

Pre-Installation Checklist:

What to Know and Understand About GraniteCrete Before it Arrives On-site

GraniteCrete is the future of paving - a permanent, permeable, and natural paving material that brings beauty and sustainability to any hardscaping project. When excellently installed, it will look and function beautifully for many years to come.



Achieving an excellent installation of GraniteCrete is not difficult, but does require a thorough understanding of the process. The GraniteCrete installation process differs in some important ways from other common paving materials such as concrete, soil stabilizers, or plain decomposed granite. It is important to thoroughly understand the GraniteCrete installation process before getting started.

Below are our recommendations for achieving an installation of GraniteCrete that will look perfect from day one and last for years to come.

We recommend contacting GraniteCrete directly if you are a first-time installer, or it has been over one year since you last installed GraniteCrete. We will work with you to answer any questions you might have, and we will be on-site during the installation at **no charge**. It's all part of [Quality Assurance at GraniteCrete](#).

The installation methods vary with the size of the project; please refer to the appropriate set of instructions below:

[Installations up to 500 square feet:](#) Page 2

[Installations Between 501 - 3,000 square feet:](#) Page 5

[Installations 3,000 square feet and Larger:](#) Page 8

Installations up to 500 square feet

If you are a first-time installer, it has been over one year since you last installed GraniteCrete, or you have any questions about installing our product, please contact one of our retailers or a GraniteCrete representative. GraniteCrete will provide consultation at **no charge**.

Please note: GraniteCrete is a pigmented product and it **will** stain (wood, concrete, clothing, et cetera). Take preventative measures to avoid having GraniteCrete come in contact with any item you don't want to change color (for example: tape edges to protect, lay down a tarp, wear appropriate work clothing and boots, et cetera).

Review the list of tools required for a proper installation, and ensure they are on-hand:

Tools
(3) Rounded point or flat edge shovels
Wheelbarrow for moving material
8" or 10" hand-tamps for compacting edges and corners, step back fills, and small areas
Hose with a shower spray nozzle for moistening dry product
Landscape and asphalt rake with flat edge for finish grading
Lawn roller filled with water to compact
(2-3) Steel garden rakes to mix moisture throughout product
Medium bristled push broom for finishing
(2-3) 6"-9" wooden masonry float for finishing (1) 6"-9" steel float for cleaning hand tamp and roller

Mixing the GraniteCrete, Decomposed Granite, and Water

Calculate the exact amount of decomposed granite and GraniteCrete needed for your installation. Our [materials estimator](#) will help you find the correct amounts:

<https://www.granitecrete.com/paving-materials-estimator/>

- A portable cement mixer is needed; we recommend using one with a fiberglass drum for easy cleaning
- There are two ways to use the cement mixer:
 1. Mix the decomposed granite and GraniteCrete **DRY**, adding water after the material has been placed at the installation site. (See the “Installation” section directly below for more information, or review the [Installation page](#) on our website: <https://www.granitecrete.com/installation/>). Make sure to check our guide for the materials ratio.
 2. Mix the decomposed granite, GraniteCrete, and water. Once the decomposed granite and GraniteCrete are in the cement mixer, water should gradually be added as the paving materials mix. During the mixing process, occasionally stop the mixer so the moisture content can be assessed. The moisture content should be as shown—and described—in the installation instructions and installation video. Make sure to check our guide for the materials ratio.

What to Know Before Beginning the Installation

Please review installation instructions and video carefully before beginning the installation process.

- Number of people required for this size job: 3 - 5, in the following roles
 - 2 - 3 people moving the mixed material to the installation site and working the material to ensure proper moisture throughout
 - If using the cement mixer to mix the decomposed granite and GraniteCrete dry, there should be one person running the mixer and assessing the moisture content and the others moving the

material to the installation site with the wheelbarrow and grading with the steel garden rake(s).

- 1 - 2 people compacting the material and doing the finish work once the material has been properly placed and mixed

Installations Between 501 - 3,000 square feet

If you are a first-time installer, it has been over one year since you last installed GraniteCrete, or you have any questions about installing our product, please contact one of our retailers or a GraniteCrete representative. GraniteCrete will provide consultation at **no charge**.

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Review the list of tools required for a proper installation, and ensure they are on-hand:

Tools
(3) Rounded point or flat edge shovels
Wheelbarrow for moving material
8" or 10" hand-tamps for compacting edges and corners, step back fills, and small areas
Hose with a shower spray nozzle for moistening dry product
Landscape and asphalt rake with flat edge for finish grading
Lawn roller filled with water to compact
(2-3) Steel garden rakes to mix moisture throughout product
Medium bristled push broom for finishing
(2-3) 6"-9" wooden masonry float for finishing (1) 6"-9" steel float for cleaning hand tamp and roller

Mixing the GraniteCrete, Decomposed Granite, and Water

Calculate the exact amount of decomposed granite and GraniteCrete needed for your installation. Our [materials estimator](#) will help you find the correct amounts:

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- There are two ways to mix GraniteCrete for installations of this size:
 - 1. Decomposed granite and GraniteCrete can be ordered pre-mixed and delivered **DRY** from one of our [pre-mix facilities](#) throughout Northern California. Water will still need to be added to the mixture at the installation site.

Pre-mix facilities can be found on our [retailer page](#), and are noted as such: <https://www.granitecrete.com/retailers/>

- 2. The decomposed granite and GraniteCrete can be ordered **UN**mixed and delivered to the installation site separately, where a volumetric truck can be used to mix the materials together. Make sure to check our guide for the materials ratio.

A volumetric truck has separate areas/hoppers for decomposed granite, GraniteCrete, and water; it is able to mix these materials together at the job site to produce GraniteCrete ready to install, saving valuable time. In other words, it's a portable batching plant for GraniteCrete installations—out the back end comes GraniteCrete ready to install!

We recommend the following businesses for rental of a volumetric truck:

Northern and Central California:

- Baumann Landscape Construction – 1255 Battery Street Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94111 // (415) 447-4800
- Bay “Area” Mix – Eduardo Espinoza - (925) 435-5416 / Luis Espinoza - (925) 329-9876

Southern California:

- Short Load Concrete – 605 E. Commercial Street, Anaheim, CA 92801 // contact: Ryan Vanderhook, Jr. – (714) 524-7013 or ryan@shortload.com

What to Know Before Beginning the Installation

Please review installation instructions and video carefully before beginning the installation process.

Dry Pre-mix | Number of people required for this job size: 6 - 11, in the following roles

- 2 - 4 people moving the mixed decomposed granite and GraniteCrete to the installation site
- 2 - 4 people working the material to ensure proper moisture throughout; one person running the hose, the others using steel garden rakes
- 2 - 3 people compacting the material and doing the finish work once the material has been properly placed and mixed

Volumetric Truck | Number of people required for this job size: 5 - 9, in the following roles

- 3 - 5 people moving the mixed decomposed granite, GraniteCrete, and water to the installation site
- 2 - 4 people compacting the material and doing the finish work once the material has been properly placed

Installations 3,000 square feet and Larger

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Review the list of tools required for a proper installation, and ensure they are on-hand:

Tools
(3) Rounded point or flat edge shovels
Wheelbarrow for moving material
8" or 10" hand-tamps for compacting edges and corners, step back fills, and small areas
Hose with a shower spray nozzle for moistening dry product
Landscape and asphalt rake with flat edge for finish grading
Lawn roller filled with water or a ride-on roller in static mode to compact
Medium bristled push broom for finishing
(2-3) 6"-9" wooden masonry float for finishing (1) 6"-9" steel float for cleaning hand tamp and roller

Mixing the GraniteCrete, Decomposed Granite, and Water

Calculate the exact amount of decomposed granite and GraniteCrete needed for your installation. Our [materials estimator](#) will help you find the correct amounts:

<https://www.granitecrete.com/paving-materials-estimator/>

- We recommend a volumetric truck for any installation 3,000 square feet and larger. Make sure to check our guide for the materials ratio.

A volumetric truck has separate areas/hoppers for decomposed granite, GraniteCrete, and water; it is able to mix these materials together at the job site to produce GraniteCrete ready to install, saving valuable time. In other words, it's a portable batching plant for GraniteCrete installations—out the back end comes GraniteCrete ready to install!

We can recommend the following businesses for rental of a volumetric truck:

Northern and Central California:

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What to Know Before Beginning the Installation

Please review installation instructions and video carefully before beginning the installation process.

- Number of people required for this job size: 5 - 12, in the following roles
 - 3 - 8 people moving the mixed decomposed granite, GraniteCrete, and water to the installation site

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- 2 - 4 people compacting the material and doing the finish work once the material has been properly placed

GraniteCrete can also be installed using a paving machine. We recommend speaking with GraniteCrete representatives to explain the process.