







# Gravel Pad Preparation for Installation of Granite Steps

## \*\* Please Read \*\*

Very large sets of steps may require a concrete pad. Please speak with a Swenson Granite Works Representative prior to starting your base preparation to confirm which would be best for you.

Also, please note that Swenson Granite Works cannot be responsible for improperly prepared bases that may cause settling or shifting of the steps over time.

## Tools

NECESSARY			HELPFUL		
					
Rake	Shovel	Hand Tamper	Pick	Wheelbarrow	Gas Operated Plate Compactor
					
4'0" Level		2" x 4" x 8'			

MATERIALS		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Calculate Material Needed</b>
<p>Processed gravel, also known as driveway base, ¾" or 1" base or crushed bank run contains the appropriate amounts of crushed stone, sand and other fine materials to create excellent compaction.</p> <p><b>Please note that pea stone, small crushed stone and sand do not compact well and may shift or wash out.</b></p>	<p>Length of Pad = A <input type="text"/> inches (Left to Right)</p> <p>Width of Pad = B <input type="text"/> inches (Front to Back)</p> <p>Depth of Pad = C <input type="text"/> *</p> <p><i>* For depth dimension ONLY take the depth of your pad and divide by 12. For example, a 6" pad would be listed as 6/12 or .50</i></p>	<p>To calculate approximate material needs multiply A X B X C and divide by 144 to get cubic feet.</p> <p>For example: Material for a 48" X 36" X 6" pad would be calculated as (48" X 36" X .5)/144 which would equal 6.00 cubic/feet.</p>



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## STEP 1

Excavate an area approximately 1' deep that is 6" longer (Left to right) than the outside dimension of your set of steps. Make sure this area has been properly located with regard to your doorway and has been compacted prior to adding your processed gravel.

**NOTE: It may be necessary to excavate deeper depending on existing soil conditions to insure a well compacted, good draining base.**

## STEP 2

Using processed gravel, as specified above; fill the excavated area with 3"-4" layers, compacting each layer as you go. A gas operated plate compactor works very well. If a compactor is not available, reduce the thickness of the layers, wet down and use a hand tamper or roller to achieve compaction.

## STEP 3

Compact the final layer at the level where you desire the bottom of your first step (your Swenson Granite Works Representative will help you determine the proper height). Use your 4' level, with a 2" X 4" if necessary, to confirm that your base is level both left to right and front to back.

## STEP 4

Swenson Granite Works personnel are trained to install granite steps on a prepared base only.

**If the base area is not prepared prior to the arrival of our delivery truck the steps cannot be installed. If this is the case a second delivery attempt will be scheduled and a second delivery fee will be assessed.**

Thank you once again for choosing Swenson Granite Works as your supplier of fine manufactured granite products.