SECTION D

WALL FINISHING OPTIONS

A wall is not complete without the perfect finishing touch. The flexibility of the Keystone units creates a variety of wall finishing options. The most common wall finish is to cap the wall with a Keystone cap. Cap options vary by region so check with your local Keystone producer for availability in your area. Keystone units can also be capped with a variety of decorative precast concrete products, or even cast-in-place concrete copings. This section outlines the construction techniques and details for installing Keystone caps.

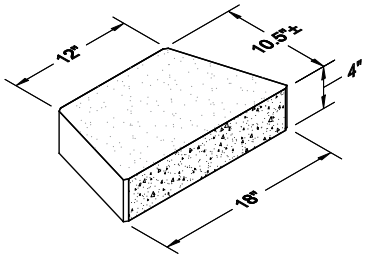
Cap Units: Introduction

A Keystone retaining wall is not complete until it is finished with the right cap. Local manufacturers offer a selection of cap designs, available in various combinations of facial finishes. The following information will clearly explain the uses of these units and show a variety of finishing techniques. You may also opt to finish your wall with a precast decorative concrete finishing option. See your local manufacturer for details.

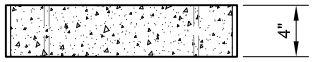
CAPPING UNITS

Universal Cap:
Finished on both front and back

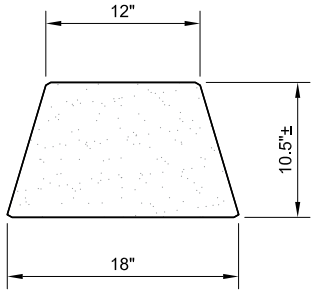
Isometric



Elevation

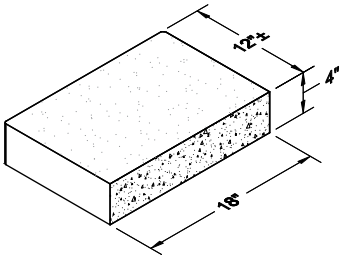


Plan



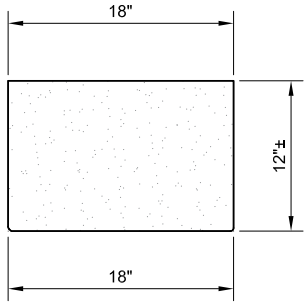
Straight-face:
Straight sided, finished on one side

Isometric



Elevation

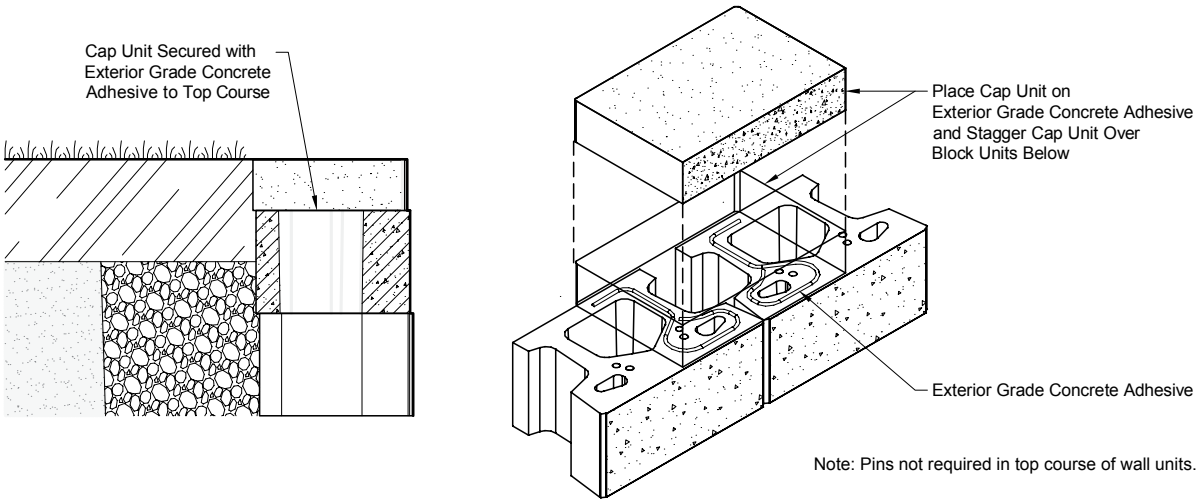
Plan



The information contained herein has been compiled by Keystone Retaining Wall Systems® LLC and to the best of our knowledge, accurately represents the Keystone product used in the applications which are illustrated. Final determination of the suitability for the use contemplated and its manner of use are the sole responsibility of the user. Design and analysis shall be performed by a qualified engineer.

Cap Units: Introduction

D:1 - CAP CONNECTION



KEYSTONE COMPAC® STRAIGHT

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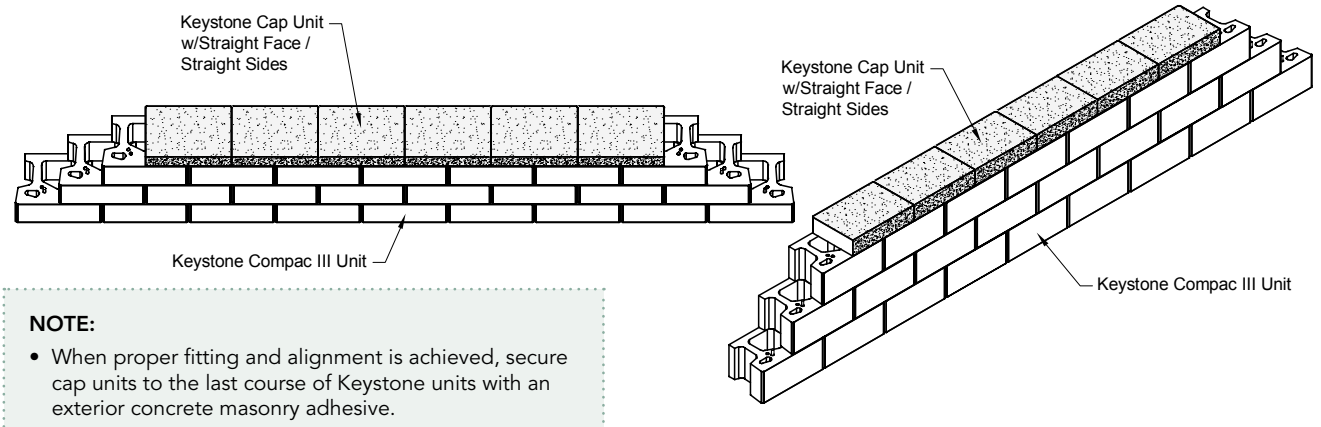
Capping: Straight Walls

Straight Wall Capping

The size of each Keystone unit makes this system very adaptable to grade changes. The top of a Keystone wall can be constructed with level top of wall grade or with step-downs in the top of the wall. As the wall cap units step up and down grades, an additional installation procedure is required to firmly fix some cap units in position. 4-inch cap units can be double-stacked ***(see Figure D:3, below).*** Pins are not required in the top course of units. The caps should be attached using an exterior grade concrete adhesive. Refer to manufacturer's instructions for complete details. Apply the adhesive to areas where the units make contact.

Determine the desired cap horizontal location with respect to the top wall course. It is typical to have about a one-inch "overhang" of the cap in front of the course of wall units below. With the use of a string line, the cap units can be placed in a straight line. Sweep the lower units clean and make sure the units are dry; use an exterior grade concrete adhesive on the top surface of the last course before applying cap units. *(See Figure D:1, page 47.)* The following illustrations demonstrate common uses of the Keystone cap units.

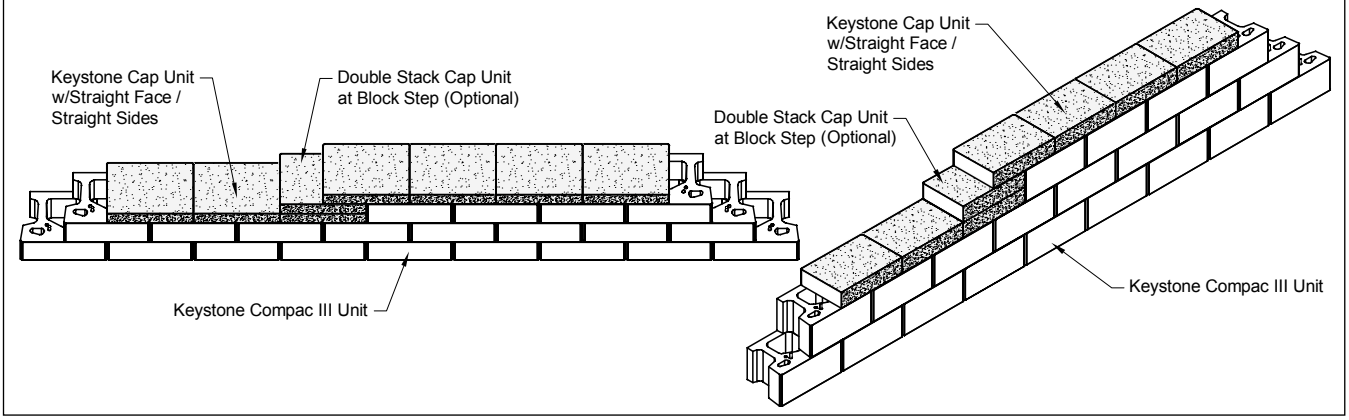
D:2 - STRAIGHT CAPPING



NOTE:

- When proper fitting and alignment is achieved, secure cap units to the last course of Keystone units with an exterior concrete masonry adhesive.

D:3 - STRAIGHT WALL STEP CAPPING



NOTES:

- As top-of-wall grade changes and wall block units step up or down, additional cap units can be placed at the point of wall stepping. Place 2 cap units stacked on top of each other next to the last wall block unit in each course. Overlap the upper course cap unit on top of the double-stacked cap units in the running bond pattern.
- When proper fitting and alignment is achieved, secure the double-stacked caps together and cap units to the last course of Keystone units with an exterior concrete masonry adhesive.

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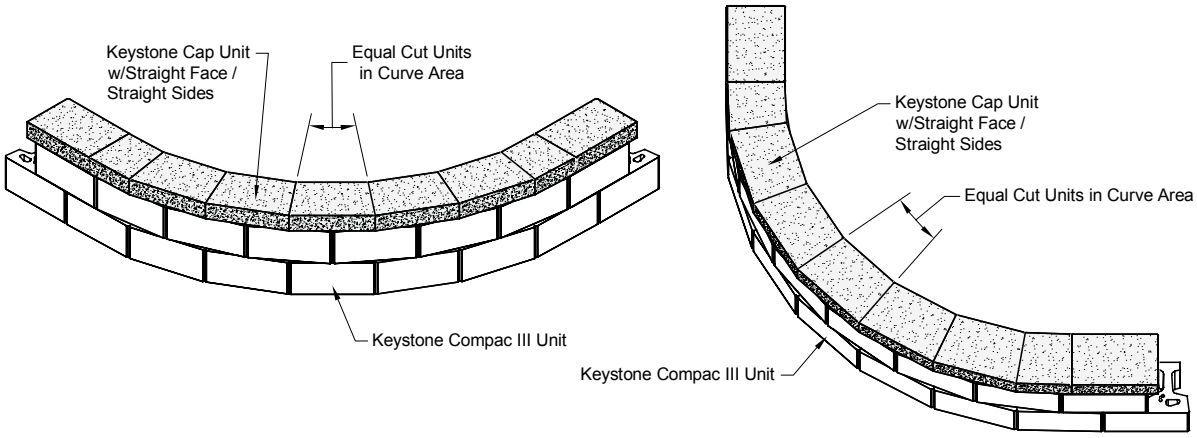
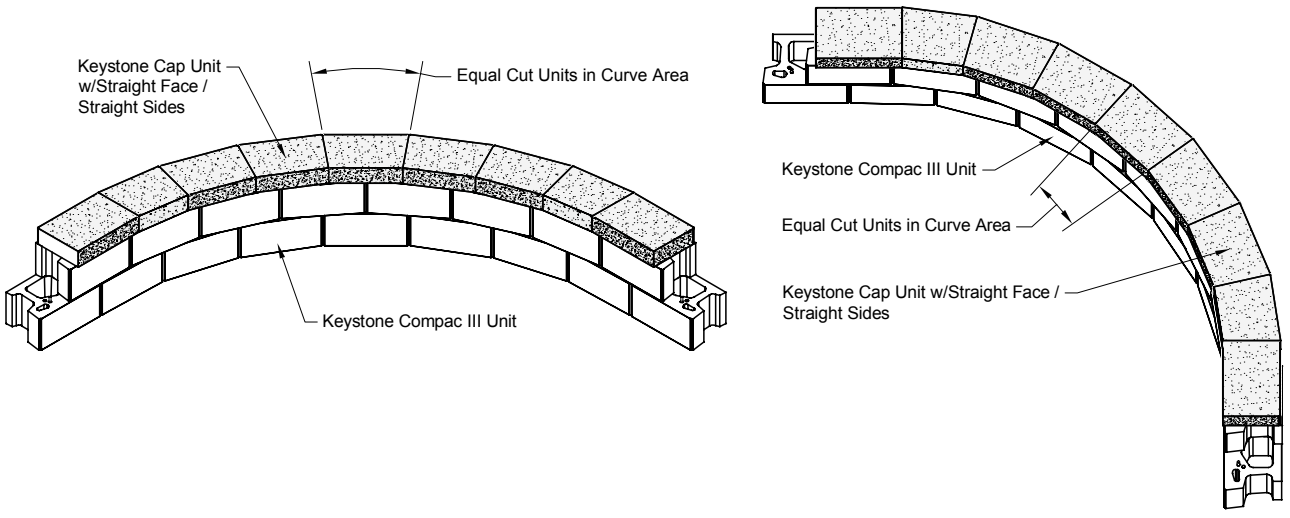
Capping: Curved Walls

Like other Keystone units, all cap units can be used interchangeably. In any given installation, if binding or gapping occurs between units, the units can be modified to fit using a concrete saw. Make sure to wear proper PPE equipment when splitting or cutting.

D:4 - OUTSIDE CURVE CAPPING



D:5 - INSIDE CURVE CAPPING



NOTES:

- If no gapping between cap units is desired, some cutting of the cap units may be required.
- When proper fitting and alignment is achieved, secure cap units to the last course of Keystone units with an exterior grade concrete masonry adhesive.

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