

# RETAINING WALLS MELBOURNE



## What are Retaining Walls

Retaining Walls are used for aesthetic appeal, garden, and drainage, to help a drainage system, to alter the landscape of your yard, to make way for landscaping, on sloping areas, to reinforce earth, to prevent land slipping, to prevent soil washing away and many other reasons.

The primary function of these walls is to strengthen a slope, to retain the earth on a steep slope, to cut a lower level, to reinforce a site cut so that a split level can be created, often for residential projects but also for large developments.

## Why Use Retaining Walls

### DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

As a retaining wall builder, it is our opinion that retaining walls can be a garden feature, but also can be part of a more practical water runoff system in your landscape construction. Retaining walls are ideal for use in drainage, with a garden bed built in they can also catch some water. You should always take erosion into account and create projects that foresee mother nature's worst before it happens. Planning is important when designing a retaining wall, allow enough ground space to lay your aggi pipe if drainage is to be a part of the system.

### LAND SLIPS

On properties where landslips or land collapse are prone, a wall like this is exactly what you need to maintain a safe area. A retaining wall can hold the pressure of the upper layer of

land, giving you a safe space to build your home or shed or whatever construction project you have in mind.

## RETENTION WALLS

Sometimes bored piers are drilled or foundations are laid to build a retaining wall. A certain amount of retention is engineered and the foundations usually have to have a certain amount of rock socket or bond length into the rock, to provide a solid foundation for the wall retaining load to be on point. Ground conditions can be different in different areas, from Melbourne VIC to the outer Northern suburbs of Melbourne.

## CONCRETE BLOCK RETAINING WALL

Using concrete sleepers or concrete blocks to build a retaining wall, we can build strong walls retaining earth for your next construction project. With our skills after many retaining walls are built, we can put together concrete wall systems for you.

## DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT

Your garden edge needs erosion control, aesthetic appeal, and functionality among many other purposes and your outdoor space needs a finished product that looks the part. There is a large difference between a natural stone wall, brick retaining walls, timber sleeper walls, sandstone retaining walls and commercial retaining walls, every retaining wall specialist knows that. It is in the design of the wall systems in which we lay out the drainage and water runoff features of the retaining wall.

## Types of Retaining Walls

### ROCK RETAINING WALLS

We construct attractive, cost-effective retaining walls. Larger stones and river rocks are used to provide a smoother overall effect in natural rock retaining walls. Using natural stones, boulders, and rocks in your home keeps it from looking too commercial.

Water fountains, statuary, and other outdoor décor items look great next to rock walls. These are well worth your money if you need long-term protection and a more natural appearance.



Natural stone walls may give your home a lot of character and value, as well as provide years of dependable service. Our skilled contractors will construct a beautiful new fence to protect your home.

## TIMBER RETAINING WALLS



Timber is a popular choice for landscaping projects. When made of wood, retaining walls, in particular, make a substantial contribution to the environment. Timber's natural beauty and versatility make it suitable for this project. Timber is a robust, long-lasting material that is popular for its aesthetic appeal. Your yard will benefit from a timber retaining wall.

## CONCRETE SLEEPER RETAINING WALLS

Sleeper walls are smaller systems that are specifically designed to control soil retention. We usually make them out of wood panels and railroad ties, but we sometimes make concrete sleepers.

Regardless of whether the material is best for you, we create sleeper wall solutions that last longer. Your dirt will stay in place without warping or disfiguring your walls if installed appropriately.

Some people like wood because of its lighter appearance and feel, while others prefer concrete blocks because of their rougher aspect. Regardless of whether a style of sleeper wall is perfect for you, we always produce a high-quality product for your home.



## SANDSTONE RETAINING WALLS



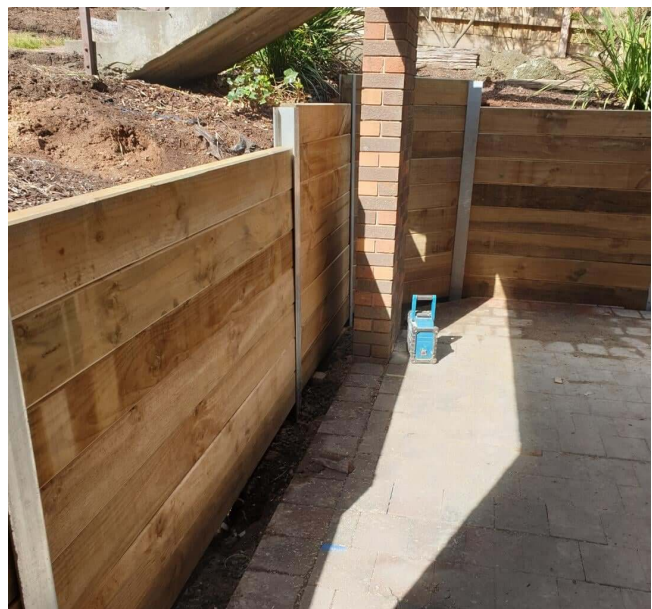
Sandstone blocks are ideal for preventing soil erosion and are ideal for constructing Retaining Walls. When employing our Blocks and Logs, your landscaper or wall builder's imagination is the only limit to the design of your Sandstone Retaining Walls. Retaining walls are the most common. Garden edging, landscaping borders, estate walls, and even civil constructions such as marine sea sandstone retaining walls are all possibilities. You may also use them as sandstone steps, make sitting elements out of them, or use them as garden edging. Sandstone blocks truly make a beautiful retaining wall.

## TREATED PINE WALLS

In Australia, these retaining walls have been in use for a long time. Our research indicates that these class 1 Timber Hardwood walls, which were originally constructed from original "Old Railway Sleepers," had a reasonably average life lifetime of roughly 15 years.

Almost all modern Hardwood Sleeper walls are H4 treated these days, and according to our research, these non-class 1 Timber Hardwood walls have a life duration of roughly 10 years.

Treated Pine Log walls are an alternative to standard sleeper walls; our study suggests that for a few additional dollars upfront, you can expect to have a wall that lasts twice as long as a comparably treated hardwood wall.



## PANEL & POST RETAINING WALLS



Panel and post retaining wall systems have long been regarded as one of the most straightforward to construct. To build the wall, the concrete posts are first inserted into the ground to form the frame, and then the blocks are slid into place.

The wall's interlocking block design allows it to be put together quickly and easily, ensuring years of endurance. They can also be utilized for nearly any height or size for your needs due to their ease of construction.

You'll love the simple aesthetic and long-lasting performance our systems

create, whether they're higher systems that decrease noise pollution or shorter walls for gardens. When you need a panel and post wall that will last for years, ours will always meet or surpass your expectations.

## BLOCK RETAINING WALLS

Block retaining walls are more of a do it yourself system, well, they come in easy to set up, interlocking systems. It still requires a certain level of technical knowledge, and it is certainly not for the inexperienced. But, interlocking block retaining wall systems are designed to produce a consistent look, all the blocks being the same size and shape.

A block retaining wall provides a very neutral feel, by providing a consistent wall that repeats the pattern over and over again. Just like bricks, block walls are usually made from rectangular blocks. A block wall will usually have less load-bearing weight and should not be used to hold back large amounts of weight and earth.



## LIMESTONE RETAINING WALLS



For many people who require long-term protection and inexpensive maintenance, limestone walls are a popular choice. Limestone blocks are not only beautiful to look at, but they are also inherently flame resistant.

Solid block systems or composite blocks can be used to construct your limestone walls. Both produce a clean, long-lasting look that won't fade and will persist for many years.

Limestone is a more expensive building material, but we can save you a lot of money on labour if you choose us as your contractor. Limestone also

tends to be structurally sound for longer than other blocks, making it an excellent choice for many.

## GABION WALLS

Gabion comes from the Italian word "gabbione," which means "large cage," which is exactly what a gabion retaining wall is. It's made up of a series of wire mesh "cages" that keep boulders and stones in place. A gabion wall can be used as a residential retaining wall in your backyard in a smaller size.

Steel wire is used to hold the wire baskets together. Gabion walls are extensively utilized in commercial applications because they are effective and long-lasting, and they prevent soil erosion and flooding, making them a smart long-term investment. A gabion wall can be used as a residential retaining wall in your backyard in a smaller size.



# Retaining Walls Regulations

Installing a retaining wall in Melbourne may appear to be a straightforward process, and it is important if you follow the council's guidelines. As you can see, the higher the wall, the greater the risk to people, which is why it's so important to get it done correctly.

Planning permission is required if the wall is to be over 1-metre high and next to a road or pathway or over 2-metres high elsewhere. Independent, freestanding retaining walls may not require building regulation approval; however, any structures must be structurally sound and well maintained

The owner who benefits from the wall, regardless of which side of the boundary it is on, is responsible for its upkeep.

State-by-state variances in height are possible. However, the following are some general rules to follow:

- Building a retaining wall higher than 600mm from ground level requires council approval in New South Wales.
- Retaining walls of one metre or greater in height requires building approval on Queensland's Gold Coast.
- Retaining walls exceeding one-metre height in Victoria requires a construction permit.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How much access do we need to build a retaining wall?

As long as it is a straight line of access, we can go as low as 700mm, it really depends on the size of machine we require for the job. If we have over 2200mm that is ideal, as we can bring in a 5-tonne excavator to dig the retaining wall and perform earthworks around the site. If the site consists of rock, we much prefer to bring in a 5-tonne machine or greater.

### What size machines do we generally use for retaining walls?

Generally, we will use the largest machines we can, to maximise the spoil removal rate. However, other factors must be taken into account, such as access, do you have power lines? or a tight access point? such as a driveway. Underground services can also impact the size of the machine we would use. We have machines ranging from 1.8tonne to

**20tonne, excavators in that range would be used for your site cut in most circumstances. We also use bobcats, for spoil removal and grading. The truck will be used for the transport of spoil, and access will be created for trucks to enter and exit the site in the site cut process.**

### **How long does a retaining wall take to build?**

**It does depend on the size of the retaining wall and the access, but a wall with 100 sleepers will take us approx 2-3 days with our team, in good conditions. Sometimes spoil removal and earth moving can be complicated by access, so having solid access and egress from the site is preferable. We may require access for trucks and loads of materials, so access is a critical piece of the retaining wall project.**

### **What to expect once we are on the retaining wall site?**

**On day 1 we will double-check all measurements of the retaining wall with you and go through on-site the location of the wall, mapping out and planning the wall in a consultative process. On the same day, we will run through the project with you, explaining the process and ensuring we have everything we need to start constructing your retaining wall, if there are any issues we will make you aware of them at this point, to prevent issues later on.**

**After the consultation, we are good to go, you can leave us to build the retaining wall. You watch us work, or got to work and be amazed when you get home.**