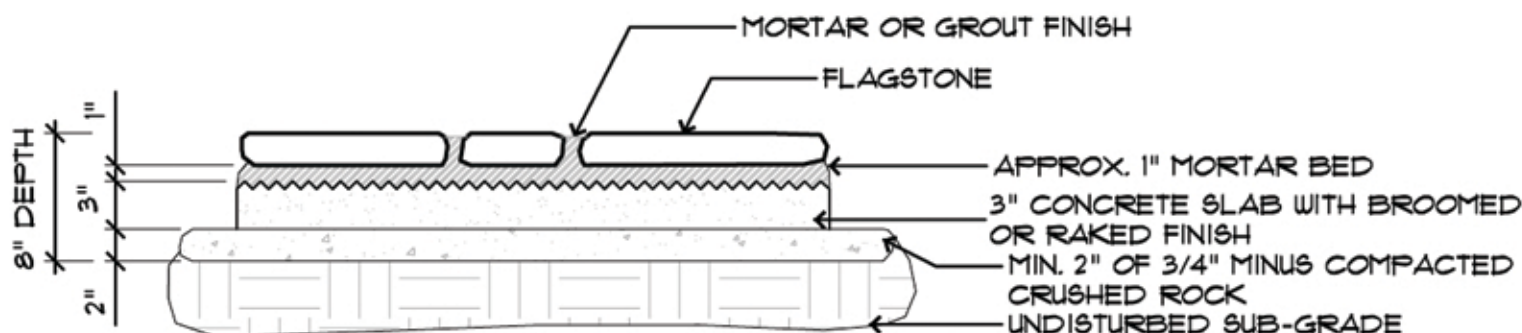


## HOW TO MORTAR SET A FLAGSTONE PATIO OR WALKWAY



1. You will need to excavate the desired area to allow for the base of 3/4" minus, concrete slab,\* mortar bed and your stone.
2. Excavate the area to a depth of 7"-8".
3. Spread 2" of 3/4" minus base rock. If drainage is a concern you can use 1 1/2" minus. Compact this base well by tamping and watering or using a mechanical compactor.
4. Form, pour, and screed a 3" pad of concrete. When the concrete is beginning to set, take a coarse broom or steel rake and roughen the surface to aid in the adhesion of the mortar bed and stone.
5. After the concrete has set up, lay out a number of stones and mix some mortar.\*\* Try to keep your joints to an inch or less and avoid long continuous joint lines. When you are satisfied with your pattern, carefully set the stones aside and lay about an inch of mortar and set your stones leveling as you go by tapping with a rubber mallet to provide consistent contact with the mortar bed. Compensate for variations in stone thickness by adding or removing mortar as you go.
6. After mortar has dried, grout with plain mortar or sanded grout mix (in a variety of colors) using a rubber trowel and wet sponge just like with tile.

\*Flagstone can be mortar set on an existing concrete slab that has been cleaned, etched and/or pressure washed to aid adhesion of mortar.

\*\* An acrylic mortar additive is recommended in most flagstone applications to aid adhesion of the mortar to the stone.

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