



TIPS FOR DESIGNING YOUR PATIO

When planning your patio, gather ideas from books, online and an Oberfields catalog. Use graph paper to sketch out your patio to scale. Think about the ways you intend to use the patio-entertaining, grilling, time of day the patio will be most used. All of these things should be taken into account when planning.

Consider the scale of your patio in relation to your house. Too large of a patio is often overwhelming and leaves you with little backyard space. Too little of a patio will not leave enough room for passage by a table and chairs. Decide what overall shape works best for you. Do you want to include a circle pack, seat walls, columns, lighting, etc?

If possible, lay out your patio so that you minimize the amount of cuts needed. If you can extend out the patio a little so that you're not cutting every paver along the edge, you'll save yourself time and the patio will look more finished. Use a garden hose to layout the shape of your patio and make sure you keep enough distance between areas so that it's comfortable to easily pass or large enough to accommodate your patio furniture.

When selecting materials, think about what mood you want to set. Do you want the patio style and color to blend in with its surroundings or set a totally different look? Some of our pavers have a more traditional look while some relay an old-world feel. We also offer flagstone pavers and more tumbled, natural stone walls if that appeals to your design sense.

Consider a raised patio if you need to bring your patio up to a desired height. Consider incorporating planting beds within your design.

To add extra ambiance, consider a fire pit, water feature or built-in kitchen using our retaining wall products.

Before you begin digging, always call OUPS to mark your underground utilities. This may determine what you can and cannot do. Another point to consider before digging is what you're going to do with all of the excavated soil.

There are contractors that will just install the base for you. This normally runs about \$3-\$4 per square foot but that includes soil excavation and hauling and preparing the base. For more information regarding contractors that provide this service, please contact our customer service department for names and phone numbers.