



There's something happening here... Suddenly it seems that everybody in Sisters is doing projects with pavers.

It's not hard to understand why — pavers are versatile and durable, and a paver patio can provide an option that can replace a wood deck or supplement one. You can choose among a variety of colors and textures and create an almost endless variety of attractive patterns.

Ryan Vohs of Vohs Custom Landscaping has been seeing an upsurge in interest in pavers, especially in the face of rising material costs — and scarcity — when it comes to lumber products.

“Your best investment for outdoor, usable space is going to be pavers,” he said.

Pavers have advantages in durability, longevity, ease of use and ease of maintenance. It's simple to keep a paver patio clean, and you can readily repair or replace a broken or chipped paver here and there.

“Especially in our area, I think it's something that really adds value to your house,” Vohs said. “It's an extension of your living room, in my opinion.”

Outdoor entertainment spaces have become more valuable than ever in pandemic conditions. You're limited only by imagination and budget as to what you can do. You can create a simple patio or go with an elaborate outdoor kitchen

constructed out of stone. Build retaining walls or seating walls crafted out of the hard stuff. You can add a fire pit. You can create a whole driveway out of pavers, utilizing high-PSI-rated materials to withstand heavy traffic.

Some care and effort is involved, and for bigger projects, it's probably wise to tap local expertise.

“It's not just slam it in the ground and go,” Vohs said.

On the other hand, a paver project is not so complex that it's out of reach for a do-it-yourself project.

“People get intimidated by it, but it's one of those things that when you start it, it's very simple,” said Eric Spor of Sisters Rental.

Sisters Rental has always had

on hand the tools and materials needed for such projects — and now they've added the pavers themselves, with materials crafted by Oregon Block and Paver out of Prineville.

Spor lays out a simple protocol, using materials that are available at the shop.

Measure the area you plan to cover and stake it. Dig down about three to four inches and lay in your base material — 1/2 or 1/4-minus construction gravel and compact it, then lay in a base layer of sand.

“That allows you to manipulate the stones when you lay them,” Spor said.

Layer play sand over the top and brush it into the seams to lock your pavers in place.

You can go as simple or as complex as you like with the pattern.

“There's probably 20 to 30 designs a [person] could do,” Spor said. “We display the simplest ones.”

Sisters Rental also offers a stone-fire-pit kit that comes on a pallet and is simple as can be to put together, with no cuts required. You simply stack the thing up, gather around and enjoy.

“You can glue them if you want, but you don't have to,” Spor said.

Whether you do it yourself or hire it done, a paver project creates space your family can enjoy that won't require too much upkeep and will last and last.

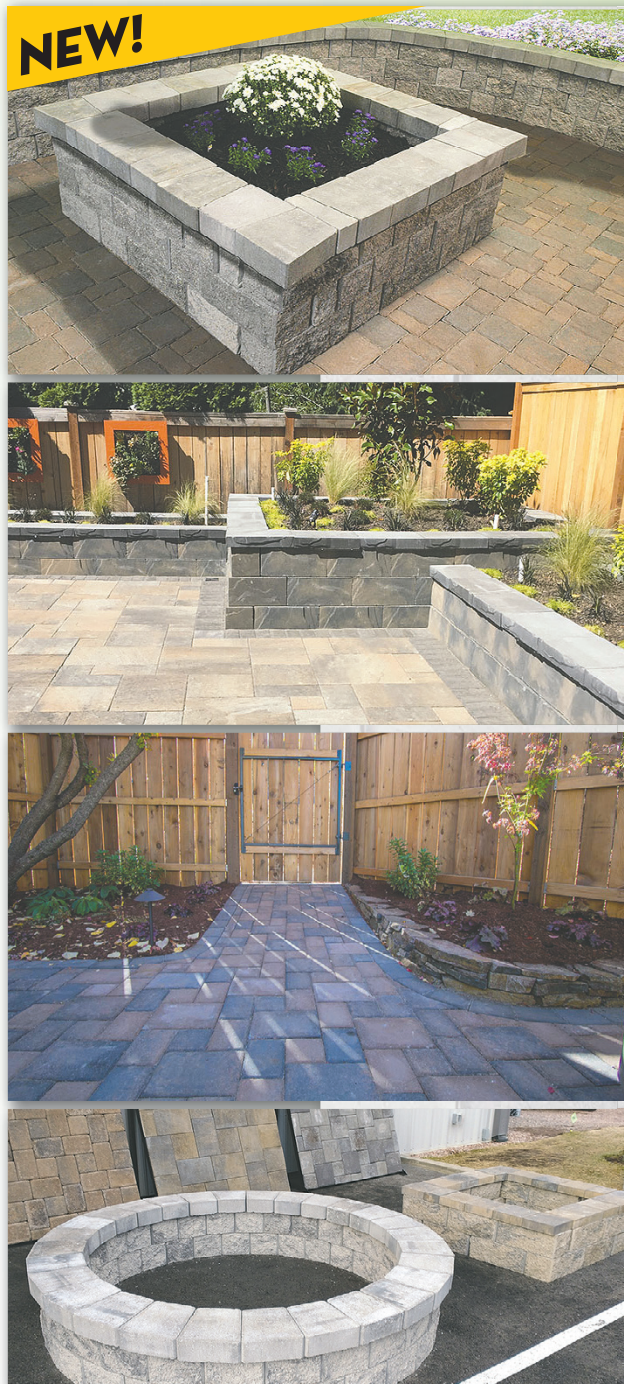


Seems that everybody is working with pavers this spring. Small wonder: They're durable, aesthetic, readily available — and surprisingly easy to work with.

There are lots of contractors in Sisters who work with pavers — but it's both cost-effective and fun to take a paver project on as a DIY effort. That's where Sisters Rental comes in. They have recently begun to stock product from the highly respected Oregon Block and Paver out of Prineville, which means they have everything you need for a project.

You'll need base material, a compactor, the stones you want to use, and play sand to work in the seams to settle and lock in the pavers. All of that is available at Sisters Rental — along with expert advice that will take the intimidation factor out of the equation.

And while you're at it, you can get a kit to put together a stone fire pit — an easy project that will greatly enhance your enjoyment of your yard. Get on it — and have fun!



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