

Paver Benefits

SEGMENTAL PAVING - The most versatile option featuring individual units placed by hand or machine. Superior design flexibility and an upgraded appearance stand out from typical paving applications.

| PAVEMENT TYPES | APPEARANCE | INITIAL COST & INSTALLATION | MAINTENANCE | WINTER DURABILITY | SNOW REMOVAL |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| Concrete Pavers <i>Best Choice</i> | The widest range of surface finishes, colors, shapes, and sizes. Laying patterns can complement the architectural style of any home because of the wide variety of styles available. | Moderate - Tightly fitted, uniform units are placed over a sand bed and a compacted aggregate base. Immediately ready for use. Can be installed by homeowner or an ICPI Certified Professional. | Low—Stained or broken pavers can be easily replaced without patches. Dark colored pavers can help hide stains. Factory-made pavers last for decades. | High—Small, high density units resist cracking as well as damage from freeze-thaw cycles and salts. Pavers are stronger than ordinary or stamped concrete. | Smooth surface allows for easy snow removal. Darker colored pavers help melt snow faster. Snow-melt systems can be easily integrated to eliminate snow and ice removal. |
| Cobble Stone | Gives elegant, permanent, yet informal “Old World” feel. | Highest—Non-uniform units must be fitted together by hand. | Low—High quality stone lasts for decades. Wide joints may encourage weeds and ants. Rough surface makes walking and driving difficult. | High—High density stone resists cracking and salts. | Rough surface makes plowing difficult. |
| Clay Brick | Traditionally comes in shades of red and red-brown. Limited shapes and sizes. | Moderate—High-Mortar-set base may be used which increases costs. Natural variations in dimensions may slow installation or cause difficulty in maintaining straight pattern lines. | Low—Natural surface variations may lead to chipping or possible damage. | Moderate—Salts may cause deterioration in some clay pavers. | Smooth surface allows for easy snow removal. Darker colored pavers help melt snow faster. |
| Other Paving Options | | | | | |
| Stamped Concrete | Surface is usually colored. Patterns designed to give appearance of segmental paving but saw-cut joints may show. | High—Difficult for homeowner to install. Requires special equipment to stamp stone or paver patterns into surface. Surface sealer often used. | Moderate—Cracking may likely develop. Patched repairs may be hard to match to original color. Color fading also possible over time. | Low—Potential for deterioration from de-icing salts. | Uneven surface of some patterns and textures may make plowing difficult. |
| Ordinary Concrete | Grey or light brown. Can be colored throughout or on surface only. | Moderate—Difficult for homeowner to install and requires 5 to 7 days for hardening before use. Surface quality varies with weather and installation. | Moderate—Cracking may likely develop. Repairs and replaced sections may leave visible patches. Oil stains difficult to remove. | Low—Cracks from freeze-thaw cycles, settlement and salt deterioration may occur. | Smooth initial surface allows for easy removal. Light colored surface may not melt snow rapidly |
| Asphalt | Few color options. Achieving neat looking edges may be difficult. Stamped asphalt appears painted and artificial | Low—Installs quickly over compacted aggregate base. Must be professionally installed. | High—Wear and weather will break down surface. Black seal coat required every 2-3 years. Rut or pothole repairs leave visible patches. Subject to erosion from oil drippings. | Low—Cracks from freeze-thaw cycles, settlement and salt deterioration may occur. | Smooth surface allows for easy removal. Dark surface accelerates snow melting. |
| Crushed Stone or Gravel | Typically rustic look. Appearance varies with color and shape of stones. | Low—Dumped and spread over soil (no base required). | High—Scattered stone must be replaced and leveled regularly. Ruts from tires are likely to develop. | High—Stones resist freeze-thaw cycles and salts. | Stones and surface may become uneven during plowing. |

Chart reference is taken from the ICPI’s brochure “The Beauty of Choosing The Best Pavement. A comparison guide for consumers” and can be found at www.icpi.org.