# There's more to building a retaining wall than just laying block.

It's true, retaining wall construction is both an art and a science. The art or skill of building terrific walls generally comes with experience and the development of personal technique. Fortunately, the science part can be readily learned — and must be applied for any artful application to succeed. Follow these guidelines to ensure that every wall you build is structurally sound.

#### ASSEMBLE YOUR PLANS

The first step in building an Anchor wall is thorough planning, which includes these four important design components:

Site grading plan

Design soils information

Wall construction plan

Installation guidelines



With these four design components, you have the information you need to build your Anchow wall. Examine all the documents carefully. Check the wall plan to ensure that it's been certified by a registered engineer. Make sure that all of your submittals are complete.

#### EVALUATE THE SITE

Before you get started, perform a thorough on-site ordunion, Check the materials acrefully one source your supplier has delivered the outrest amounts, according on specifications. Lay out a surage area for the retaining will block, reinforcement, drainage and hase materials to keep them protected from surrounding explorment and communition. The retaining will block hould be unoted off the ground on wooden pallers. It's also important to exp the reinforcement dy, covered and clan.

### STAKE OUT THE WALL

Arrange for a surveyor to stake out the wall's placement. Verify the locations with the project's supervisor to ensure accuracy before excavation.

#### EXCAVATE THE SITE

Excavate a leveling pad according to the lines and grades shown on your approved plans. Be sure to excavate enough soil behind the wall for the reinforcement material



#### EVALUATE THE SOIL

Testing and evaluation of the soil on your excavation site is necessary to determine the soil's characteristics. Soil retrieved at varying depths through a soil boring, interpreted by a geotechnical engineer, will tell you whether the soil meets or exceeds design specifications. If the soil is not adequate, soil corrections have to be made, or the design engineer must renegative the wall. Arrange for geotechnical inspections to take place during the wall construction by a geotechnical engineer to ensure a stable foundation.

## DO IT RIGHT

The success of an Anchor Wall Systems retaining wall depends as much on the prep work you perform as the actual wall construction. That's why it's absolutely essential to check and re-check your work, and the work of your vendors, at every stage of the project.

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For information on complete installation seminars in your area, contact the licensed Anchor Wall Systems producer in your area (see back cover) or contact Anchor Wall Systems at 1-800-473-4452.