

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Build A Better Patio

(NAPSA)—Experts say the key to building a better patio is to start with a sound foundation.

Many home owners start their patio projects by laying a bed of sand, but sand is not a particularly stable base material. Instead, contractors suggest using a two-step



The right foundation can make or break a patio.

base. According to David Jackson of Oldcastle, a two-step base provides good drainage and a supportive bedding layer—meaning the patio is less likely to settle or sink after you finish building it.

Jackson says the base layer should consist of variably-sized, coarse stones to provide a stable base. The bedding layer should be made from variably-sized, finely ground stone. He says this material will hold pavers securely in place. Generally, a patio needs a base layer of 3"-6" and a bedding layer of 1"-2". However, Jackson says to consider natural site conditions and how the patio will be used. For instance, driveways tend to need thicker bases.

For more information, visit www.yardright.com.