

the

# TOP 5

## Paver Patio Mistakes



**DAYTON**  
PAVERS & LANDSCAPES



# THE TOP 5 PAVER PATIO MISTAKES

## 1 Mistake #1: It's Not Big Enough!

I hear this from people all the time: "I wish we would have made the patio area bigger!" When planning your outdoor living space be sure to take into consideration what will be occupying that space now as well as in the future.

If possible, buy all the furniture and fixtures before the patio construction so that you can simulate and really determine how much space you'll need. If you can't do this, then obtain their measurements and locate some temporary furniture and fixtures to set up and simulate that are similar in size. If that doesn't work locate some cardboard boxes and cut out some templates to lay in place of the furniture and fixtures. Move and adjust

everything to get a good feel for the space. Do I have enough walking area for not just me but possibly a few people? Is the grill going to be too close to a seated guest? Is there enough room to get out of the hot tub without getting everyone and everything wet around you?



Also, be sure to plan for the future as well. Maybe you're starting with this but what are your forward plans for the patio? Be sure to take those into consideration. You may not have a Jacuzzi now but in a few years you may want to add one. You may not have a built in grill now but you may want to plan for one in the future.

Employing these tips above will help to alleviate the mistake and regret of having too small of a patio.

## 2

### **Mistake #2: : Improper Base and Compaction**

The second mistake I see often is an improper base construction. The compacted base layer should always exceed the edges of the paver patio, walkway, or driveway by 8 inches or more. This helps to ensure that the edges and borders do not begin to fall off or tilt away from the middle level.



The base layer should also be compacted at every 2-inch height interval to minimize slide and erosion of the pavers.

## 3

### **Mistake #3: Paver Joint Issues**



Ants, weeds, and erosion are the three enemies of paver joints. The top method used to minimize these issues is to use polymeric sand for your paver joints. Many installers will cut costs to outbid the competition by

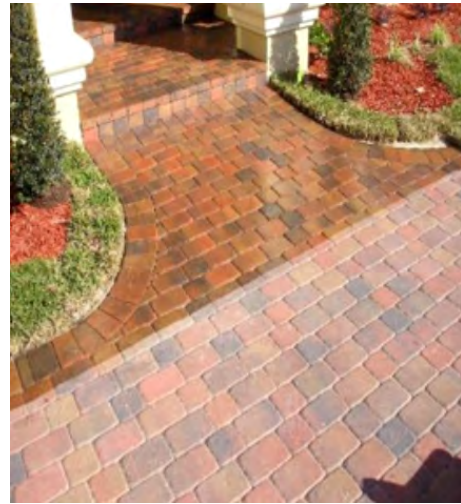
using cheaper sands and fillers. Polymeric sand contains a hardener in it to help lock and hold the pavers together.

Best Practice is to broom extra sand into the cracks, compact, remove excess, and water lightly with a fine mist. Then allow the sand to dry and harden to completion to provide years of protection and paver stability.

## 4

### Mistake #4: Forgetting to Seal Your Pavers

Like all other exterior areas of your home, weather will affect your pavers. The sun's ultraviolet rays can drastically fade the colors of your pavers if not sealed properly. But that's not all. using a high quality sealer (don't ever go cheap), will provide protection against fading, food and beverage stains, water wear, and color enhancement.



There are a variety of high quality sealers that we employ for patios. No gloss, matte, semi-gloss (wet look) and even our own proprietary mixture. We recommend using a semi-gloss sealer finish to protect the paver and give it a stunning shine from the reflection of the sun.

## 5

### Mistake #5: Going Cheap / Big Companies



Unfortunately, I get a lot of calls to fix other companies mistakes (a lot of the ones listed above). This was one of the reasons I felt impressed to write this special report. For one, I don't like fixing others mistakes and secondly, I don't like to see people get something that is

subpar (I pride myself on excellence).

Along with this issues above, I've seen pockets of pooling water in the middle of a patio, water pooling in front of doorways, erosion and sinking of pavers around downspout areas, and landscape beds built up to high which blocks proper water run-off. **We employ laser levels to precisely measure percentage of slope for sufficient surface water run-off as well as the use of mortar around drain boxes and downspouts to stop patio base erosion and sinking.**

My Dad always had a saying when we were kids. He said “It ain’t worth cheap”. I know that doesn’t sound too elegant but when it comes to paver patios, sidewalks, and driveways, it’s some of the best advice that I can give you. Oftentimes, more than not, you truly do get what you pay for.

When getting estimates, be sure to contact references and see the companies work before you pull the trigger. The extra time invested to do this is well worth it even if you have to go visit their install locations to walk it and see it with your own eyes.

My company is boutique in nature because, honestly, I’m a control freak and perfectionist. When I come meet you and bid your job, I’ll also be there to manage the install every step of the way through completion and clean-up. I use an experienced crew and they know what I expect of them when it comes to the finished product. With bigger companies, you may end up with someone who just sees this as their nine to five job that doesn’t take pride in the final product and lacks quality control.

To learn more about me, my experience, and my company click here for a short video.

**To request a free consult and estimate, please contact me directly on my mobile phone at 937 478 3107.**

Sincerely,

**Jeremy R. Bellante**

Founder / Owner

Dayton Pavers and Landscapes

