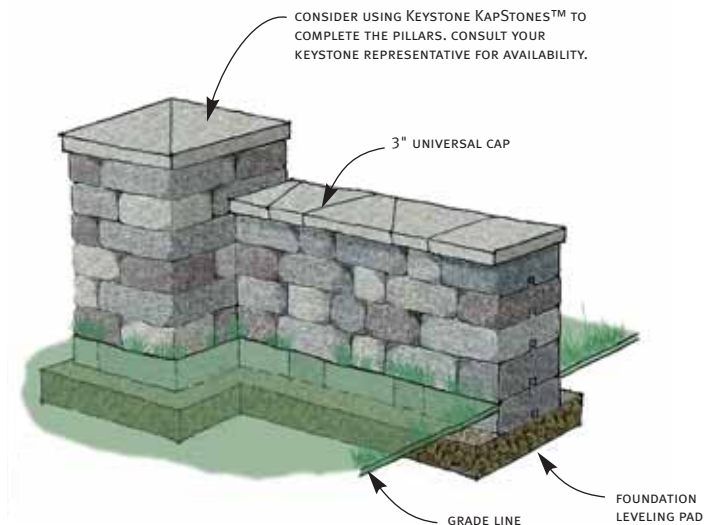
A creative design option is to occasionally place units vertically in the wall to provide a break of horizontal lines. To span two 6" high courses, use the unit with the 12" length. If the fiberglass pins do not interlock in this position, use Keystone Kapseal construction adhesive to fasten this unit in place. Make sure the unit above the 12" vertical piece spans over or beyond the 6" width of the vertical unit, resting on the units at each side.

# DESIGN DETAILS

## FREESTANDING WALL APPLICATIONS

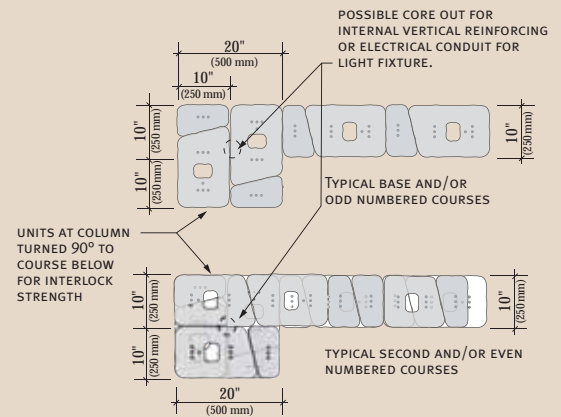
When considering freestanding wall conditions of any height, the designer must consider the requirements of geometry and internal reinforcing to resist overturning and seismic forces (where applicable). Reinforced footings/foundation depth must be considered to provide support and bearing as applied to soil and frost conditions. Due to the variable nature of each site situation, a qualified engineer should be consulted for appropriate design in accordance with local building codes.

The design details shown on the next few pages are for concept representation only and are not intended to represent final design. Consult a qualified engineer for specific design considerations.



## COLUMN CORNER

A typical column corner utilizes a 20"x 20" column geometry to develop an integrated pier at the end of a running wall. This detail offers visual aesthetic interest as well as provides strength at the end of the freestanding wall.



## Column Top Options:

Landscape lighting/entry

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Planter with flowers or ornamentals

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Yard figurine/sculpture

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Mail box

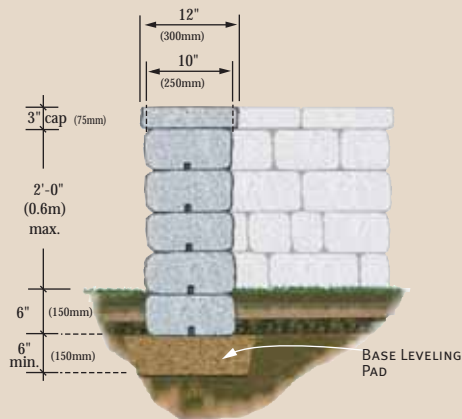
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Street address monument



## FREESTANDING BORDER WALL

With Keystone Country Manor, you have the added option of building unreinforced freestanding walls to various plan geometry and limited heights. From low border walls, which define the edge of patios and decks to freestanding entry monuments, pilasters and parapets walls, Country Manor uses this interlocking geometry to achieve wider wall areas which provide strength and resistance to overturning forces.



## WALL END COLUMN

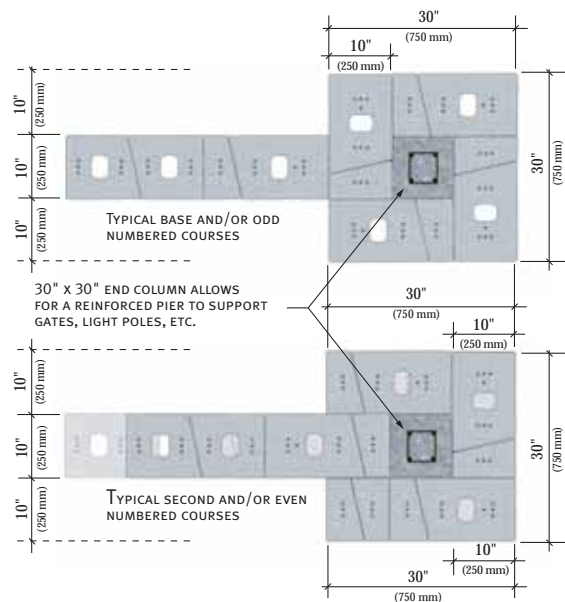
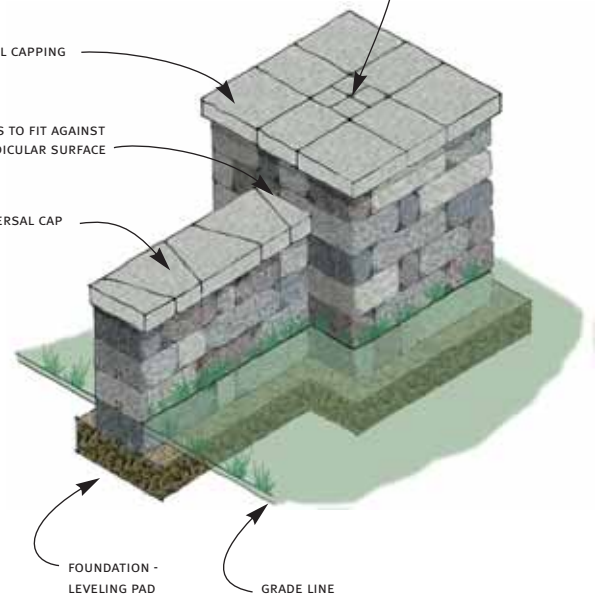
The wall end column is a larger version of the "Column Corner" detail. The benefit of this design option is the development of internal reinforcement to provide for greater strength and height, along with a larger footprint dimension for aesthetic purposes. Additionally, for markets where the 10"/8" unit is available, this can be combined with the 12"/10" unit to create a 20" long segment of the 30" x 30" column.

INTERNAL COLUMN REINFORCING SHOULD PROVIDE FOR STEEL RE-BAR AND SOLID CONCRETE GROUTING IN CONNECTION WITH A REINFORCED CONCRETE FOUNDATION.

OPTIONAL CAPPING PATTERN

CUT CAPS TO FIT AGAINST PERPENDICULAR SURFACE

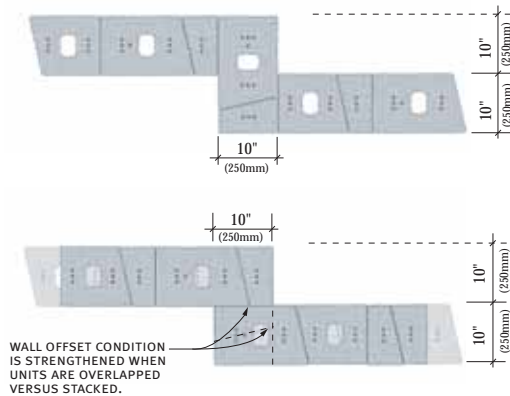
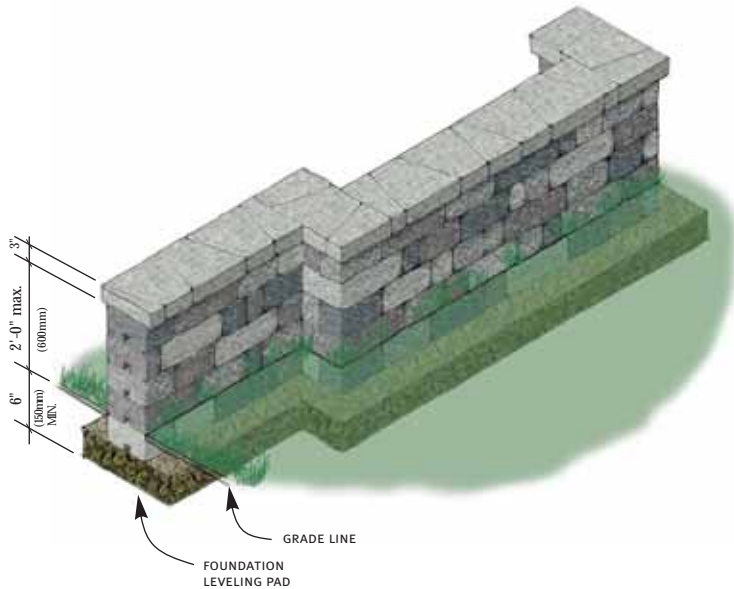
3" UNIVERSAL CAP



# DESIGN DETAILS

## WALL OFFSET

- Wider wall geometry (footprint) provides greater strength for parapet walls to resist overturning.
- Offsets allow for graceful changes in wall direction.
- Offsets are an opportunity for aesthetic geometry and landscape feature areas.



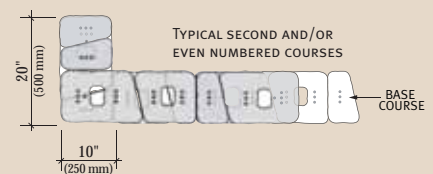
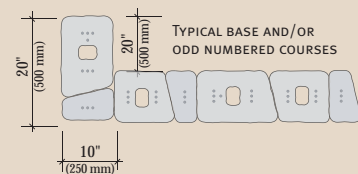
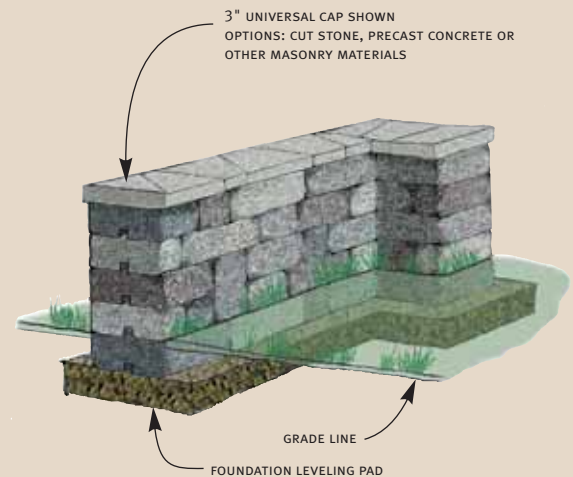
### Notes:

- The minimum offset for two parallel walls as shown in the details on this page, is 10". Continuous offsets @ maximum 10'-0" O.C. will provide strength at parapet walls in coordination with construction adhesive (Keystone Kapseal™) and/or vertical reinforcement as required by engineer.
- It is important to use overlapping unit combinations at the offset location where two units combined together equal 20" in length (see plan geometry below).
- Details showing freestanding wall applications show partial sections of walls. The unfinished ends, with channel openings visible, are not meant to portray a finished condition.



## "L" RETURN END

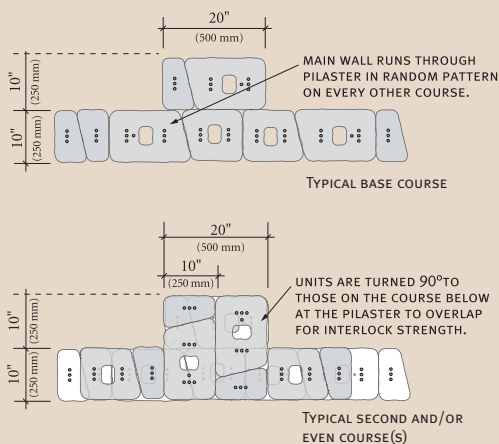
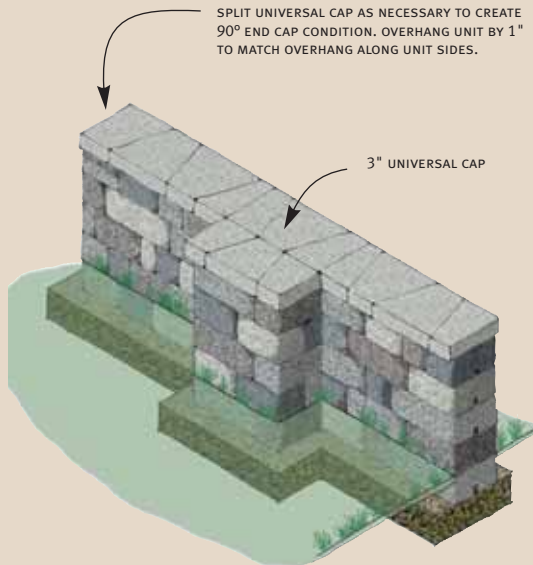
Similar to column corners, this detail offers stability and strength to resist overturning forces at the end of a freestanding wall.





## PILASTER DETAIL

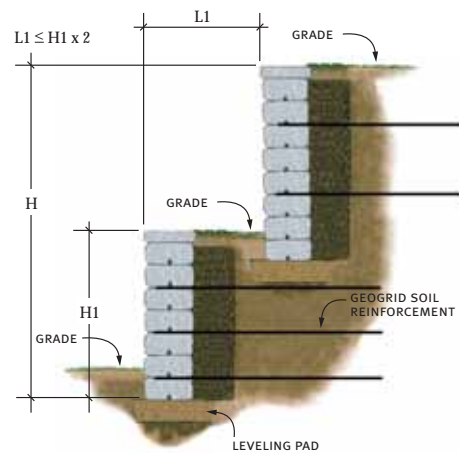
The pilaster detail creates a deeper wall section within the wall which can provide stability for a retaining structure, freestanding wall or parapet.



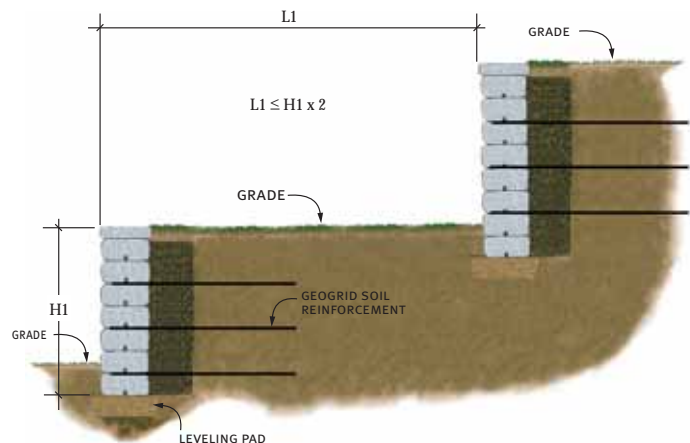
## TERRACES

Terraces are a pleasing way to build a taller retaining wall where aesthetics dictate the separation of walls to reduce the wall height and large mass appearance. Closely spaced terraces need to be reviewed by a qualified engineer to avoid global instability issues and to make sure soil reinforcement (geogrids) are properly designed to handle the loads for the entire wall structure. Terraced walls should be analyzed as a complete wall system versus individual walls unless they are spread apart greater than twice the wall height of each terrace and the soils are free draining and granular in nature.

## Terrace Wall Proximity Evaluation



For walls where  $L1 \leq H1 \times 2$ , then the walls are to be considered as a composite and the entire wall height (H) needs to be considered in the design.



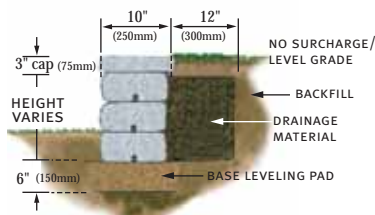
For walls where  $L1 \geq H1 \times 2$ , then the walls typically are analyzed separately. Walls built on slopes  $\geq 3:1$  or on soft soils need to be analyzed for "global stability". Consult a qualified engineer.

# DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

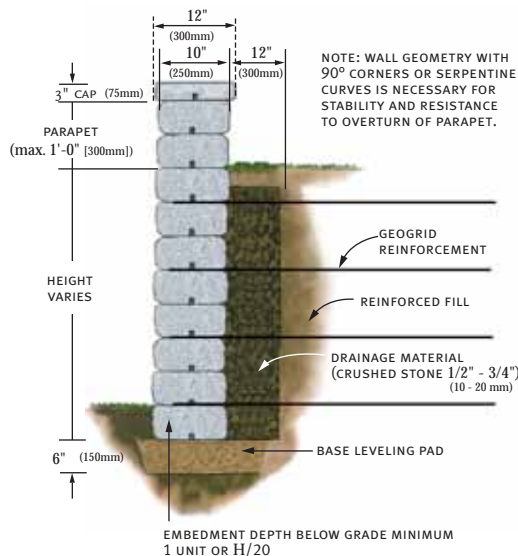
## DESIGN ASSUMPTIONS

- Friction angle (PHI) for earth pressure calculations of geogrid reinforced walls is evaluated at 26°, 30° and 34° only. For other soil type analysis, refer to Keywall Software program or consult with a qualified engineer.
- Moist weight of three soil types indicated is 120 lb./ft.<sup>3</sup> (19kN/m<sup>2</sup>).
- Sliding calculations use 6" (150mm) crushed stone leveling pad as compacted foundation material.
- All backfill materials are compacted to 95% Standard Proctor density.
- The term "vertical" is a wall built to a near vertical alignment having a slight positive setback (1° ±).
- The information provided herein is for preliminary design use only. A qualified engineer should be consulted for design and analysis of structures. Keystone Retaining Wall Systems, Inc. assumes no liability for the improper use of this information.

Gravity Wall  
Near Vertical Detail



Reinforced Wall  
Near Vertical Detail



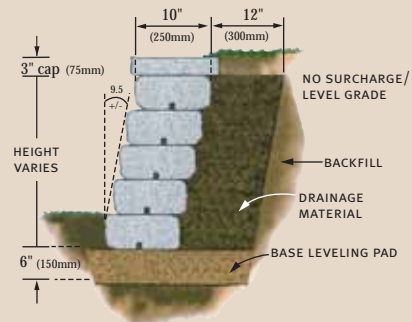
## DESIGN NOTES

For low (non-structural) landscape retaining walls, Country Manor can be constructed as a non-reinforced gravity wall as shown in the chart below. This chart is for retaining walls in the "near vertical" option. Note: use pins and construction adhesive at low border/parapet walls.

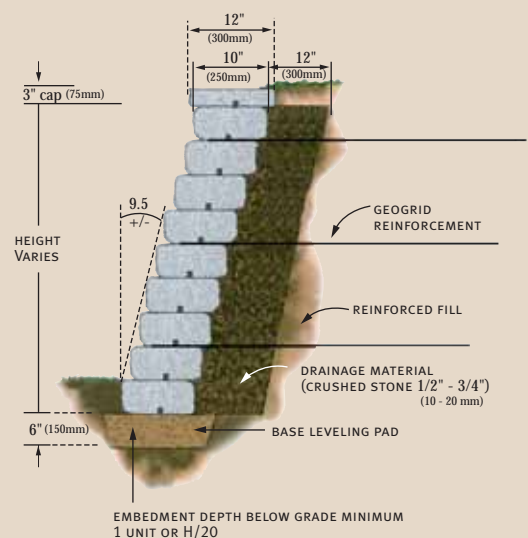
GRAVITY WALLS (maximum unreinforced wall height)

MAXIMUM HEIGHT	NEAR VERTICAL		9.5° +/- BATTER	
	LEVEL	3H:1V	LEVEL	3H:1V
SAND / GRAVEL PHI = 34°	2'-0" (0.6m)	1'-6" (0.45m)	3'-0" (0.9m)	2'-6" (0.75m)
SILTY SAND PHI = 30°	1'-6" (0.45m)	1'-6" (0.45m)	2'-6" (0.75m)	2'-0" (0.6m)
SILT / LEAN CLAY PHI = 26°	1'-6" (0.45m)	1'-0" (0.3m)	2'-0" (0.6m)	1'-6" (0.45m)

Gravity Wall  
Setback Detail 9.5° ± Batter



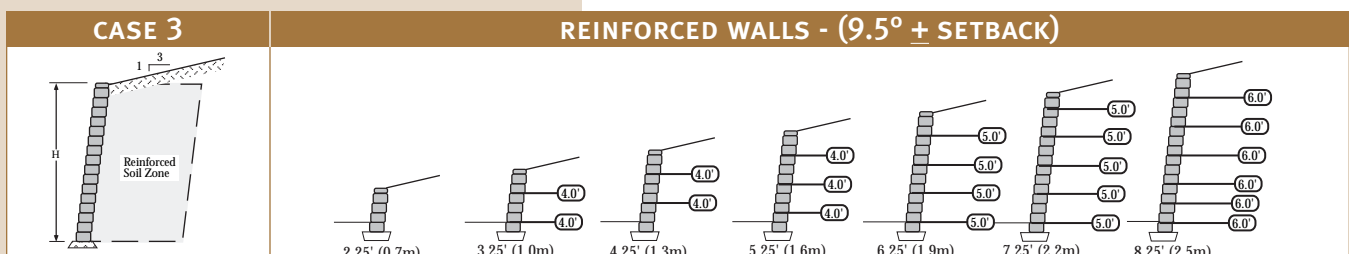
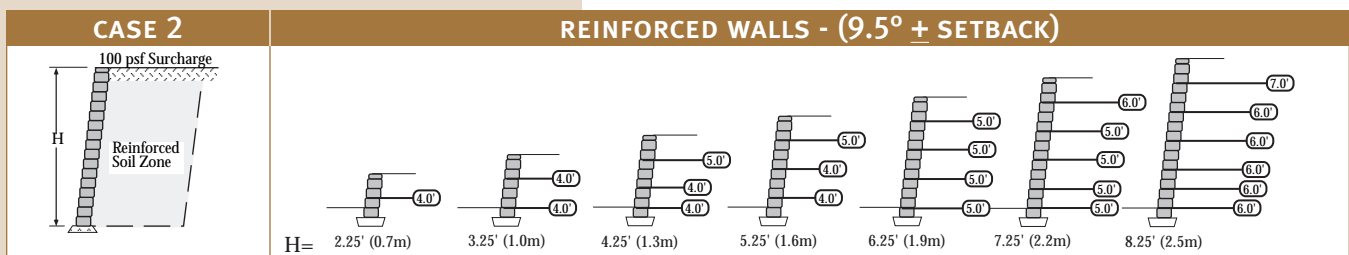
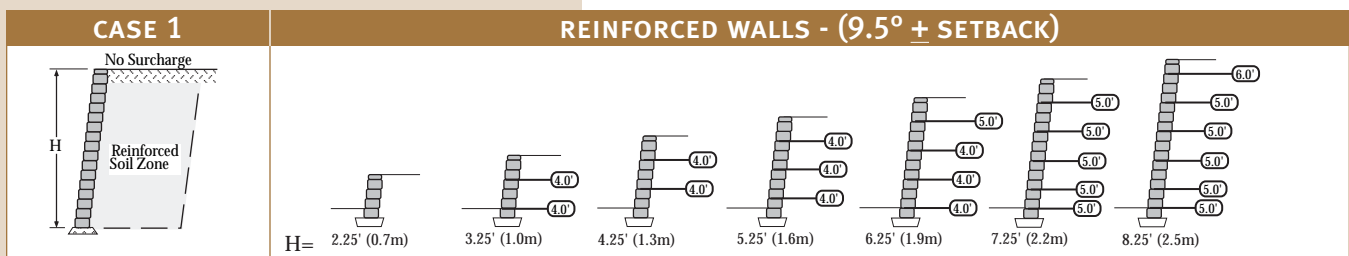
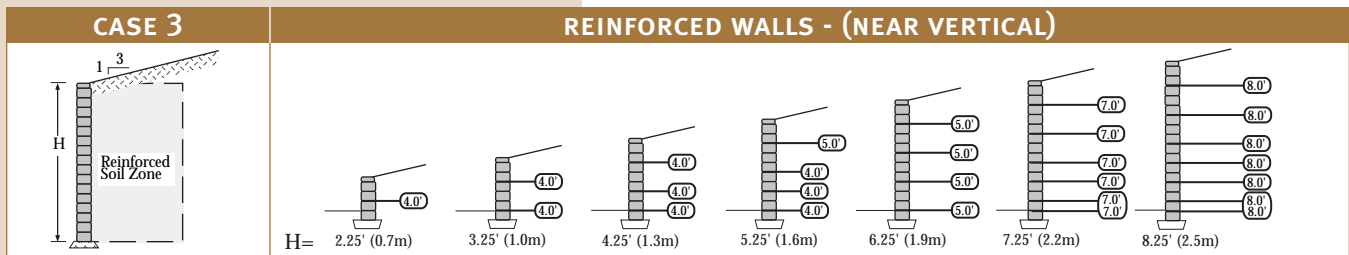
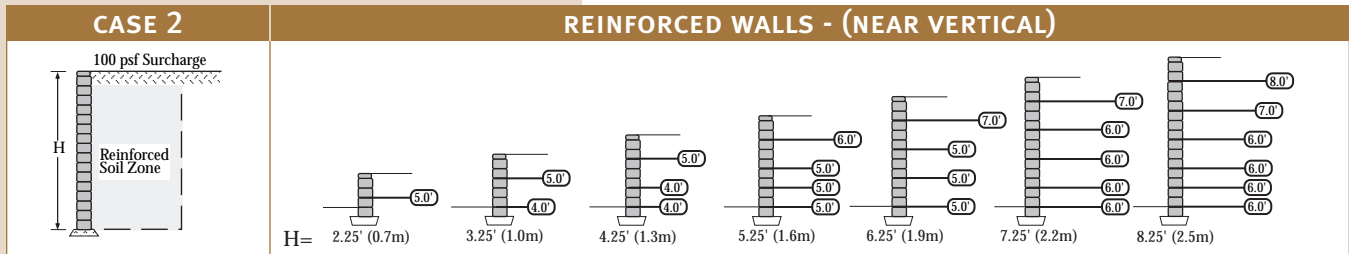
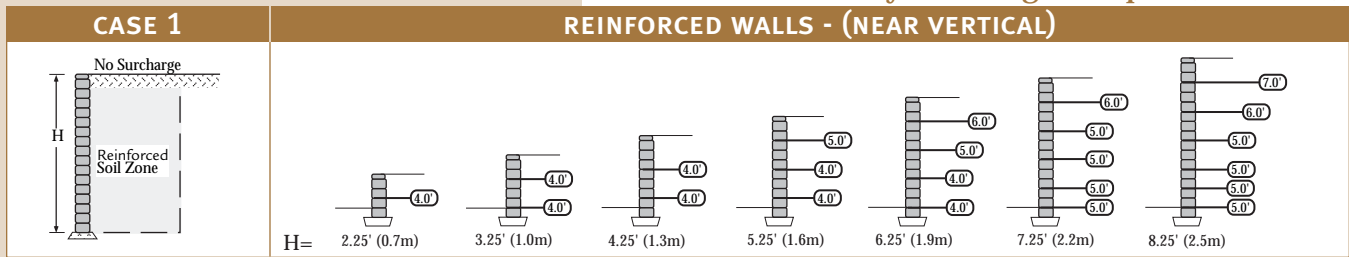
Reinforced Wall  
Setback Detail 9.5° ± Batter



# DESIGN CHARTS

The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:  
LTDS = 750 plf (10.9 kN/m) or Tal = 500 plf (7.3 kN/m)

Silt/Lean Clay:  $f=26^\circ$ ,  $g=120$  pcf (19kN/m<sup>3</sup>)

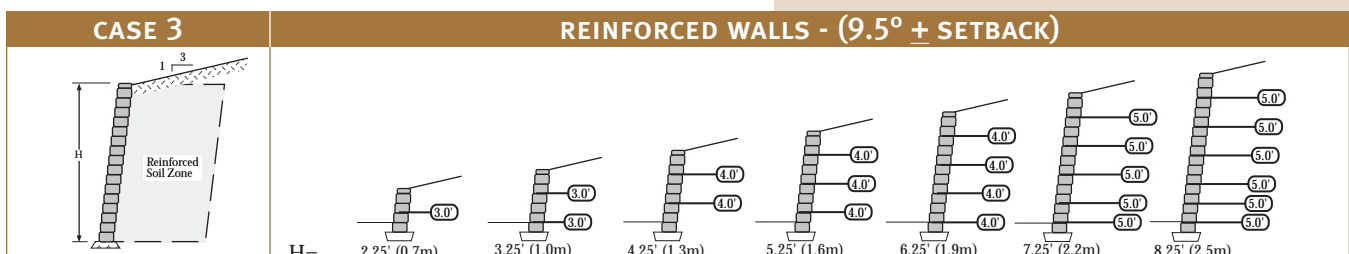
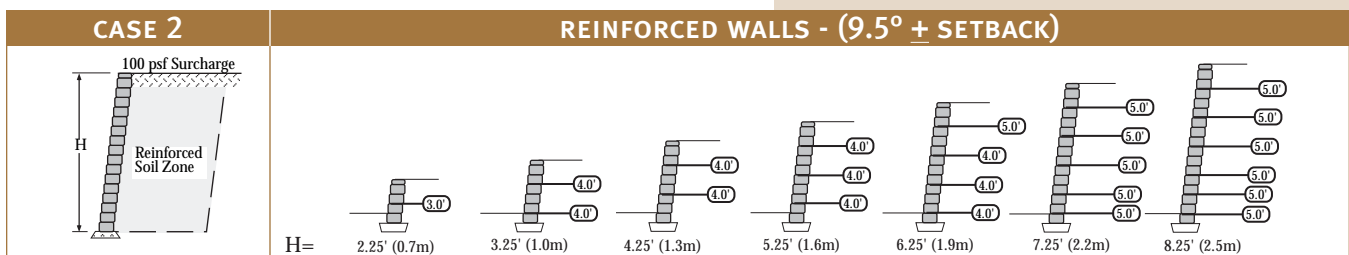
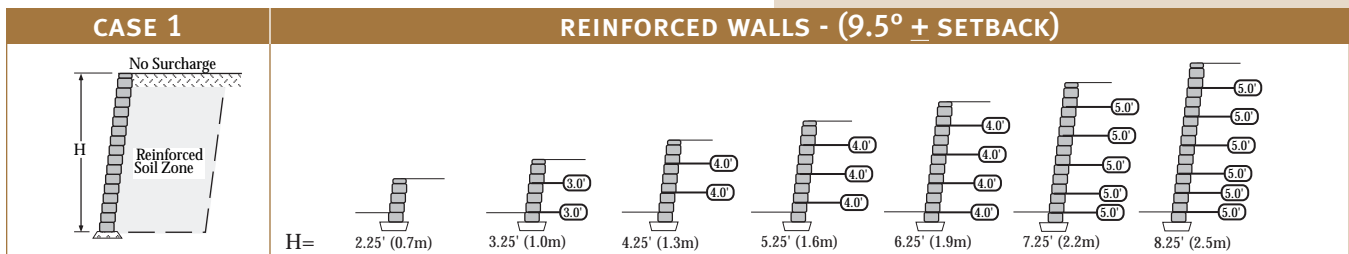
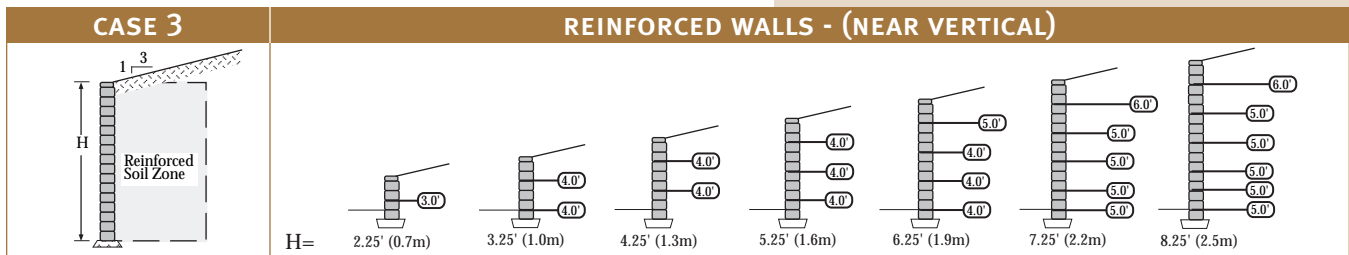
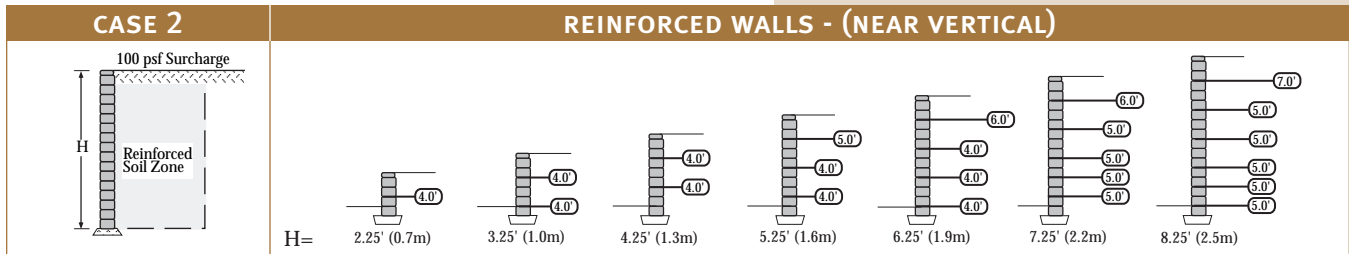
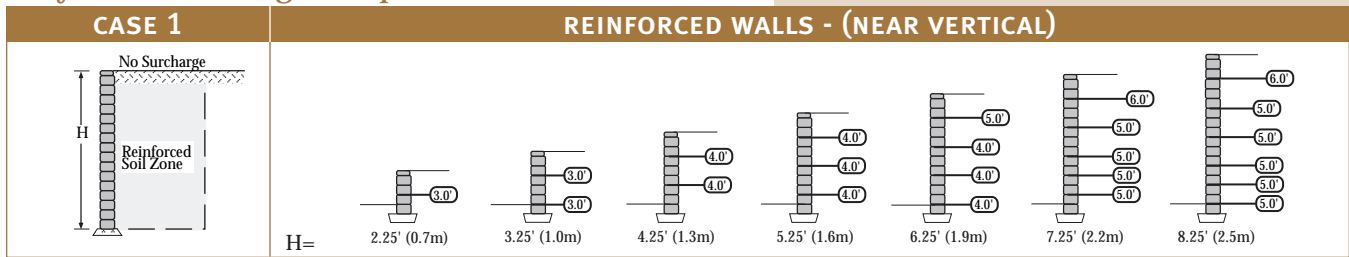


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# DESIGN CHARTS

Silty Sand:  $f=30^\circ$ ,  $g=120$  pcf ( $19\text{kN/m}^3$ )

The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:  
LTDS = 750 plf (10.9 kN/m) or Tal = 500 plf (7.3 kN/m)

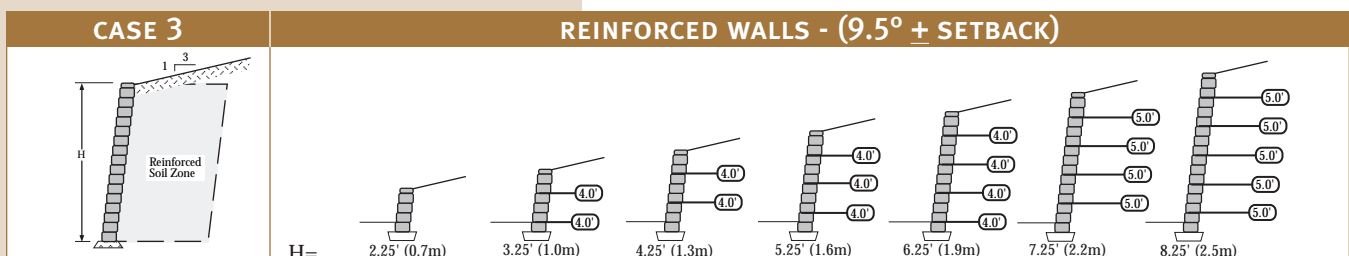
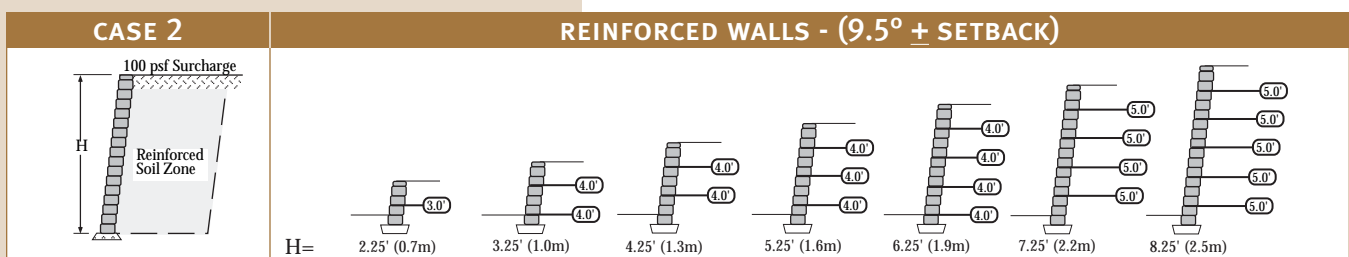
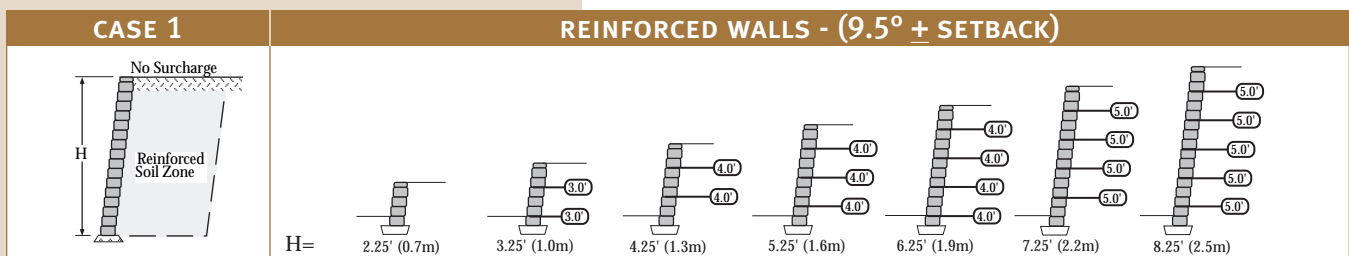
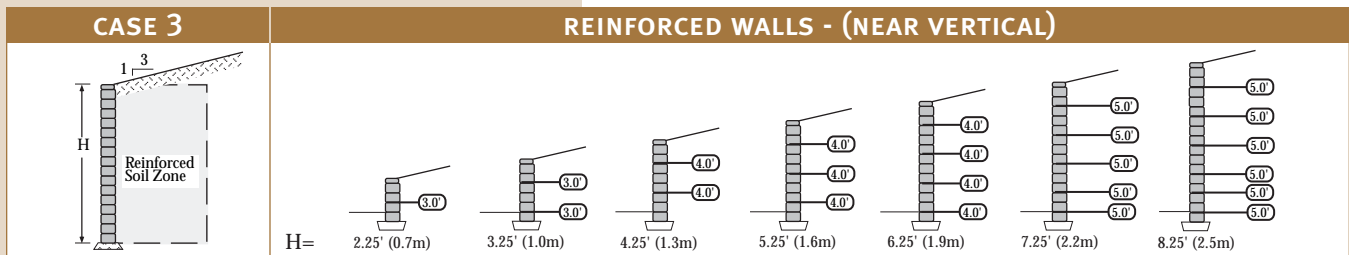
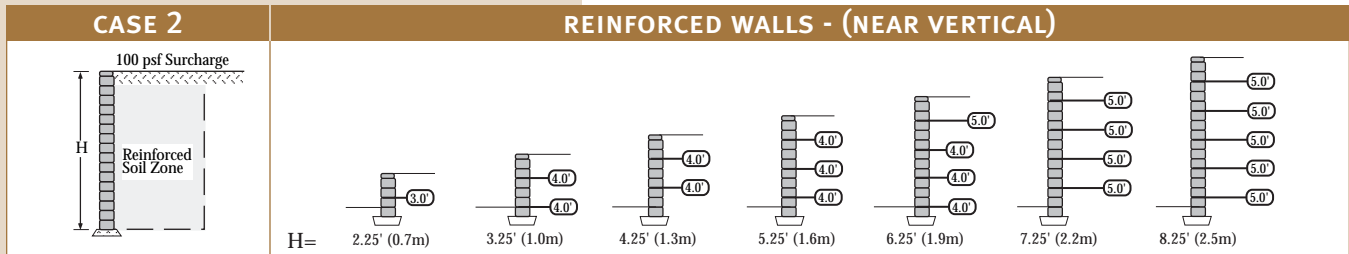
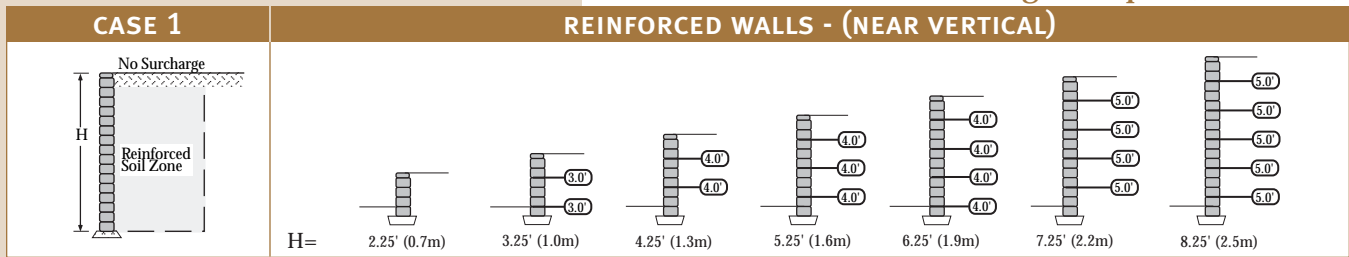


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# DESIGN CHARTS

The following charts assume the use of a coated polyester geogrid with a minimum allowable design strength of:  
LTDS = 750 plf (10.9 kN/m) or Tal = 500 plf (7.3 kN/m)

Sand/Gravel:  $f=34^\circ$ ,  $g=120$  pcf (19kN/m<sup>3</sup>)



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