Rock Garden Outcrop Build Sheet

Set natural stones and mix substrate for thriving alpine plants

Transform a standard backyard slope into a rugged, believable alpine habitat. This guide helps you anchor stones like true bedrock and mix the exact drainage your delicate mountain flora craves.



Geological Foundations

1/3 volume
Buy rock, bury a third deep

Parallel
Keep strata all one way aligned

Horizontal
Plant deep into the rock crevices

Pinch per hole
Slow-release low-nitrogen alpine feed

Roots run under stone

Tuck root balls horizontally beneath the upper rock ledge using a wooden dibber. This insulates delicate systems from heat spikes and mimics sheer mountain cliff anchoring.

Step Sequence for Stones

1. **Dig foundation trench** Anchor heavy angular stone deeply below the surrounding soil line to prevent shifting during spring rains.
2. **Align the strata** Use a digital angle finder or wooden wedge to ensure grain lines flow consistently across boulders.
3. **Mix alpine substrate** Fill deep crevices with your free-draining blend to create essential microscopic air pockets for healthy roots.
4. **Plant horizontally** Guide fragile roots deep beneath the stone ledge to utilize cool, damp hidden shade.
5. **Apply protective top-dressing** Scoop pure pale stone right up to the plant neck to keep sensitive foliage perfectly dry.

Choose Your Base Stone

Find your row: **Your desired alpine look**

Your desired alpine look	Your pick	Why
Classic cushion plants	Limestone chunks	Provides preferred specific alkaline environment
Tight, deep-rooted flora	Slate slabs	Creates absolute vertical drainage crevices
True cliff-face look	Tufa rock	Highly porous for direct planting
Authentic native landscape	Local fieldstone	Blends seamlessly and cost-effective

Per-Square-Meter Quantity Chart

Square Meters	Washed angular grit	Sterilized loam	Screened leaf mold	Grit collar at crowns
1	1 part	1 part	1 part	1 inch layer
3	3 part	3 part	3 part	3 inch layer
5	5 part	5 part	5 part	5 inch layer

Mix equal parts thoroughly before filling crevices.

Critical Site Preparations

- ◯ Verify site drainage and slope gradient before ordering heavy materials.
- ◯ Source local angular stone matching your native regional bedrock.
- ◯ Wash all bulk grit thoroughly with a high-pressure hose.
- ◯ Measure total square meterage accurately for precise bulk delivery orders.

Project Notes

Enjoy building your miniature mountain range—your delicate alpine plants will absolutely love it!