

Gravel Depth Guide

The right gravel depth for driveways, paths, decorative beds, drainage, and paver bases.

Recommended Depths by Project

Project	Depth	Best Gravel Type	Compaction
Driveway (new)	4–6 in	Crusher run + crushed surface	10%
Driveway (top-up)	1.5 in	Crusher run	10%
Path / Walkway	2–3 in	Crushed gravel (angular)	5%
Decorative Bed	2–3 in	Pea gravel or river rock	None
French Drain	4–12 in	Drainage gravel (#57)	None (must stay loose)
Paver Base	4–6 in	Crusher run / DGA	15%

Quick Tips

- Pea gravel on driveways does NOT compact — creates ruts. Use angular crushed stone.
- Drainage gravel must be "clean" (no fines) so water flows through freely
- Good driveway = 3–4 in crusher run base + 2–3 in angular surface
- Add 10–15% compaction factor to volume when ordering