

GEG May 2022  
Decorative Garden/Stepping Stones

Decorative garden or stepping stones can add color and interest to your gardens, and are be functional as well! Larger stepping stones can form a path; brick-shaped stones can be incorporated into a patio or walkway.

**MATERIALS:**

- **face mask**
- **mixing bucket**
- **measuring cup**
- **mortar mix or stepping stone mix from the craft store (more \$\$)\*\***  
\*\* mortar mix must **NOT** be “QUICK setting” for this project!
- **plastic molds** (craft stores sell clear plastic molds or use flat-bottom *flexible* food-type storage containers, old Tupperware, etc.)
- sturdy **stirring tool** such as old kitchen spoon, wooden paint stirrer, etc.
- **water**
- **decorative items** such as broken china pieces, flat marbles, stained glass bits. Ceramic tile. (Craft stores sell plastic letters, numbers, and designs to imprint stones with messages, dates, etc.)

For a large (12”) round or square mold you will need 9 cups of mortar mix. Add water slowly and stir, scraping the bottom to get all the dry powder incorporated. The consistency should not be soupy but sort of like thick peanut butter.

Scoop the mixture into the mold (no need to spray the mold with cooking spray but you can if you want to.)

The stepping stone mixture needs to fill the mold to a depth of about 1.5 inches. Tap the mold **GENTLY** on the table to removed air bubbles.

Plan out your design and press the decorative items of your choice into the cement. If using imprinters (letters, etc), let the mixture set for about 15+ minutes as the imprinting will work better than when it's freshly poured.

If you find the cement is too wet, lay some paper towels gently over the surface and the excess water can be removed.

Allow to set for a minimum of 24 hours. Unmold, and wrap in wet towel for a few days to cure. Use dish soap and soft brush to clean-up your stone.

Enjoy!