



THE HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO:
Decorative Concrete
Landscape Curbing



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW BEFORE YOU INSTALL

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Welcome

If you're researching decorative concrete curbing, you're likely looking for one (or more) of these things:

- An amazing, distinctive yard
- Less maintenance
- A durable & permanent landscape edge
- Confidence you're choosing the right contractor



This guide was created to help you understand how decorative concrete curbing works, what affects quality, and what to look for before moving forward.

The more informed you are, the better your results will be.

What Is Decorative Concrete Curbing?

Decorative concrete curbing is a continuous, custom-installed concrete border that separates lawn from landscape beds. It is formed directly on-site using a specialized curb machine that extrudes the concrete through a mold, creating a seamless edge tailored to your yard.

Unlike plastic, brick, or pavers, decorative curbing is not installed in individual sections. Instead, it is placed in one continuous run for a stronger, more permanent result.

Because it is continuous, it:

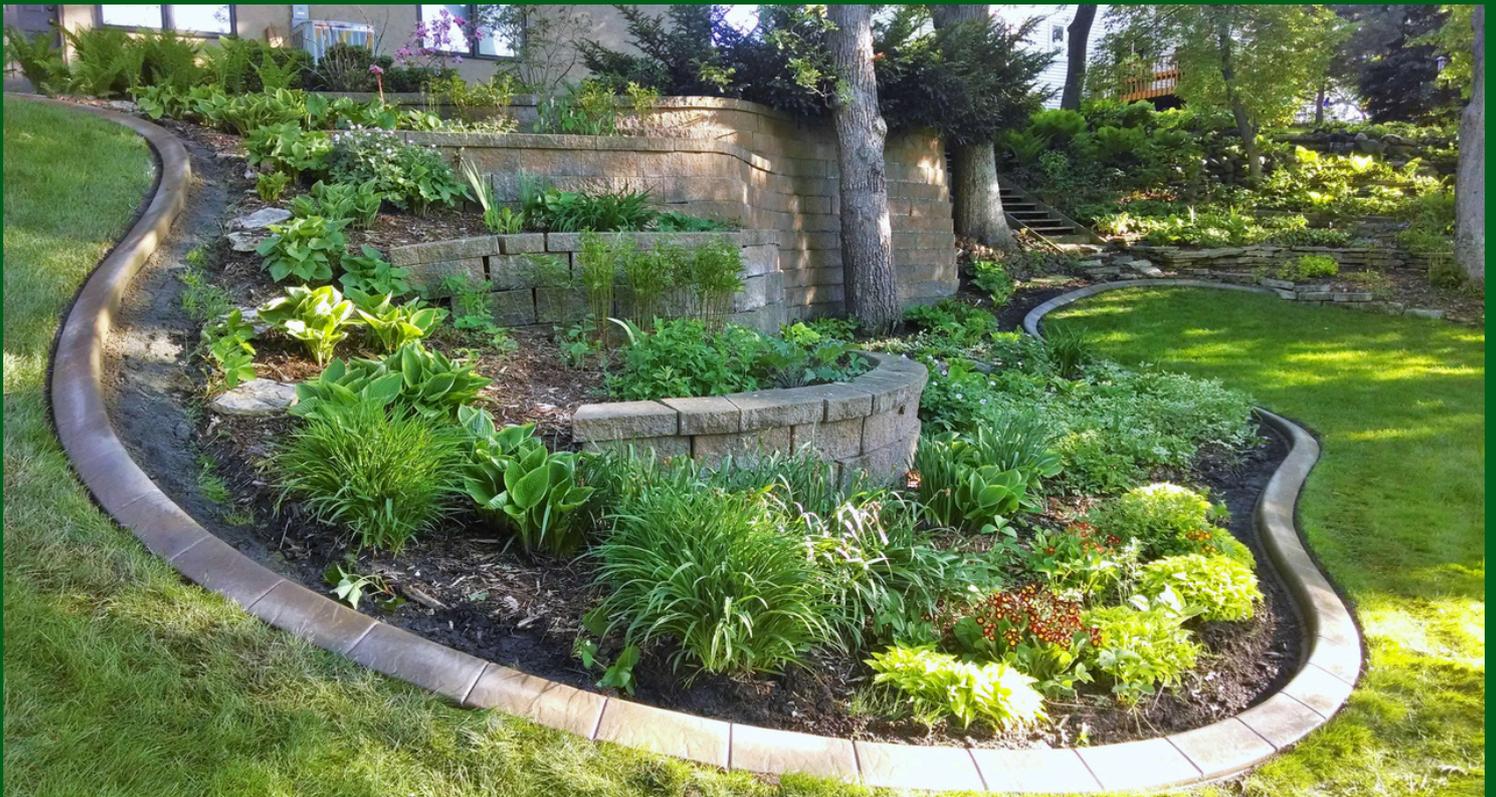
- **Has no loose pieces that shift or move**
- **Eliminates gaps where weeds can grow**
- **Maintains its original design year after year**
- **Creates clean, flowing curves and straight lines**
- **Resists separation caused by soil and weather movement**
- **Better contains mulch and decorative rock**

Most traditional edging systems rely on pieces placed end-to-end. Over time, those pieces can sink, separate, or pop up due to ground movement and seasonal changes. A continuous concrete curb stays aligned and provides long-term stability.

Control joints are cut at regular intervals to allow for natural expansion and contraction, helping manage stress and reduce unpredictable cracking.

The result is a landscape border that looks intentional, structured, and built to last.





What Are The Reasons Homeowners Choose Decorative Curbing?

Homeowners choose decorative concrete curbing for both appearance and function.

It provides:

Dramatically Improved Curb Appeal

Clean, flowing lines make landscaping look professionally designed. Many homeowners say it's the defined separation and finished look that makes your yard stand out - Just ask your neighbors!

Long-Term Durability

Concrete does not rot, rust, or become brittle like plastic or wood.

A Defined Finished Look

It frames landscaping and creates structure throughout the yard.

Reduced Maintenance

Easier mowing, less trimming and less landscape material spilling into the lawn.

Material Containment

Keeps mulch, rock, and soil where they belong – especially on slopes.



What Are The Differences Between Concrete Curbing And Other Edging Options?

There are many edging options available. Understanding the differences helps you make a better decision.

Plastic Edging

Low upfront cost, but often shifts, cracks, and requires re-staking.

Metal Edging

Cleaner appearance than plastic, but can bend or shift over time. Mowing is also difficult.

Brick or Pavers

Attractive but installed in pieces that can separate or become uneven.

Decorative Concrete Curbing

Installed continuously, designed for long-term stability, and customizable. For homeowners planning to stay long-term, durability often becomes the deciding factor.



A Great Design Will Set Your Yard Apart from Everyone Else

Sound, durable materials matter – but the layout accentuates your yard.

Two curbing projects can use the same concrete and look completely different based on design and craftsmanship.

Quality design includes:

- **Straight lines that are truly straight**
- **Smooth, flowing curves that accentuate your home & landscape**
- **Consistent height throughout the project**
- **Clean transitions at sidewalks and driveways**
- **Colors, Stamps and Textures that complement your home & landscape**
- **Good design enhances landscaping. Poor design shows inexperience and looks disorganized.**



Inconsistent
Straight



Straight



Inconsistent
Contour



Flowing Contour

Where Does Decorative Curbing Works Best?

Decorative curbing is versatile and can be installed in many areas of a yard.

Common installation areas include:

- [Around home and landscape areas](#)
- Along driveways
- Along sidewalks
- [Around patios and decks](#)
- Along fence lines
- [Around mailbox areas](#)
- [Around trees and landscape islands](#)
- [Around playground areas](#)

It adds structure to places that typically require constant maintenance.

To see some examples click on the [underlined](#) sentences to be re-directed to a photo in our website gallery



How Is Decorative Concrete Curbing Installed?

Understanding the process helps you know what to expect.

Most projects include:

- 1. Layout and design planning**
- 2. Trenching and ground preparation**
- 3. Mixing concrete on-site (Base Color Added)**
- 4. Extruding with a curb machine (1/8" Zinc Coated Steel Cable Reinforcement Added)**
- 5. Hand troweling, finishing, and shaping**
- 6. Accent coloring, texturing, and stamping**
- 7. Cutting control joints**
- 8. Sealing**
- 9. Cleanup**

Most installations are completed in one day.

Proper preparation, experience, and attention to detail are what separate quality work from inferior work.

To see our installation process click on "Process" to be re-directed to our website page

How Long Will My Curbing Last? What Can I Expect Over Time?

Not all curbing is installed the same way, and long-term performance depends heavily on materials, preparation, and experience.

Concrete strength is measured in PSI (pounds per square inch). Quality decorative curbing should typically fall within the 3500–4500 PSI range when reinforced, providing the durability needed for outdoor conditions.

Decorative curbing must withstand:

- Freeze–thaw cycles
- Soil expansion and contraction
- Lawn equipment and routine maintenance
- Long-term exposure to moisture and temperature changes

Because of these conditions, reinforcement plays a critical role.

High-quality installations include a 1/8-inch hot dipped galvanized steel cable that runs continuously through the entire curb during the extrusion process.

This zinc-coated cable acts as internal reinforcement, helping to:

- Increase structural integrity
- Minimize shifting over time
- Reduce separation
- Improve long-term durability

Additional performance factors include:

- Concrete admixtures that enhance strength
- Control joints cut approximately every 2 feet
- Proper trench preparation and compaction

Concrete is only as stable as the base beneath it. When preparation and reinforcement are done correctly, decorative curbing becomes a long-term structural landscape feature — not just a border.

What Is The Truth About Cracking?

Concrete is a natural material, and no contractor can realistically guarantee that it will never crack.

In climates like Minnesota, minor hairline cracks can occur over time due to seasonal ground movement.

Proper installation significantly reduces this risk.

What matters most:

- **Thorough trench preparation**
- **Correct mix ratios**
- **Continuous steel reinforcement**
- **Consistent control joint spacing**
- **Proper curing after installation**

If a hairline crack occurs, it is typically cosmetic. Major separation or shifting is usually the result of shortcuts, poor preparation, inexperience, poor quality or in some cases tree roots.

If someone guarantees “no cracking ever,” it’s wise to understand what that warranty truly covers.

When installed with proper materials and care, decorative concrete curbing remains one of the most durable landscape edging options available.



How Does Landscape Curbing Perform On Slopes & Challenging Areas?

Water and soil movement affect every landscape.

Decorative curbing performs especially well in:

- Sloped yards
- Walkout lots
- Areas where mulch washes downhill
- Long fence lines
- Driveway edges where grass struggles

Decorative concrete curbing performs especially well in these areas because it is installed as one continuous, reinforced border that resists shifting and separation. On slopes and uneven terrain, it helps contain mulch and rock, reduce erosion, and maintain clean lines. In high-traffic areas like driveways and fence lines, it creates a stable edge that simplifies maintenance and keeps materials from spreading into the lawn.

Before installation, drainage and downspout direction should be evaluated. Experience becomes especially important on uneven or complex properties because maintaining consistent height, smooth curves, and proper compaction on slopes requires skill and control. Elevation changes, drainage patterns, and soil conditions must all be evaluated and adjusted for during installation. An experienced crew knows how to keep lines clean and structurally sound even when the terrain is working against them.



Are There Color & Design Options?

Decorative concrete curbing can be customized to complement your home.

Common options include:

- Integral color (mixed into the concrete)
- Subtle textures
- Stamped patterns
- Accent coloring (Textured & Stamped Into Curb)

Integral color is preferred because it will not peel or flake like surface coatings.

Resealing every few years helps maintain color depth and surface protection.



What Affects The Cost Of Concrete Edging?

Decorative concrete curbing is typically priced by linear foot, but it's important to understand what is included in that price. Some quotes may start lower and increase with added features or upgrades. Curb Creations provides consistent, inclusive pricing so you know upfront what your project covers – without unexpected add-ons later.

Factors that may influence cost include:

- Total footage
- Ground conditions
- Slopes and elevation changes
- Design complexity
- Color or stamping options
- Reinforcement
- Number of separate areas

Quality installation and materials may cost more upfront but reduce long-term issues



How Should I Compare Contractors?

Selecting the right installer is just as important as choosing decorative concrete edging itself.

Before hiring, ask:

- How long have you installed decorative curbing?
- Is reinforcement included?
- How is ground preparation handled?
- How often are control joints cut?
- Is color mixed in or surface applied?
- Is sealing included?
- Who performs the work?
- What is their experience with colors, textures, and stamp patterns?

Other Things To Consider:

- Critically look at pictures of completed work. Is perfection there or just an average look?
- Number of reviews and testimonials
- Do they have a backlog of jobs now, if not, why?

Clean lines, smooth curves, and consistent height are signs of experience.



Quick Buyer Checklist

Decorative curbing may be right for you if:

- ✓ You want a permanent landscape edge
- ✓ You are tired of replacing plastic edging
- ✓ You want reduced maintenance
- ✓ You care about curb appeal
- ✓ You plan to stay in your home

It may not be the best fit if:

- ✗ You need a temporary solution
- ✗ You are planning a full redesign soon
- ✗ Lowest upfront cost is your only priority

What Do Homeowners Say About Concrete Edging?

After installation, many homeowners say:

- “It completely transformed our yard.”
- “We wish we had done it sooner.”
- “Mowing is so much easier now.”
- “It still looks great years later.”

Decorative curbing often becomes one of the most appreciated landscape upgrades.

How Should I Prepare For A Consultation?

To prepare:

- Identify areas you want edged
- Consider straight vs. curved designs
- Think about color preferences
- Note drainage concerns

Being prepared leads to better design conversations and more accurate estimates.

Ready to Take the Next Step?

Decorative concrete curbing is a long-term improvement that enhances both the appearance and function of your landscape.

If you'd like:

- Design ideas specific to your yard
- Clear answers to your questions
- 40 Years of Professional guidance
- A detailed estimate

We're happy to help!

To Submit An Online Form: Click [Here](#)

Or Give Us A Call At 763-477-4532



Consultations are free, informative, and designed to help you make the best decision for your home.