

IMPERIAL RUSTIC DOUBLE FACE WALL



Imperial Line

MATERIAL

Innovative Landscapes

CONTRACTOR

Raised Two-Tier Patio

PROJECT

No. 108

CASE STUDY

Imperial Products Gain Popularity with Contractors and Homeowners Alike

HARDSCAPING CONTRACTOR:

Innovative Landscapes
Hillsdale, NJ

PROJECT:

Raised two-tier patio with lighted wall, seat wall and outdoor kitchen

MATERIALS:

Imperial Rustic Cobble Stone Paver and Imperial Rustic Double Face Wall in Brindle

With little room to entertain to enjoy themselves on a small 12x14' builder's deck, the owners of a large Mahwah, NJ, home had felt bound to its interior for nearly five years. Finally, on a referral from a family member, they called in Innovative Landscapes owner Scott McDowell for help in creating their outdoor oasis. Recently completed, phase one of the two-phase backyard beautification project included creating a continuous flow from the home's large kitchen and great room out onto the new 1,000 square foot two-tier patio, complete with a double-sided, lighted wall, seat wall and outdoor kitchen.

In just nine days, Innovative Landscapes' three-man crew completed the patio project using 120 cubic yards of base material, Imperial Rustic Cobble Stone Paver and Imperial Rustic Double Face Wall, both in Brindle — a feat McDowell attributes to preparation, Imperial products' ease of use, hard work, and years and years of experience.

HardscapingConnection.com (HC):

This job moved very quickly. Tell us what went into planning and preparing to make it possible.

McDowell: I always take the time to do a lot of preparation. First, I double and triple check measurements and quantities. Then, about 10-14 days before I begin a job, I start contacting suppliers and arranging for trucks and equipment. I contact all of them again 4-5 days out and again the day before. I never leave any of the details up to chance. When you have everything you need lined up ahead of time, you can be incredibly efficient on the job.



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HC: Why did you choose Imperial Concrete products for this project?

McDowell: Not only is Imperial a better value than comparable products, it's easy to work with and creates a nice tight wall. A lot of other stones are not true and it really throws a wall off. The Imperial Rustic Wall stones are a uniform thickness, shape and size. And on a wall that transitions from one-sided raised patio to exposed seat wall, being able to use Imperial Rustic Double Face Wall for both saved us money both in material and inventory costs. You get an ample number of corner units too. That makes it easier to modify a plan and cuts down on waste and expense. And the color blends are really nice within a pallet. With a lot of others, the colors are not dispersed well enough and you wind up with a line of solid color. But they also blend well with other products. There was some existing Hardscaping on this project and the Brindle Imperial Wall and Pavers blended perfectly.

HC: Did this project require any special equipment?

McDowell: No, nothing uncommon, but regardless of the equipment being used, I'd stress the importance of taking the time to add base material in 3-inch lifts only — never higher. At one end of this project we had a 4-foot high wall. Because we were careful in our preparation, that wall is sound and it's not going anywhere. The process may take longer, especially on a job of this size, but in the end, it's worth it.

HC: Is there any advice you'd give your contractor colleagues on a job like this?

McDowell: Yes. At your entry levels, make sure there's plenty of pitch. Be very precise. Otherwise, the water will never drain off. When what's absorbed freezes, it will throw the pavers and ruin the patio. I recommend a tumbled paver, like Imperial's Rustic line, which has only about 4% water absorption, and polymeric sand, which seals cracks like cement so there's no water penetration through the patio whatsoever.

With the patio project complete, the homeowners are now in the process of having a pool installed. Phase two of Innovative Landscapes' design will get underway in fall 2008. Plans include an outdoor fireplace and pergola to be built on the new pool deck. Keep an eye on HardscapingConnection.com for an update later this year.



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