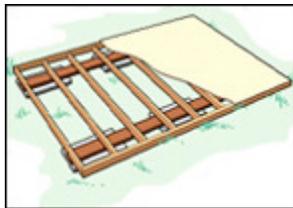


Patio Stone - Foundations
Level of Difficulty: Simple

Patio stones are the simplest method for supporting a wooden floor. They provide an effective foundation when the ground is relatively level. For example (within 12" from side to side or front to back) and the structure is not too large. If your shed is larger than 150 sq. ft. you may want to consider one of the other foundation options. Patio stones are readily available at your local building supplier and are usually reasonably priced.

A Word about Patio Stones

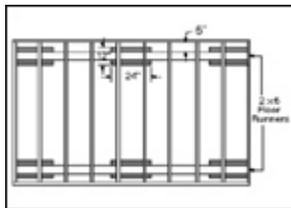
- In order to use patio stones, your shed must have a floor (included with your shed kit package).
- Patio stones are not shipped with your kit.



Patio stones are shown under a wooden floor.

Patio Stones & Your Garden Sheds

- Lay out your patio stone foundation proportionately to the floor frame by placing your patio stones approximately 3-feet apart underneath the 4 x 4 pressure treated runners. Your floor frame will have the dimensions of your structure (e.g. 8ft x 12ft).



Ideal placement of patio stones underneath the floor runners.



Notice how the patio stone does not extend past the floor's exterior.

- Your patio stones should not extend past the perimeter of your floor (past your rim joists), as this will affect the installation of the skirting. Ensure that each patio stone is placed "squarely" underneath the runners.
- The next step is to level your entire floor using shims. Any materials that can be used to level your floor on patio stones are called shims. They can be made of wood or even metal. Cedar shims (cedar shingles) are a popular choice because they are durable, long lasting and resist decay. You will likely have some wood scraps lying around that can be used to shim your shed floor.



- No matter the size of your shed floor or how many runners you have in place, ensure that your patio stones are positioned underneath each runner squarely.



Position your patio stones squarely underneath each runner for maximum floor support.

What We Recommend

When using patio stones to level your shed foundation, we suggest the following (depending on the size of your structure, the recommendations below may be adjusted accordingly):

- To guard against a sinking floor, use 2" x 12" x 24" (or 24" x 24") patio stones to distribute your shed foundation evenly across a large surface area.



a 2 x 12 x 24 patio stone is shown

- Whether you use small or larger-sized patio stones, remember to space them apart accordingly. For example, if you use 12" x 12" patio stones, position them closer to each other. If you use 24" x 24" patio stones, you can place them further apart.
- You may want to consider the option of adding an even layer of crushed stone underneath your patio stones. This can help with drainage and achieve a more level ground for your foundation.