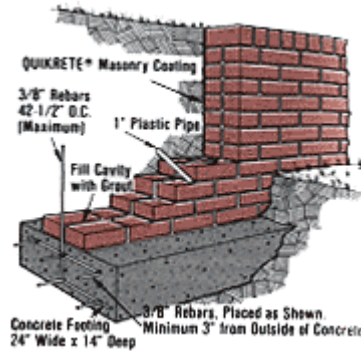


Project

Brick, Block, and Stone Retaining Walls



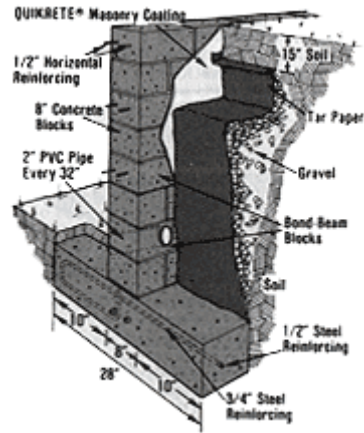
As with the concrete retaining walls discussed on page 16, brick, block, and stone retaining walls protect your property from soil erosion while, at the same time, adding distinction to your home's exterior. The building procedures are the same as those used in basic wall construction; refer to the *Footers*, *Basic Brick Construction*, *Concrete Block Construction*, and *Stone Masonry* sections for details. The tools and

materials needed are also identical to those necessary for basic wall construction, with the following additions: 1" plastic pipe (for drainage); QUICKRETE® Masonry Coating (for coating the brick and block walls); and a screen wall.

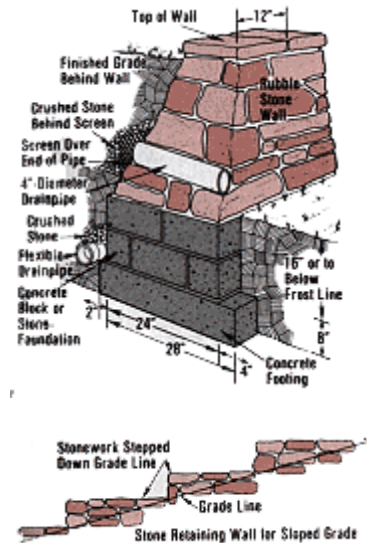
Step by Step

Building the Walls

1. Before beginning work on any retaining wall, check local ordinances and building codes. Many municipalities require a building permit and an engineer's approval before a wall higher than 3' can be built.
2. For added structural integrity in the brick retaining wall, insert steel rebars between the wythes as shown. Pour a wet mixture of QUICKRETE® Mortar Mix or Mason Mix between the wythes to bond the rebars. On the concrete block wall, use rebars in the block cavities for horizontal reinforcement. Additional reinforcement is not necessary on the stone wall because it is built lower to the ground than the other walls.
3. Because weep holes are essential for proper drainage, a length of plastic pipe must be installed approximately every 6' along the retaining walls.



Notch the brick/block to accommodate the pipes and use a mortar to secure them as shown in the illustration. On the stone walls, slope the pipe downward toward the front of the wall, about 8" above the front grade; this will prevent pressure buildup against the back of the wall. Place a screen over the back opening and pile broken stone over the screen to prevent the pipe from becoming clogged.



4. Brush a coat of QUIKRETE® Masonry Coating on the back of the finished brick and block walls to make them watertight.