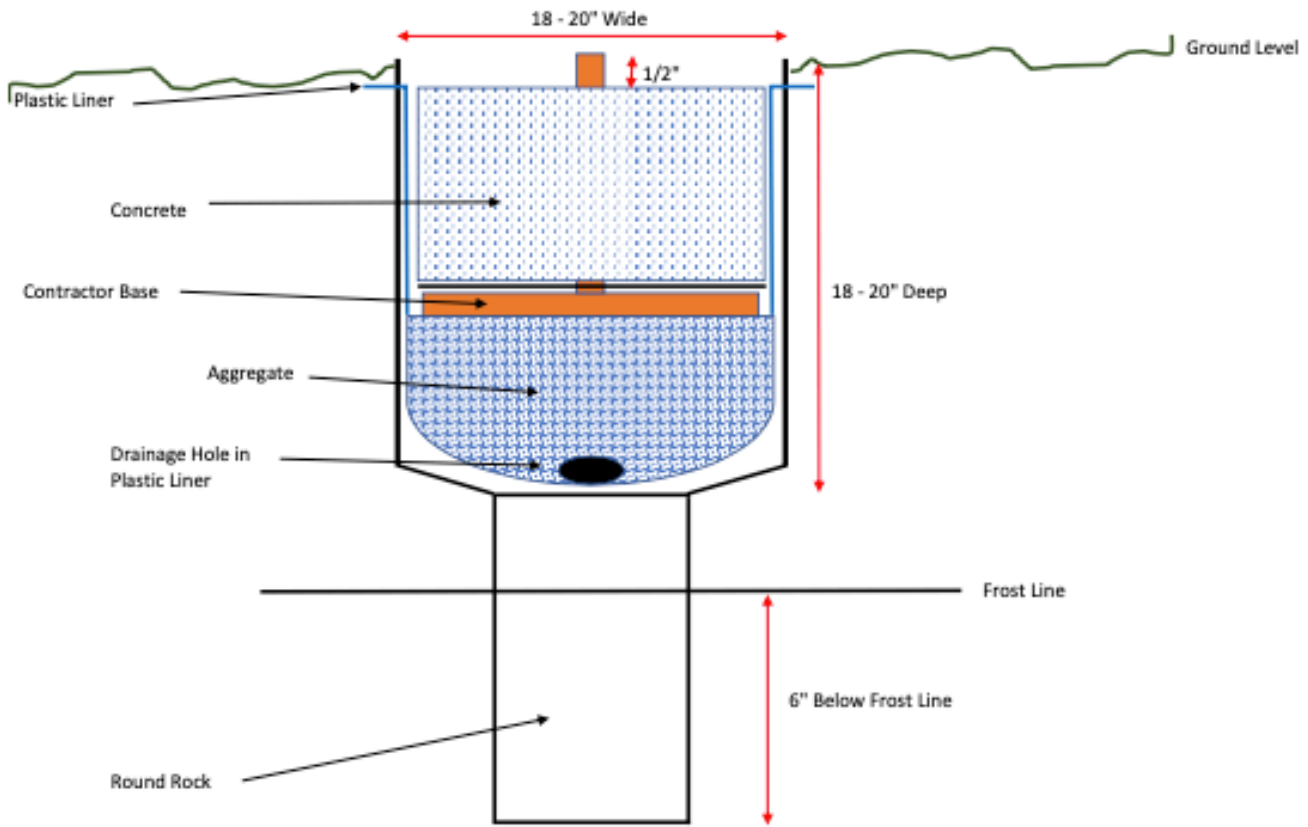


# Contractor Base Installation

1. Remove enough pavers to dig a hole about 18-20 inches across.
2. Dig a hole 18-20 inches in diameter and 18-20 inches deep. If there is sand under the pavers, save some to use later when you reinstall the pavers.
3. Use a posthole digger to dig a small diameter hole in the center of the first hole to 6" below frost line. This varies by state. For example, in Ohio, we figure 36" to frost, so we would go 42".
4. Taper larger hole into smaller hole so all moisture will run downhill into the smaller hole. Taper only needs to be an inch or so. Clean both holes of loose dirt.
5. Fill small diameter hole with round rock (river rock) – it will not pack.
6. Line the upper larger hole with plastic - personally, I use a contractor garbage bag and cut a hole in the bottom. The plastic liner will keep dirt from migrating into the rock that you are going to add next. Do not line smaller hole with plastic.
7. Take the contractor base apart. There are two pieces to the contractor base. The bottom part has a hole drilled in the center to drain water. The top part has four nuts welded on to attach the rotating base of the umbrella. What you need now is the lower part of the contractor base with the drain hole.
8. Fill the bottom part of the larger hole with rock and then set the lower part of the contractor base on the rock. The goal here is to have the top of the lower part of the contractor base stick above the finished pavers when they are put back in place by about 1/2".
9. Once the contractor base is the right height and right where you want it, take a small piece of plastic and cut a little X in the middle, then slide over the lower part of the base. You do not want the concrete to migrate through the stone and plug the drain hole in the contractor base. Now, slip the top part of the contractor base into the lower part. Get a level and make sure the top of the contractor base is level. Get it close now and perfect after you pour concrete.
10. Mix two or three bags on concrete – 100 to 120 pounds (more if you want). Pour mixed concrete around contractor base, tapping a little to fill all the voids, and smooth the top. Top of concrete should be lower than the bottom of the pavers. When the concrete has hardened, you can add a little sand and then put the pavers back in place. Now that the concrete is in place and before it gets hard – make sure that the top of the contractor base is level. Brace if necessary.

**NOTE:** Concrete takes a couple of day to get most of its strength – please wait that long to install your umbrella.

# Contractor Base Diagram



**For further assistance, contact our office by email or phone (listed below).**

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