

Installation Instructions - "Wet" Method

There are two installation methods for GraniteCrete: "Dry" and "Wet." The **dry method** is for installations up to 10,000 square feet (most home applications). The **wet method** is for installations over 10,000 square feet (most large, commercial installations) and may require the use of a volumetric concrete truck.

The following installation instructions have been developed to help ensure a blemish-free, high-quality installation. While GraniteCrete looks similar to concrete, the installation of GraniteCrete follows a different procedure. For best results, follow the instructions below carefully. For assistance, contact GraniteCrete, Inc. at 800-670-0849.

Installation Depth

For **residential/pedestrian** applications, GraniteCrete is installed as a 3-inch thick layer over a 4-inch subgrade of compacted Class II base rock. For **commercial/light vehicular** applications such as driveways, bicycle paths and cart paths, GraniteCrete is installed as a 4-inch thick layer over a 6-inch subgrade of compacted Class II base rock. Compaction rates for all applications are 88%–92%.

Measurements

An online calculator to assist you with estimating the amount of material needed to complete your project can be found here:

<https://www.granitecrete.com/job-estimator/>

GraniteCrete: Residential/Pedestrian Application - (2 bag mixture) One cubic yard of aggregate/decomposed granite and two (85 lbs) sacks of GraniteCrete admixture combined covers 108 square feet at a 3-inch thickness. **Note:** Aggregate/decomposed granite should be 3/8" minus material - and follow our sieve percentages in our Specification Guide within a +/- 5% range.

Commercial /Light Vehicular Application - (3 bag mixture) One cubic yard of aggregate/decomposed granite and three (85 lbs.) sacks of GraniteCrete admixture combined covers 82 square feet at a 4-inch thickness. **Note:** Aggregate/decomposed granite should be 3/8" minus

material - and follow our sieve percentages in our Specification Guide within a +/- 5% range.

Class II Base Rock: Residential/Pedestrian Application - After final compaction, baserock should have a 4-inch depth.

Commercial/Light Vehicular Application - After final compaction, baserock should have a 6-inch depth.

Mixing Ratios

GraniteCrete: Residential/Pedestrian Application - (2 bag mixture) The aggregate/decomposed granite (DG) is mixed with GraniteCrete admixture at a ratio of 17.6lbs DG to 1lb GraniteCrete.

Commercial/Light Vehicular Application - (3 bag mixture) The aggregate/decomposed granite (DG) is mixed with GraniteCrete admixture at a ratio of 11.7lbs DG to 1lb GraniteCrete.

Note: Depending on the mixing equipment available, it may be necessary to prepare GraniteCrete in batches. Batches can be measured using "shovelfuls" (**a "shovelful" is equivalent to 10 pounds**) or other measuring methods; maintaining the appropriate ratio is important.

Mix thoroughly and moisten with water until the GraniteCrete mixture begins to marble or clump together. Squeeze the mixture in your fist and open your hand. When the color has just started to transfer onto your hand and the mixture just begins to stay together in a clump, it's ready for installation.

Installation

- 1. Class II Base Rock:** Moisten and compact base rock on entire installation area to an even depth of 4-inch or 6-inch, depending on residential or commercial application. A vibratory plate can be used to compact the base rock; it should **not** be used to compact the GraniteCrete for residential installations.
- 2. GraniteCrete:** Wheelbarrow prepared GraniteCrete/DG to the installation site and spread the mixture over the compacted base rock.
- 3. Compaction:** Walking on the area is perfectly acceptable; initial compaction can be performed by walking on the edges and corners. Rake or grade area with the flat side of a landscape or asphalt rake (Do not use tang side), until

the GraniteCrete is one inch above finish grade.

4. Once initial compaction has been completed, hand tamp (with a 10" hand tamp) around benches, sign posts, corners, boulders, et cetera. Pay particular attention to corners and edges to ensure tight compaction.
5. Make several passes with a 36" lawn roller (filled with water), or for larger installations, a 36" walk-behind or riding-roller in static position. Hand tamp out any imperfections with a 6" wooden masonry float.
6. Make sure to keep your 10" hand tamp, lawn roller, and wooden floats clean at all times. Fill in any divots with fresh, loose material (removing any larger stone) and hand tamp with the wooden floats to match existing finish.
7. When laying GraniteCrete in batches, be sure to use the **cold joint** method below to ensure a blemish-free installation.
8. **Finishing:** If desired, lightly sweep finish surface with a medium bristled broom. Then make several more passes with the lawn roller until the desired surface texture is achieved. With larger installations, a roller in static position can be used, making sure to keep drum clean at all times. Remove spoils off the surface.
9. **DO NOT ALLOW GRANITECRETE TO DRY. MIST LIGHTLY WITH A HOSE END SPRAY HEAD AS NECESSARY OR COVER WITH A PLASTIC TARP.**
10. The final step for a GraniteCrete installation is a dampening with water of all newly-installed and compacted GraniteCrete materials. Using a shower head/spray hose attachment, moisten the entire newly-installed GraniteCrete area - avoid puddling. For best results, moisten all newly-installed GraniteCrete paving a second time the following 1 to 5 days, as practical. Slow curing of GraniteCrete is important to avoid cracking.

Make sure there is no direct application of uncontrolled water (e.g. irrigation or sprinkler water) prior to final curing.

You may walk on GraniteCrete immediately after installation. However, like concrete, GraniteCrete gets stronger with time. Ideally, stay off the newly-installed GraniteCrete areas for at least one day; after that, foot traffic is allowed. Vehicular traffic should avoid newly installed areas for 5 – 7 days.

Newly installed GraniteCrete paving surfaces are fully cured in 28 days. At that time, the entire surface should be blown or swept off to eliminate loose surface materials. Minor cracking may take place. However, over time, the aggregate fines will fill in the minor cracks and they should disappear. Occasional blowing off of the surface will help to minimize loose surface materials.

Cold Joint Methods:

Cold joints can be used at the end of the work day.

Method One:

1. "Between pours," stop at an area that makes the joint location look intentional. Take a chalk snap line just back from loose GraniteCrete into the compacted area and create a chalk line. Use either a masonry blade - or a square-nose shovel - and cut a straight line across the installation.
2. Continue with installation. Place newly mixed GraniteCrete into area, being careful not to overlap existing compacted material. With a concrete trowel or similar tool, tamp the new material at a tapered, 45 degree angle 1" above the finished grade and compact. If necessary, "feather" in with a medium-bristled broom.

Method Two:

1. Place a 2"X4" or 2"X6" piece of wood across the installation, stake it, and finish compacting the material. Leave the board in place overnight.
2. The next day, carefully lift the wood up and away from the installed GraniteCrete. Continue the installation process as per step 2 under Method One.

Method Three: (Suggested for large open edges at the end of the work day)

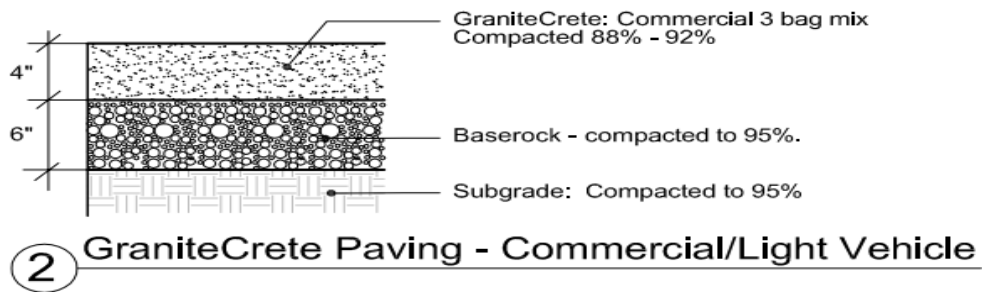
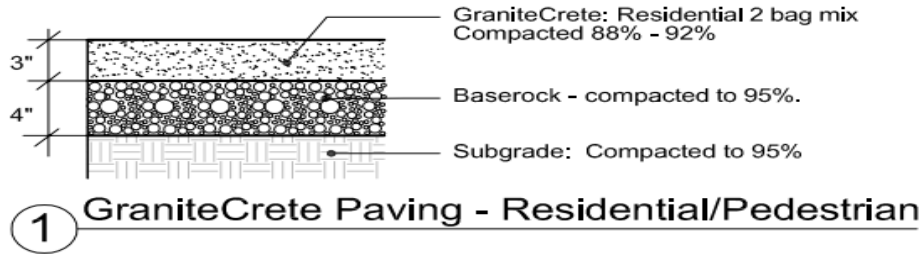
1. Install steel edging at a location that looks "intentional" and aesthetically "makes sense. Permanently install using the stakes provided. Completely finish the first days work.
2. The next day, simply continue with the installation. Leave the edging in place. Again, being careful not to leave any new material on the previously installed GraniteCrete.

Installing for Vehicular Traffic

Installing for vehicular traffic is nearly identical to the method above, **EXCEPT** you

will use a vibratory plate or static riding roller to compact the GraniteCrete, after final compaction by a lawn roller.

Cross-section Details



Recommended Equipment

Tools	Materials
Rounded point and flat edge shovels	GraniteCrete Admixture bags (85 lbs.)
6 cubic foot cement mixer or volumetric concrete mixer	3/8" minus aggregate/ decomposed granite
Wheelbarrow	Class II Base Rock or Class II Permeable Base
8" or 10" hand-tamps	Curbing or Header Board materials (if desired)
Hose w/spray nozzle	Water source
Landscape and asphalt rake w/flat edge	
Heavy lawn roller	
Medium bristled push broom	
(2) 6" Wooden Floats (1) Steel Float to keep hand tamps clean	

A large commercial project may require the use of a volumetric concrete truck.

Please refer to our website for further information:

<https://www.granitecrete.com/installation/>

Important Reminders

- 1.** Do not allow GraniteCrete to dry during installation. Mist lightly with a hose end spray head as necessary - **avoid puddling** - or cover with plastic tarp.
- 2.** Non-compacted - or poorly-compacted - GraniteCrete top layer will result in loose and pebbled materials. Edge and corner compaction may require special attention with a hand tamp during installation.
- 3.** Non-compacted - or poorly-compacted - base rock may result in failure of top layer of GraniteCrete.
- 4.** Squeeze the mixture in your fist and open your hand. When the color has just started to transfer onto your hand and the mixture just begins to stay together in a clump, it's ready for installation. Excessive moisture level may result in "sticky" materials complicating the quality of the finish surface or proper compaction. If the material is too wet, it may be placed on the bottom of the installation, with material that has a better moisture content on top.
- 5.** Aggregate/decomposed granite materials should meet the sieve specifications in our Specification Guide
- 6.** Recommended minimum slope for surface drainage is 2%.
- 7.** Compaction rates for all applications are 88% – 92%.
- 8.** Please Note: 3/8" minus aggregate comes in different colors. GraniteCrete™ samples reflect the use of a Golden Granite decomposed granite. Mock-ups using your local aggregate source is strongly suggested.