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BASE & SUB-BASE DETAILS

When installing a resin driveway/ pathway, having the right base is just as important as the mixing and laying of the system itself.

What is the difference in a Base and Sub-Base?

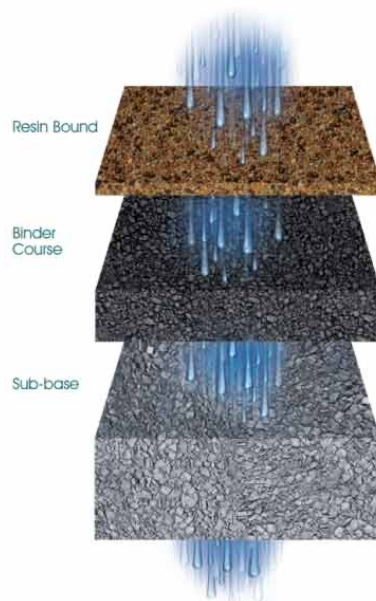
Two bases are essential for resin bound installations: the Base and Sub-Base. Although they can be confusing to identify, each base is equally important.

What is the Base?

The base is the immediate surface that the resin bound system is laid on and bonds with. This is also known as the **'binder course'**. The term 'base' is sometimes used incorrectly to refer to the whole structure beneath the resin bound system (including the sub-base), so it is important to differentiate between them.

What is the Sub- Base?

As the name suggests, the sub-base of a resin bound surface is the surface that lies underneath the base or 'binder course'. A good sub-base aids the strength of the overall system and also provides a level working platform for the base.





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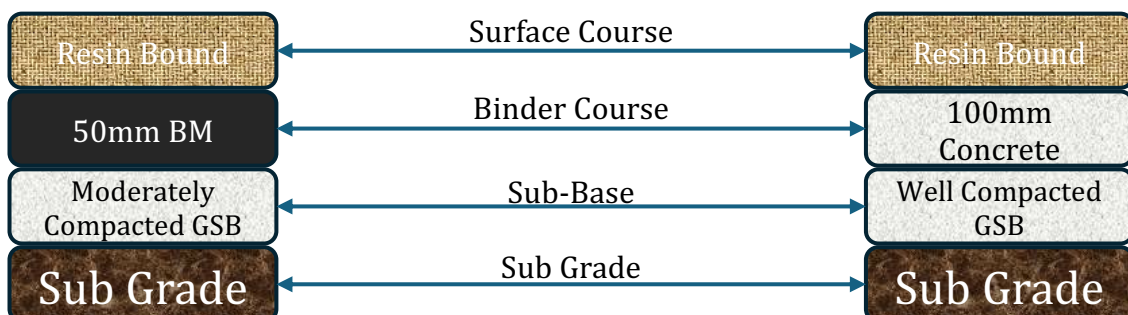
Material selection for the Base and Sub-Base depends entirely on the requirement of permeability from the surface. Depending on your specific requirements, they can be divided into 2 types – Permeable and Impermeable base and sub-base.

Permeable Base: (Ideal for rain water harvesting)

- **Binder Course** – Bituminous Macadam of a depth of minimum 50mm is recommended for a resin bound system that needs to be permeable and SUDS compliant.
- **Sub- Base Layer** – 5mm – 40mm, moderately compacted Granular Sub-Base, with no fines/ dust. Allows rapid water flow-through (permeable) while still offering excellent structural support

Impermeable Base: (Ideal for surface run off and collection)

- **Binder Course** – A concrete base or binder course includes a 100mm depth of M25/ M20 smooth brushed concrete. The concrete should be fully cured and dry before the resin bound driveway is installed.
- **Sub- Base Layer** – 1mm – 40mm, well compacted Granular Sub-Base, with high fines/ dust. Compacts tightly to form a very stable, dense, but less permeable layer.



Permeable Base

Impermeable Base



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It is imperative to note that the requirements of Sub-Base will vary depending on the soil compaction and condition of the sub grade. A well compacted sub grade may not need an additional sub-base. However, the Base requirements are sacrosanct and will compulsorily be either of the two options given.

If you are laying a new resin bound surface on an existing base or binder course, there are some important things you need to check first. These include:

- Are there any **steps** that require detail?
- Are there any **cracks** in the base? These will need to be fixed using a cross-layer membrane.
- Badly **damaged** areas will need to be removed to a minimum depth of 200mm and reinstated with 100mm GSB and 100mm of concrete.
- If there is a **boundary**, be sure to install an edge. If a boundary is removed, it can damage the resin bound surface.
- Do you require **edging detail**? If so, block or concrete kerbing should be set to protrude 18mm above the existing base edge.
- Any **expansion joints** should be carried through to the surface.
- Make sure the base is **cleaned thoroughly** with a power wash, with all debris and organic material removed.
- The surface must be **completely dry** prior to laying the resin bound surface. Water and resin do not mix.