



**CALSTONE**

**Applications &  
Design Guide**

# Roman Stone

Barbeques

Fire Pits

Fireplaces

Garden Planters

Steps & Stairs

Seating Walls

Columns

Water Features

# Roman Stone

## Roman Stone

Roman Stone is a modular multi-colored concrete unit that is adhered with concrete adhesive to create commonly used outdoor structures.

### Applications

- Barbeques
- Fireplaces
- Steps & Stairs
- Columns
- Fire Pits
- Garden Planters
- Seating Walls
- Water Features

### History of outdoor structures

Not long ago these structures were built using traditional brick and mortar methods. These methods of construction are time-consuming and require a high level of construction expertise. The cost of mortared masonry construction makes outdoor entertainment areas unaffordable for many homeowners.

### The Roman Stone advantage

Roman Stone, combined with high-performance concrete adhesive, allows structures to be built using simpler construction methods, which saves time and money. With Roman Stone's modular design, versatility, and broad range of available colors, your backyard dream can go wherever your imagination takes you. Let us help you realize that dream while adding value to your home.



# Colors

Reproducing the random look and texture of aged and weathered natural stone is accomplished through a tumbling process to purposely create random fractures, chips, scratches, broken edges, and corners.



Rustic Yellowstone



Sierra Granite



Gray Charcoal



Cream Tan Brown



Tan Red Charcoal



Gray Charcoal Tan



Brown Beige Charcoal



Green Charcoal



Tan Charcoal



Tan Brown Charcoal

# Roman Stone

## Barbeques

When designing a barbecue island, consider the type and size of the grill, your countertop preference, and any other design features. Common features include sinks, refrigerators, storage cabinets, access doors, and more. Measure all components to get exact dimensions for all required openings prior to laying out the first course of stone. Consider clearances required for doors and hood openings. Natural stone is a great countertop option. It can be cut to size, and provides a sophisticated finishing touch to the project. A local natural stone supplier can help with selection and pricing. *It is necessary to install fire brick on the inner walls where wood and charcoal will be burned.*



Brown Beige Charcoal  
BBQ with blue stone top



Cream Tan Brown capped  
with natural stone top



## Our BBQ Kit

Calstone now offers a BBQ Kit.  
(shown left)

The package includes:

- 128 Pieces of Roman Stone
- Metal Grilling Unit
- Blue Stone Counter Top  
(2 - 18" x 48" and 2 - 12" x 37")
- 4 Tubes of Concrete Adhesive

Size:

- Base Dimension 3'8" x 5'8"
- Blue Stone Counter Top 4' x 6'1"
- Counter Height 34"
- Grilling Surface 23" x 34 1/2

*It's easy to install and can be built with common tools and completed in one day. visit [calstone.com](http://calstone.com)*



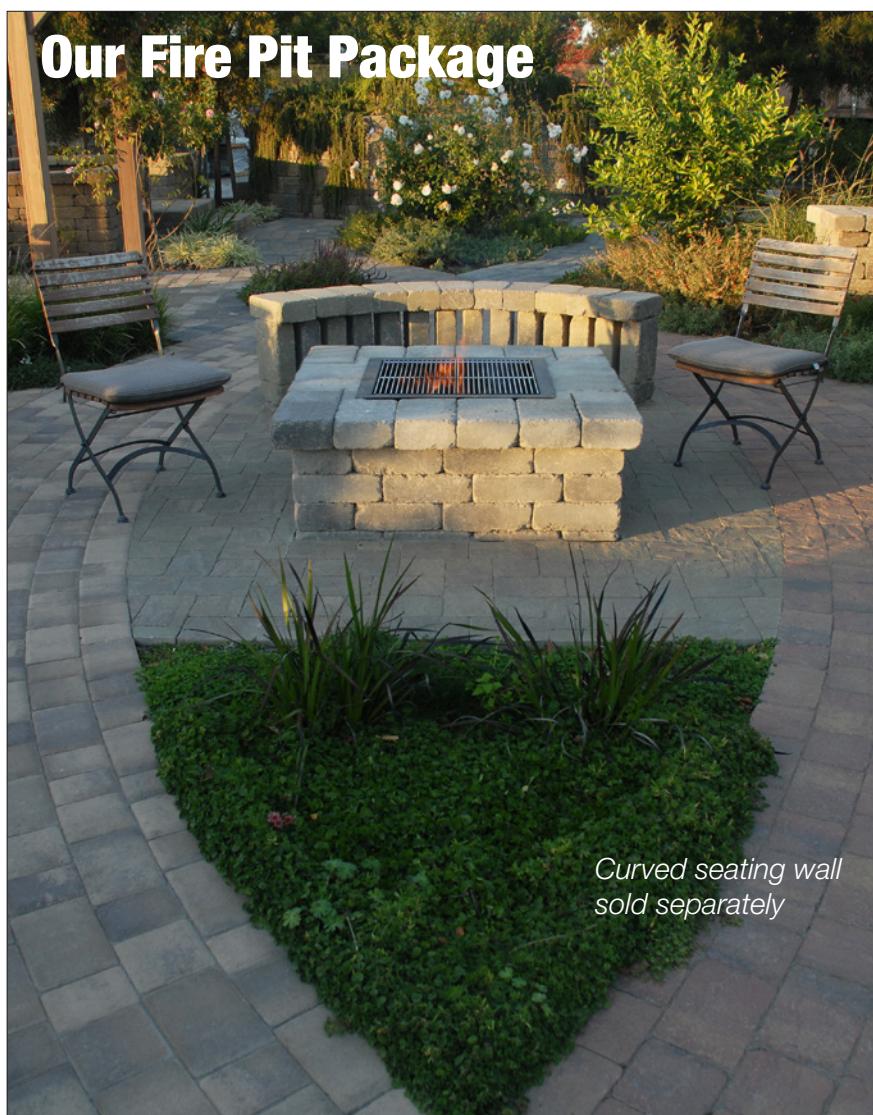
# Roman Stone

## Fire Pits

A built-in Roman stone fire pit allows you to enjoy the perfect home campfire with an added level of safety and functional beauty. To determine the appropriate dimensions, consider the number of guests you plan to entertain.

Fire pits usually sit low to the ground, with overall heights between 16-20". This is a comfortable height for sitting or for resting your feet.

*The fire pit must be lined with steel or a prefabricated fire insert to protect the Roman Stone from direct flames.*



## Our Fire Pit Package

Calstone now offers a Fire Pit Kit.  
(shown left)

The package includes

- 66 pieces of Roman Stone (48 for the walls and 18 for the top border around the grill )
- Fire Pit Insert
- Grilling Grates (shown at the left)
- 2 tubes of Concrete Adhesive

Size:

Outside Base Dimension 44"  
Outside Cap Dimension 48"  
Inside Dimension 24"

*It's easy to install and can be built with common tools and completed in one day. visit [calstone.com](http://calstone.com)*

*Curved seating wall  
sold separately*

## Fireplaces

Adding a fireplace transforms any patio into an outdoor living room. Take advantage of the California climate by entertaining and enjoying life outdoors year round. You can build anything from a simple free-standing unit to an elaborate combination of living room elements.

The fireplace pictured below utilizes a Firerock insert kit with a veneer of Roman Stone. For detailed information on how to build a beautiful and functional fireplace, visit [www.firerock.us](http://www.firerock.us).



Tan Red Charcoal

# Roman Stone

## Garden Planters

Create beautiful focal points by bringing your favorite flowers to eye level with raised garden planters. Gardening in raised planters is much more enjoyable than gardening at ground level, and it's easier on your body. Raised planters also add a level of protection to your prized plantings and reduce the likelihood of pet, rodent, or bug damage. Roman Stone will not rot or attract insects, and does not contain any hazardous chemicals.



Tan Charcoal

## Steps and Stairs

Precise planning is critical to achieve the best results. Starting and ending points, rise heights, run lengths, curved stairs, straight stairs, and landing sizes all need to be determined prior to layout and construction. Form the steps by digging out the earth and then placing base rock to form the rough layout of the steps. Install the Roman Stone units to box in the step, then put more base rock in to level. Repeat for each step. If this is your first time designing and constructing stairs, we recommend that you visit the Internet for more detailed information or ask the advice of an experienced step builder.



# Roman Stone

## Seating Walls

Seating walls and division walls can function as stand-alone elements, as element extensions, or as separate components of a design concept. A comfortable seating height is 20-24". Division walls can be built to suit your preferences. Walls can be straight or curved, and can be simple or artistic in design. Walls can be capped with Roman Stone, natural stone, or architectural precast caps. Please visit your nearest Calstone distributor for capping options.



Green Charcoal



Tan Red Charcoal



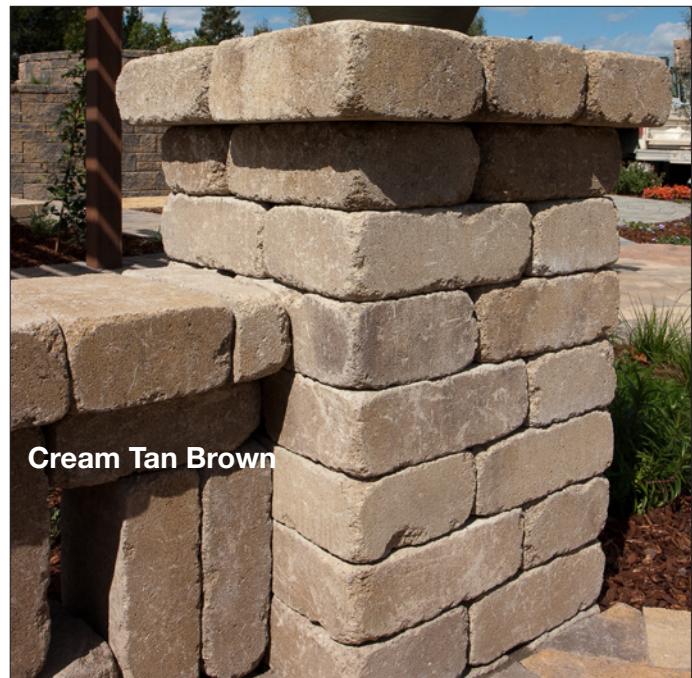
Brown Beige Charcoal

# Columns

There are many ornamental and structural applications for columns, including lampposts, mailboxes, entry columns, wall stabilization, landscape accents, and more. The key is to keep each course level (may require shimming) and all four corners vertically plumb. Interlocking columns and walls together will add stability to both. Spacing of the columns is usually determined by the overall wall height. In general, for walls three feet high or less, spacing the columns 8-10' apart is adequate



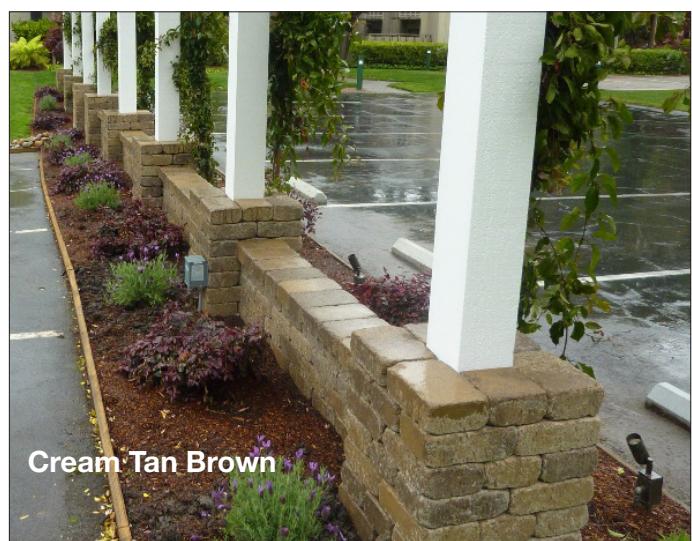
Brown Beige Charcoal



Cream Tan Brown



Tan Red Charcoal



Cream Tan Brown

# Roman Stone

## Water Features

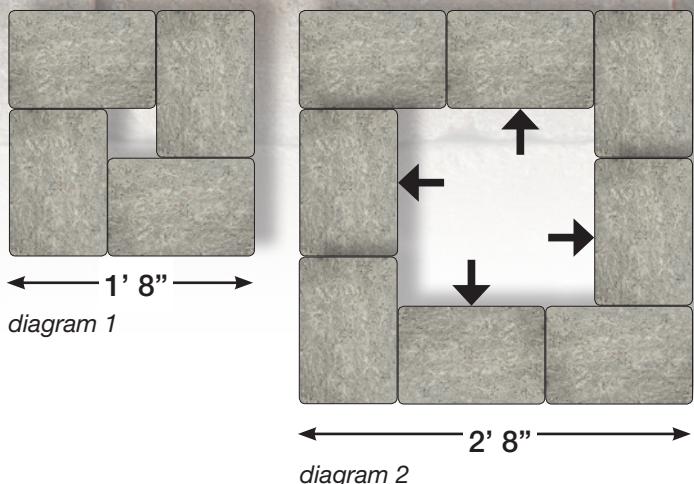
The sound of running water creates a peaceful and serene mood. That's why water fountains are favorites in outdoor design. Implement a water feature in your design to create a retreat where you can relax and enjoy time alone or with loved ones in an intimate setting. Water features become the focal point of any garden and naturally attract a variety of birds and butterflies. For detailed information on the water feature kit used below, visit [www.atlanticgardens.com](http://www.atlanticgardens.com).



Tan Charcoal

# Modular Construction Basics

Roman Stone can be easily arranged in symmetrical square or rectangular modules. The smallest module is created using four stones to make a 1' 8" x 1' 8" square (diagram 1). By adding additional stones, the size of the module can be increased in one-foot increments in either direction (diagram 2). Using this concept you can create structures sized appropriately for your specific project. Pre-planning and trial layouts will enhance your construction experience and results.



## Foundations

Roman Stone structures can be built on pavement or on a compacted aggregate base. It is critical to understand that your project is only as good as the foundation it is built on. Suitable pavements include interlocking concrete pavers, asphalt, and concrete. Concrete and asphalt should be flat and free of cracks or degradation, with a minimum thickness of 4".

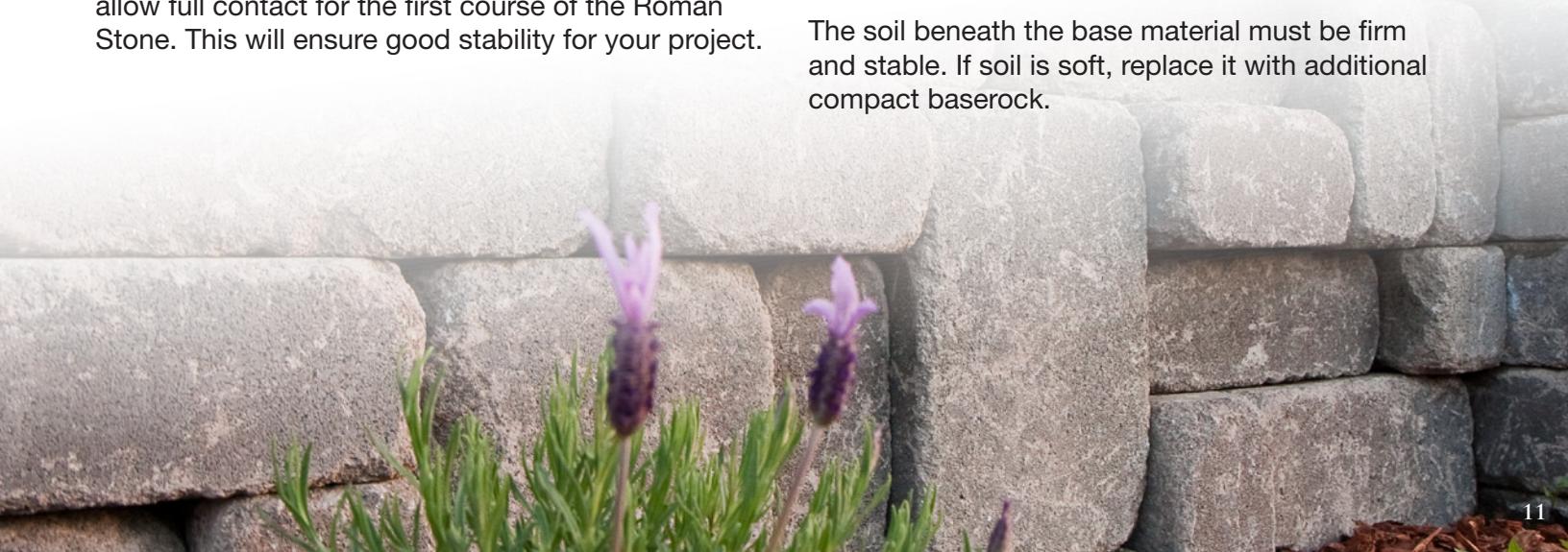


Interlocking pavers should be on a compacted base at least 4" thick. The width of any pavement should allow full contact for the first course of the Roman Stone. This will ensure good stability for your project.

In the absence of pavement,  $\frac{3}{4}$ " class II or IV baserock should be used for the base. It's important that the baserock be compacted and free of organic soils. The thickness should be 6" minimum and extend at least 2" past the structure's footprint. To ensure proper compaction, base material should be placed and compacted in 2" intervals.



The soil beneath the base material must be firm and stable. If soil is soft, replace it with additional compact baserock.



# Roman Stone

## First course on base rock

Preparation and layout are the most time consuming, as well as the most important, step in achieving a good installation. Ensure that the baserock is flat, level, and compacted.



Lay out the entire first course and level each stone front to back, side to side, and stone to stone. Use a plastic dead-blow hammer as necessary to make small adjustments.



## First course on pavement

Determine if the pavement is sloped. Many pavements appear flat and level, but in fact have a slight slope for water runoff. It is critical that the first course of Roman Stone is flat and level.



Leveling adjustments can be made by shimming with thin pieces of wood, ceramic tile wedges, or other devices to hold the first course level until the adhesive sets up.



## Adhesives

A quality concrete adhesive is all that is needed to bond Roman Stone units together. Adhesive should be applied to each stone on every course. Calstone recommends Alliance Gator Block Bond concrete adhesive. Before applying any adhesive or starting the second course, do the following:

- Lay out the entire first course.
- Confirm that it's square and level.
- Check all dimensions giving consideration to all structure components.
- Remove loose debris and dust from bonding surfaces.



## Building curves

The easiest way to build a curved wall is to lay out the stones, leaving a gap on the outside of the curve. If you prefer to build the wall without gaps, you will need to cut some or all of the stones.



## Second and successive course installation

Once you've established the base course, the second and successive courses are created by gluing the corners in the opposite direction of the first course. Repeat this process for each successive course, continually checking for square and level as you build.

Cutting can be done with a masonry saw or by using a guillotine-type block and stone splitter. Saw cuts are more precise, will guillotine splits are faster.



# CALSTONE

*Because Quality Matters*

**Your Authorized Distributor:**

**Calstone Manufacturing Locations:**

**San Martin**

13775 Llagas Avenue  
San Martin, CA 95046  
*phone* (408) 686-9627  
*fax* (408) 686-9127

**Galt**

421 Crystal Way  
Galt, CA 95632  
*phone* (209) 745-2981  
*fax* (209) 745-2983

**Sunnyvale**

1155 Aster Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94086  
*phone* (408) 984-8800  
*fax* (408) 984-2648

**Tracy**

426 East Grant Line Road  
Tracy, CA 95376  
*phone* (209) 833-7366  
*fax* (209) 833-7467

[calstone.com](http://calstone.com)