



French Drain Installation Guide

Step One

If you're having issues with water retention in your yard, along your foundation or in your basement, a French Drain may be a relatively easy solution to the problem. French drains can be used in most applications to move water away from where you don't want it to be. The first step is to determine where your problem areas are and where you want the water to migrate to. You also need to determine if your yard is pitched in the correct direction and if there is enough pitch to allow the water to move.

Step Two

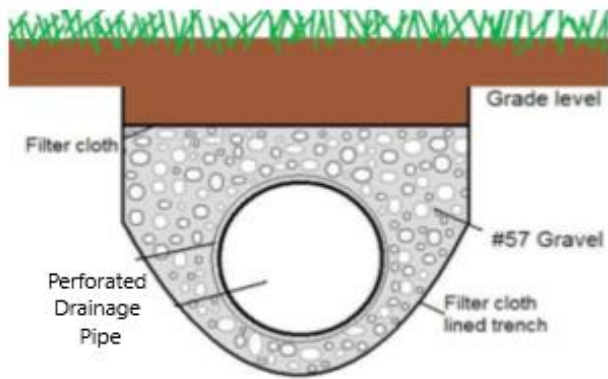
Begin by marking out the area you want the trench to go. Dig the trench at least 12" wide and 18"-24" deep. Use a string line to determine the slope of your trench using a guideline of $\frac{1}{2}$ " slope for every foot.

Step Three

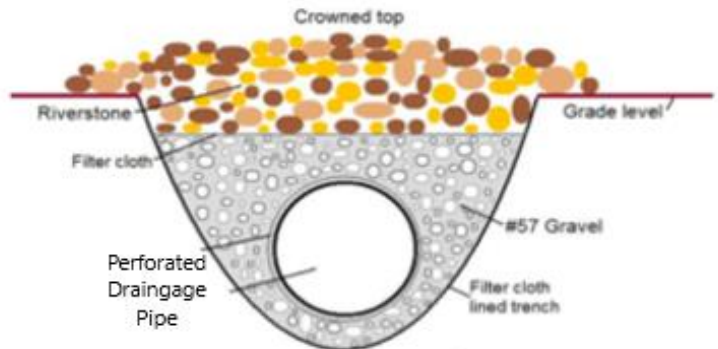
After digging the trench you will place a few inches of crushed stone in the bottom. Line the trench with a good quality drainage fabric running up both sides and layer 2-3 inches of crushed stone on top of your fabric. Place your pipe on top of the layer of stone with the drainage holes facing down and fill around the sides and over the top of the pipe with more $\frac{3}{4}$ " crushed stone. Stop filling the trench when you are 3-5 inches below the original grade. Wrap the fabric over the crushed stone completely surrounding it.

If you have any questions, call or stop by either of our two locations.

603-749-9797 or 603-431-0088



French Drain



Open French Drain

**Step
Four**

Depending on the type of French drain you are building, you will finish the trench in one of two ways. You can finish filling the final few inches with loam and reseed the area or you can fill with a few inches of decorative river stone to create a dry riverbed look. At the daylight end of the pipe you will need to make a 45 degree miter cut and wrap with chicken wire to keep animals and debris out. You can also buy a manufactured end cap such as the ones below.



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