

Bulk Materials Coverage Calculator & Ordering Guide

Your complete guide to calculating how much landscape material you need for your project. Save time, order right the first time, and avoid costly mistakes.

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Quick Coverage Calculator

River Rock & Decorative Stone

1.7-Ton Supersack Coverage:

Depth	Square Feet Covered	Best For
1"	170-190 sq ft	Pathways, thin coverage
1.5"	110-125 sq ft	Light landscaping
2"	85-100 sq ft	Most common depth
3"	55-65 sq ft	Heavy-duty landscaping
4"	40-50 sq ft	Drainage areas, driveways

Recommended Depth: 2-3 inches for most landscape applications

Per Cubic Yard Coverage:

Depth	Square Feet Covered
1"	320 sq ft
2"	160 sq ft
3"	110 sq ft
4"	80 sq ft

Mulch (All Types: Pine, Cypress, Cedar, Hardwood, Colored)

Per Cubic Yard Coverage:

Depth	Square Feet Covered	Best For
1"	320 sq ft	Thin coverage (not recommended)
2"	160 sq ft	Minimum recommended depth
3"	110 sq ft	Ideal for most gardens
4"	80 sq ft	Heavy weed suppression

Recommended Depth: 3-4 inches for flower beds and around trees/shrubs

Why deeper is better for mulch: - Better weed control - Retains moisture longer - Insulates plant roots - Looks fuller and more professional

Topsoil & Compost

Per Cubic Yard Coverage:

Depth	Square Feet Covered	Best For
1"	320 sq ft	Top dressing lawns
2"	160 sq ft	Garden bed prep
3"	110 sq ft	New garden beds
4"	80 sq ft	Raised beds
6"	55 sq ft	New lawn installation
12"	27 sq ft	Deep raised beds

Recommended Depths: - Lawn top dressing: 0.5-1 inch - Garden bed amendment: 2-3 inches (tilled in) - New garden beds: 4-6 inches - New lawn installation: 6-8 inches - Raised beds: 12-18 inches

Flagstone & Flat Stone

Coverage varies by stone size and installation method

Dry-laid flagstone (with gaps): - 1 ton covers approximately 80-120 square feet - Depends on stone thickness and gap size

Tight-fit flagstone (minimal gaps): - 1 ton covers approximately 60-80 square feet

Note: Flagstone is sold by weight, and coverage depends heavily on stone thickness and how tightly you fit pieces together.

Boulders & Large Decorative Stone

Coverage is measured differently: - Sold by individual piece or by weight - Used as accent pieces, not full coverage - Call us for project consultation: 918-889-0736

How to Measure Your Project

Step 1: Measure the Area

For Rectangular/Square Areas: 1. Measure length in feet 2. Measure width in feet 3. Multiply: Length × Width = Square Feet

Example: 20 feet long × 10 feet wide = 200 square feet

For Circular Areas: 1. Measure diameter (distance across the circle) 2. Divide by 2 to get radius 3. Calculate: $3.14 \times \text{radius} \times \text{radius} = \text{Square Feet}$

Example: 10-foot diameter circle - Radius = 5 feet - $3.14 \times 5 \times 5 = 78.5$ square feet

For Irregular Shapes: 1. Break the area into rectangles and circles 2. Calculate each section separately 3. Add them together

Step 2: Determine Desired Depth

Use these guidelines: - Mulch: 3-4 inches - River rock/decorative stone: 2-3 inches - Topsoil (amending beds): 2-4 inches - Topsoil (new lawn): 6-8 inches - Compost: 2-3

inches (mixed into soil)

Step 3: Calculate Cubic Yards Needed

Formula: Square Feet × Depth (in inches) ÷ 324 = Cubic Yards

Example: - Area: 200 square feet - Depth: 3 inches - Calculation: $200 \times 3 \div 324 = 1.85$ cubic yards - Order: 2 cubic yards

Step 4: Add 10-15% Extra

Always order extra material for: - Settling and compaction - Uneven ground - Spillage during installation - Future touch-ups

Example: If you need 2 cubic yards, order 2.2-2.3 cubic yards

Material-Specific Coverage Rates

River Rock (1-2 inch)

Weight: Approximately 2,800-3,000 lbs per cubic yard

1.7-Ton Supersack = 1.17 cubic yards

Coverage at recommended 2-inch depth: 85-100 square feet

Best uses: - Landscape beds - Around trees and shrubs - Pathways - Drainage areas - Under decks

Installation tips: - Use landscape fabric underneath - Edge the area to contain rocks - Compact soil before laying fabric - Spread evenly with a rake

Pea Gravel

Weight: Approximately 2,700 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 2-inch depth: 160 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Pathways - Dog runs - Playground areas - Between pavers - Drainage

Installation tips: - Excellent drainage properties - Easy to walk on - Compacts well for pathways - Use 2-3 inches for pathways, 4+ inches for drainage

Chopped Block & Larger Stone (3-5 inch)

Weight: Approximately 2,800-3,200 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 3-inch depth: 110 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Larger landscape beds - Commercial properties - Erosion control - Modern landscape design

Installation tips: - Use 3-4 inches depth minimum - Heavier stones stay in place better - Great for slopes and erosion control

Pine Bark Mulch

Weight: Approximately 400-600 lbs per cubic yard (much lighter than rock)

Coverage at 3-inch depth: 110 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Flower beds - Around trees and shrubs - Vegetable gardens - Natural look

Installation tips: - Replenish annually (breaks down naturally) - Excellent for soil health - Good moisture retention - Natural pest deterrent

Cypress Mulch

Weight: Approximately 400-500 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 3-inch depth: 110 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Long-lasting coverage - Insect-resistant - Aromatic - Premium appearance

Installation tips: - Lasts longer than pine (2-3 years) - Naturally resists insects and decay - More expensive but better value long-term

Cedar Mulch

Weight: Approximately 350-450 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 3-inch depth: 110 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Premium landscaping - Natural insect repellent - Pleasant aroma - Long-lasting

Installation tips: - Most expensive mulch option - Natural oils repel insects - Beautiful reddish color - Lasts 2-3 years

Colored Mulch (Red, Brown, Black)

Weight: Approximately 500-700 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 3-inch depth: 110 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - High-visibility landscaping - Color coordination with home - Commercial properties - Curb appeal

Installation tips: - Color lasts 1-2 years - May fade in direct sun - Refresh annually for best appearance - Use landscape fabric to prevent color bleeding into soil

Topsoil

Weight: Approximately 2,000-2,400 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 6-inch depth: 55 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - New lawn installation - Raising grade - Filling low spots - General landscaping

Installation tips: - Screen for rocks and debris - Test pH before planting - Mix with compost for better results - Compact lightly for lawns

Compost

Weight: Approximately 1,000-1,600 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 2-inch depth (mixed in): 160 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Amending garden beds - Improving soil quality - Vegetable gardens - Mixing with topsoil

Installation tips: - Till into existing soil (don't just layer on top) - Mix 1 part compost to 2-3 parts soil - Excellent for clay soil improvement - Adds nutrients and improves drainage

Garden Soil

Weight: Approximately 1,800-2,200 lbs per cubic yard

Coverage at 4-inch depth: 80 square feet per cubic yard

Best uses: - Raised beds - Container gardens - New garden beds - Vegetable gardens

Installation tips: - Pre-mixed blend of topsoil and compost - Ready to plant immediately
- Better than straight topsoil for gardens - More expensive but saves time

Ordering Tips & Best Practices

Before You Order

1. Prepare Your Site: - Remove existing grass, weeds, or old mulch - Level the ground - Install edging if needed - Lay landscape fabric (for rock and stone)

2. Plan Access: - Can our delivery truck reach the area? - Is there a clear path at least 10 feet wide? - Are there overhead obstacles (power lines, tree branches)? - Will we need to dump in the driveway?

3. Have Help Ready: - Moving bulk materials is labor-intensive - Plan for 2-4 people for most projects - Rent or have wheelbarrows ready - Have rakes, shovels, and gloves

When You Order

Tell us: 1. Material type: "2-inch river rock" or "cypress mulch" 2. Quantity needed: Cubic yards or supersacks 3. Delivery address: Including any access notes 4. Preferred delivery date/time 5. Where to dump: Driveway, specific location, etc.

We'll tell you: - Exact pricing (material + delivery) - Estimated delivery time - Truck size and access requirements - Payment options

Common Ordering Mistakes to Avoid

1. Underestimating quantity - Always add 10-15% extra - It's cheaper to order extra upfront than pay for a second delivery

2. Not preparing the site - Delivery drivers dump and go - they don't spread - Have your site ready before delivery

3. Ordering the wrong depth - Too thin looks sparse and weeds grow through - Follow our recommended depths

4. Not using landscape fabric under rock - Fabric prevents weeds and keeps rocks from sinking - Essential for long-lasting results

5. Forgetting about settling - Materials settle 10-20% after installation - This is why we recommend ordering extra

How Much Extra Should You Order?

Add 10% for: - Flat, level areas - Experienced installers - Precise measurements

Add 15% for: - Uneven or sloped ground - First-time DIY projects - Irregular shapes

Add 20% for: - Very uneven terrain - Areas with lots of obstacles - Future touch-ups and repairs

Real-World Project Examples

Example 1: Small Flower Bed

Project: Mulch a flower bed around the front of the house

Measurements: - 30 feet long × 4 feet wide = 120 square feet - Desired depth: 3 inches

Calculation: - $120 \text{ sq ft} \times 3 \text{ inches} \div 324 = 1.1 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Add 15% extra: $1.1 \times 1.15 = 1.27 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Order: 1.5 cubic yards of mulch

Cost estimate: Material + \$50 delivery (within 10 miles)

Example 2: Medium Rock Landscape Bed

Project: River rock around trees and shrubs

Measurements: - Three circular beds: 8-foot diameter each - Radius = 4 feet - Area per circle: $3.14 \times 4 \times 4 = 50 \text{ square feet}$ - Total: $50 \times 3 = 150 \text{ square feet}$ - Desired depth: 2 inches

Calculation: - $150 \text{ sq ft} \times 2 \text{ inches} \div 324 = 0.93 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Add 15% extra: $0.93 \times 1.15 = 1.07 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Order: 1 supersack (1.17 cubic yards) of 1-2" river rock

Cost estimate: 1 supersack + \$50 delivery

Example 3: Large Backyard Mulch Project

Project: Mulch all landscape beds in backyard

Measurements: - Multiple beds totaling 600 square feet - Desired depth: 3 inches

Calculation: - $600 \text{ sq ft} \times 3 \text{ inches} \div 324 = 5.6 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Add 15% extra: $5.6 \times 1.15 = 6.4 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Order: 6.5-7 cubic yards of mulch

Cost estimate: Material + delivery (call for quote based on distance)

Example 4: New Lawn Installation

Project: Install new lawn with topsoil base

Measurements: - 1,000 square feet lawn area - Desired depth: 6 inches of topsoil

Calculation: - $1,000 \text{ sq ft} \times 6 \text{ inches} \div 324 = 18.5 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Add 10% for settling: $18.5 \times 1.10 = 20.4 \text{ cubic yards}$ - Order: 20-21 cubic yards of topsoil

Cost estimate: Material + delivery (call for quote - large load)

Delivery Information

Delivery Pricing

Standard rates: - \$50 flat fee within 10 miles of our McAlester location - \$3.50 per loaded mile beyond 10 miles

Example: - Delivery to a location 15 miles away - First 10 miles: \$50 - Additional 5 miles: $5 \times \$3.50 = \17.50 - Total delivery: \$67.50

What to Expect on Delivery Day

Our delivery trucks: - Dump trucks (various sizes based on order) - Require clear access path - Can dump in driveway or designated area - Cannot spread material (dump only)

Delivery process: 1. Driver will call when en route 2. Driver confirms dump location with

you 3. Material is dumped in agreed location 4. You sign delivery receipt 5. You spread and install material

Important notes: - We cannot dump on grass (damages lawn) - Driveway or hard surface recommended - Have tarps ready if dumping on driveway - Material will stain concrete if left too long

Delivery Area

We deliver throughout southeast Oklahoma, including: - McAlester and surrounding areas - Pittsburg County - Latimer County - Haskell County - And beyond - call for availability

Not sure if we deliver to your area? Call us: 918-889-0736

Still Have Questions?

We're Here to Help!

Not sure how much you need? - Call us with your measurements and we'll calculate for you - Free estimates over the phone

Need help choosing materials? - Our staff knows Oklahoma soil and climate - We'll recommend the best products for your project

Want to see materials in person? - Visit our yard at 5048 S US Hwy 69, McAlester - See and touch materials before ordering

Ready to order? - Call: 918-889-0736 - Email: help@oklahomalandscape.com - Visit: Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-5pm

Quick Reference: Common Project Sizes

Small Projects (1-2 cubic yards): - Single flower bed - Around a few trees - Small pathway - Touch-ups and repairs

Medium Projects (3-5 cubic yards): - Multiple flower beds - Larger landscape area - Medium-sized pathway - Backyard refresh

Large Projects (6-10 cubic yards): - Whole-yard mulch refresh - Large rock installations - Multiple landscape beds - New garden areas

Extra Large Projects (10+ cubic yards): - New lawn installation - Commercial properties - Large acreage - Major landscaping overhaul

For projects over 10 cubic yards, call for volume pricing and delivery scheduling.

Download Our Coverage Calculator

Print this page and keep it handy for your project planning!

Or better yet, save our number in your phone: 918-889-0736

We're always happy to help you calculate exactly what you need.

McAlester Landscape Supply & Nursery
Your partner in creating beautiful outdoor spaces.