installation steps
The following information will provide you with a general understanding of retaining wall construction. If you’re building your own VERSA-LOK wall, request a free copy of our Design & Installation Guidelines, along with a copy of The Base Course installation DVD, from your local supplier. Or visit www.versa-lok.com.

step 1 leveling pad preparation
Excavate and compact a 24-inch-wide trench deep enough to accommodate a 6-inch crushed-rock leveling pad, 1/2-inch layer of sand and the embedded below-grade courses. The first course of VERSA-LOK units should be embedded below grade a minimum of 1/10 of the exposed wall height.

step 2 install base course
Place VERSA-LOK units on the compacted leveling pad. As you proceed, level each unit front to back, side to side and with adjacent units. Leveling is critical at this stage, so take your time! Use a stringline stretched behind the wall to ensure straight alignment. If your wall has a corner, begin at the corner and work out from there.

step 3 backfill base course
Replace and compact native soil behind and in front of the base course, level with the grade in front of the wall.

step 4 install successive courses
Stack one course at a time, setting units 3/4” back from the front of the wall. Overlap adjacent lower-course units by at least 4 inches to enhance structural stability, and keep all vertical face joints tight. Insert two pins in the front holes of units so they fall into the rear slots of the units beneath and tap them down with a pin and mallet.

step 5 install drainage aggregate and backfill
Place and compact drainage aggregate 12” behind each course as it is completed, to a level of 12 inches below the top of the wall. Backfill and compact soil in any remaining open area behind the drain aggregate. If required, install perforated drain pipe at base of drainage aggregate.

step 6 install caps and finish wall
Complete your wall by placing VERSA-LOK cap units on the top course, alternating A and B caps. Install caps with a slight overhang (recommended), set back or flush with the wall face. Secure cap units to the wall with VERSA-LOK Concrete Adhesive. Backfill the caps with topsoil after they are secured, complete your final grading and landscaping, and your VERSA-LOK wall is complete.
No matter how challenging your landscaping problem may be, the VERSA-LOK Standard Retaining Wall System can resolve it with elegance. VERSA-LOK Standard is the original solid, pinned segmental retaining wall system. If you can design it, you can build it with VERSA-LOK Standard. From a simple planter box to multiple tiered walls, the possibilities are limitless. VERSA-LOK Standard’s uniquely engineered design enables the creation of multiangle curves and corners, stairs, columns and freestanding walls.

Available in a variety of colors, VERSA-LOK Standard provides homeowners with a full palette of creative options. VERSA-LOK Standard’s solid, low-absorption, high-strength concrete units are virtually maintenance-free and famous for easy installation.

VERSA-LOK Standard. The original solid solution.