



GENERAL INFORMATION



# Hello!

When Redi-Rock launched in 2000, the introduction of large, wetcast blocks changed the retaining wall industry. Nineteen years later as we publish our latest version of the Design Resource Manual, we’re aiming to change more than an industry—we’re aiming to reinforce the ways that we, together, are changing the world in concrete ways.

We know that the work you do makes an impact in your community, and we’re honored each time you choose Redi-Rock to solve problems and improve people’s lives. In recognition of that, we’ll continue to strive to be a leader in the industry, providing the design tools and engineering resources you need to do that valuable work.

Within this manual, you’ll see the latest innovation of the Redi-Rock system in Redi-Rock XL Hollow-Core Retaining blocks. Standing 36 inches (914 millimeters) tall and available in 52, 72, and 96-inch (1,320, 1,830, and 2,440-millimeter) widths, Redi-Rock XL blocks integrate with the rest of the proven system—including Magic, Positive Connection, Freestanding, and our standard Gravity blocks—helping you optimize taller walls in tighter spaces.

Also within these pages, you’ll find answers to frequently asked questions, case studies, a detailed library of products, preliminary height guides, detailed design information, specifications, installation instructions, typical details, and much more. The information in this publication is intended to supplement even more information available anytime on our website at [redi-rock.com](http://redi-rock.com).

If you’re not finding what you’re looking for or if there is anything we can do for you, please let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,



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# Frequently Asked Questions

## WHAT IS REDI-ROCK?

Redi-Rock is a line of precast products made from durable, first-purpose, air-entrained, wet-cast concrete. The most common Redi-Rock products are large retaining wall blocks.

Often referred to as one-ton Lego blocks, Redi-Rock blocks vary in width from 28 inches (710 millimeters) to 96 inches (2.44 meters) and in weight from 1,200 pounds (544 kilograms) to 3,500 pounds (1,588 kilograms). In many instances, the Redi-Rock retaining wall blocks are big enough that they can be simply stacked on top of each other to construct a “gravity” wall. For even taller and/or more heavily loaded retaining walls, the Redi-Rock Positive Connection (PC) System can be used to construct a Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall.

However, Redi-Rock is much more than simply large retaining wall blocks. Redi-Rock freestanding blocks have the same great look as the retaining blocks, with texture on two or more sides. These freestanding blocks are perfect for perimeter walls, entrance monuments, or parapet walls. Redi-Rock accessory products

include column blocks, steps, and caps. These accessories are perfect for completing your project. We even have products like Pole Base® concrete foundations for light poles, driveway monuments, and signs.

## WHO MAKES REDI-ROCK PRODUCTS?

Redi-Rock products are produced by over 130 independently-owned manufacturers located all over the globe. Contact information for the Redi-Rock manufacturer in your area is available anytime at [redi-rock.com](http://redi-rock.com).

## WHO DESIGNS REDI-ROCK RETAINING WALLS?

The answer to this question depends on what you are trying to accomplish. If you want to get a good idea of how Redi-Rock products can work for your project, the preliminary height guides in this *Design Resource Manual* are a great place to start. These guides show Redi-Rock wall sections in different assumed soil and loading conditions, and they can quickly help you determine what sections will likely work for your particular project.

When you want to build a wall, there simply is no substitute for

detailed plans prepared by a licensed engineer who routinely designs retaining walls. Licensed professionals have proven themselves with years of study and practice, and they are uniquely qualified to create an optimal design for the specific conditions of your project. In addition, a seal of the calculations and design drawings by a “Design Professional of Responsible Charge” is generally required by the International Building Code (Section 105.2) for all walls over four feet (1,219 millimeters) in height.

## WHO INSTALLS REDI-ROCK RETAINING WALLS?

Redi-Rock walls are typically constructed by earth excavating contractors or landscaping contractors using large pieces of earth-moving equipment. General contractors that have experience building Redi-Rock walls can be excellent resources for your project. Your local Redi-Rock manufacturer will often have close working relationships with the wall installers in your area and can be a great source of information.

Wondering how to install Redi-Rock? We can help there, too. Redi-Rock

has a detailed *Installation Manual* that covers the basic installation steps. We also have several typical construction details showing how to build common things like 90-degree corners, curves, barriers, or other features in your wall. These resources are available in this *Design Resource Manual* and online at [redi-rock.com](http://redi-rock.com).

## HOW MUCH DO REDI-ROCK WALLS COST?

Since every project is different, there is no single price for a Redi-Rock wall. Several things must be accounted for, including material, labor, and shipping costs. Materials include Redi-Rock blocks, drainage aggregates, geotextiles, drain pipes, and possibly even select fill; however, project costs are much more than just the sum of material costs. Although Redi-Rock blocks may have a higher price per unit than smaller, dry-cast retaining wall products or blocks made from inferior materials like return concrete, they provide significant savings due to installation speed and product longevity.

The true cost of a Redi-Rock wall must be evaluated on the cost

per area of wall face (dollars per square foot or square meter) of the completed structure over the full life of the structure. For taller mechanically stabilized earth walls, part of the cost per square unit area of the retaining wall includes the factory cut geogrid strips that are used with the PC blocks. These strips are specifically manufactured and certified for width and strength, providing construction efficiencies and design reliability that add value to your project.

The real value in Redi-Rock retaining walls comes from superior engineering, high-quality products, and unbeatable face textures that lead to extremely robust and attractive structures that will last for a lifetime. It is because of the intricacies and complexities of each unique project that the very best source for pricing is typically from the Redi-Rock manufacturer located closest to your project site. Find the closest manufacturer at [redi-rock.com](http://redi-rock.com).

## WILL REDI-ROCK WORK FOR MY PROJECT?

Redi-Rock has been used with outstanding success on a myriad of different retaining wall applications.

Some examples are retaining walls in water applications (seawalls, bank stabilization, channelization, and detention ponds), bridge abutments, parks, residential projects, commercial projects, highway walls, GRS-IBS structures, and even rail applications. Chances are, someone has already figured out a way to use Redi-Rock on a project just like yours. There are hundreds of case studies available at [redi-rock.com](http://redi-rock.com) that will help you visualize how Redi-Rock can be used to make your project a reality.

## I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS... WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Quite simply, ask. Your local Redi-Rock manufacturer is a great place to start. Often they have working relationships with wall design engineers and local installers. You can also contact Redi-Rock International, either through your local manufacturer or directly by calling **(866) 222-8400** or by email at [engineering@redi-rock.com](mailto:engineering@redi-rock.com). We have engineers on staff who can help answer general design questions, provide specific information about our products, and point you in the right direction to successfully design and install your own outstanding Redi-Rock retaining wall.