

Building a wall with fence

A wall exceeding 2' (600 mm) requires the security of a fence or railing along its perimeter. How to build a fenced wall without geogrid is demonstrated in the next few pages.

Sonotubes must be used to anchor the fence posts solidly enough to resist strong wind pressure.

Depth of the sonotubes will vary between three to four feet depending on whether the fence is made of aluminum, wood or vinyl with open spaces or not.

Follow steps 1 to 4 in the installation guide: **Building a retaining wall (without geogrid)**

THE FIRST BLOCK

- 1 Installing the first block of the first course is especially important because it will determine the wall's final aspect. A string line stretched behind the wall will allow you to align the blocks in a continuous and integrated fashion.
- 2 Each and every block must be level in all directions.
- 3 Begin installation of the sonotubes. Take into account the set-back of each block. It's always a good idea to have a cushion of 18" (450 mm) behind the last course of blocks. Sonotube length should have a minimum of 4' long overall to provide 2' in the soil and 2' above ground level behind the wall. This total length will vary with the total height of the wall.
- 4 Make sure the backfill, 3/4" net stone, is well compacted (manually) around the sonotubes. Ensure block surfaces are clear of any debris. Use a concrete adhesive to glue the coping stones, and fold the geotextile membrane back towards the wall. Cut the geotextile around the sonotubes. You can then install the fence posts and stabilize them by pouring the concrete mix into the sonotubes.
- 5 The final step is to install the fence and finish the earthwork. All construction sites must have a slope to drain all surface water. Always pay special attention to the water running from the roof, gutter, paved surface and topography of the natural landscape. For all other applications, whether concrete pavers, poured concrete or asphalt, do not compact less than 3' (1 meter) from the wall.

