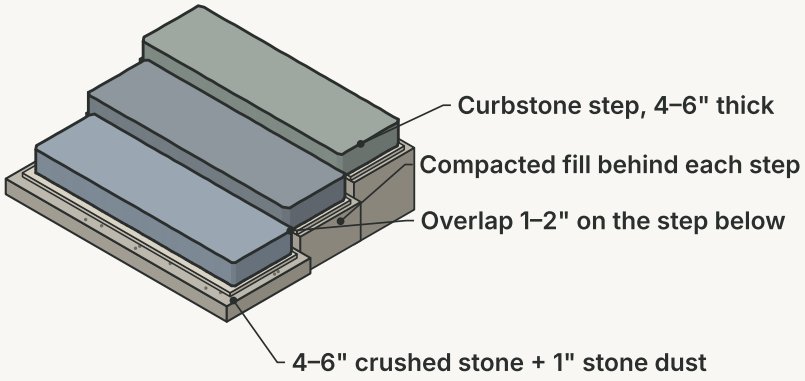
INSTALL GUIDE · RECLAIMED BLUESTONE

Installing bluestone steps

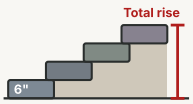
Solid curbstone treads, set from the bottom up on a base that will not move.



At a glance

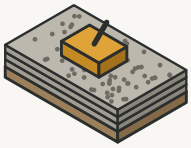
Steps	**2–8 ft long · 14–20" deep · 4–6" thick**
Rise	**About 5–7", the same on every step**
Base	**4–6" compacted crushed stone**
Bed	**About 1" of stone dust**
Overlap	**1–2" onto the step below**
Pitch	**Slight, toward the front edge**
Order	**Bottom up, fill behind each step**

1 Count the steps



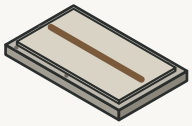
Total rise ÷ about 6". Round to a whole number; every rise the same.

2 Build the base



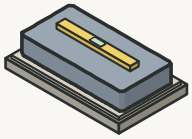
4–6" of crushed stone, compacted in 2" layers with a plate compactor.

3 Level the bed



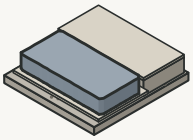
About 1" of stone dust. Add or take away to suit each stone's thickness.

4 Set the bottom step



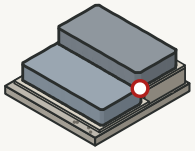
Level end to end, a slight fall to the front (about ⅛" per foot).

5 Fill behind it



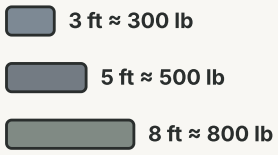
Compact crushed stone behind the step, up to the next step's bed.

6 Next step, overlapped



Overlap the step below by 1–2". Check the rise. Repeat to the top.

Heavy stone



Three people, a stone dolly and pipes for small pieces. Over ~400 lb, or uphill, use a machine.

At the front door

- ✓ **Concrete pad or footing**
  Sized past the bottom step, below frost.
- ✓ **Top step below the threshold**
  Pitched away from the house.
- ✓ **Check local code**
  Rise, tread depth and handrails.

Avoid

- × **Skipping compaction**
  The steps settle and rock.
- × **One taller step**
  Fix it in the bed, not by eye.
- × **A step that moves**
  Lift and re-bed it now, before winter.

Ways to buy

Reclaimed Northeast bluestone · every piece different · LEED material reuse

See it first

Come to the yard in Nanuet, NY. No appointment; call ahead and we'll be ready.

Steps, by the piece

Curbstone, 2–8 ft long, 14–20" deep, 4–6" thick. About 100 lb per foot.

Slabs, by the pallet

	3 ft slabs	4 ft slabs	5 ft slabs
Width	2–3 ft	2–4 ft	2–5 ft
Covers	**~100 ft²**	**~100 ft²**	**~100 ft²**

Full pallets only · 2–4" thick · ~3,950 lb · joints not counted

Count your steps

Scan for the bluestone steps calculator: steps, weight and cost

Chief Bricks · 15 Fisher Ave, Nanuet, NY 10954 · (718) 379-1232 · chiefbricks.com