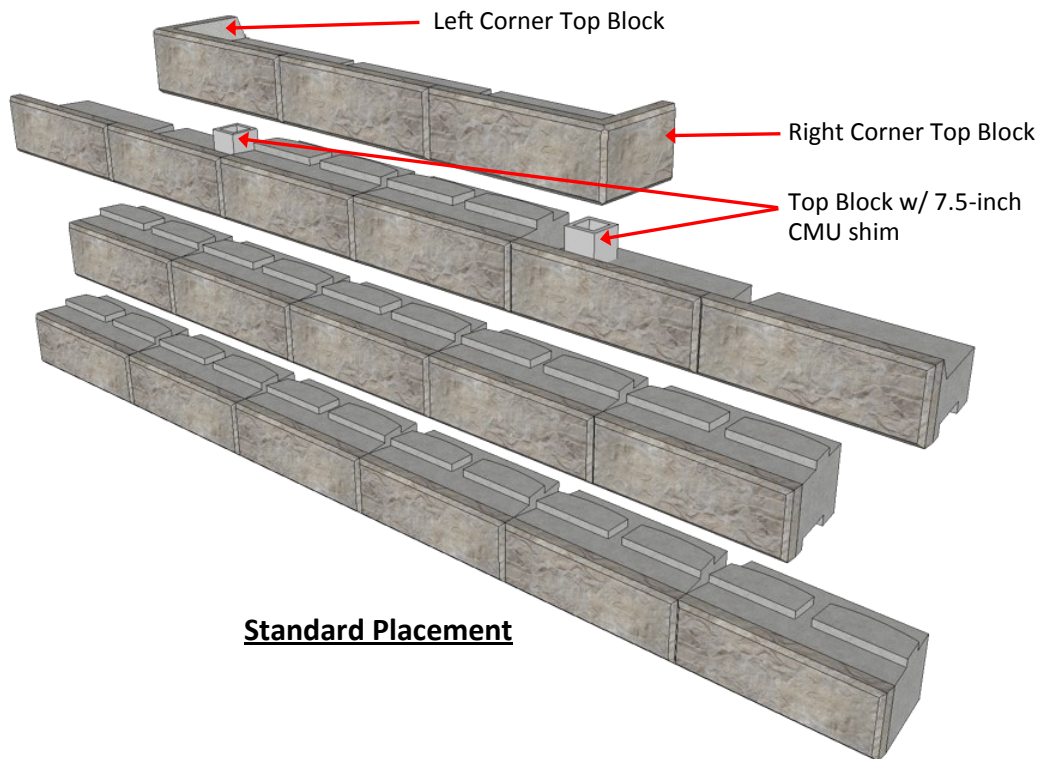


Top of Wall Treatments

There are several options when finishing the top of a ReCon retaining wall including the use of top blocks, caps, and full-high caps. Other treatments are available and typically involve special construction, such as forming and pouring a concrete parapet or attaching specialty, precast components.

ReCon Top Blocks

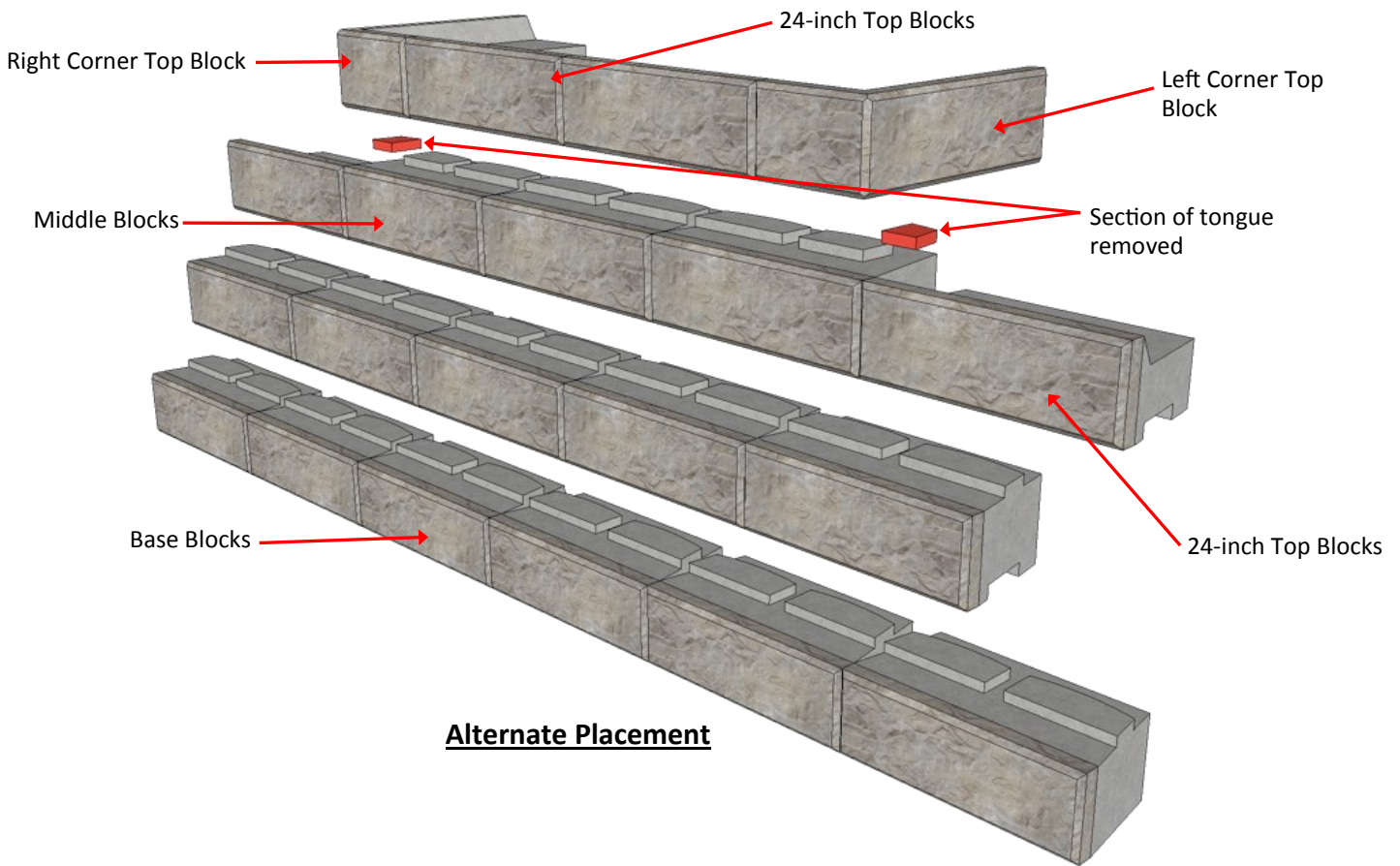
Using the ReCon top blocks to finish off a wall allows for the ability to fill blocks with a landscape rock or plant material to within 4-inches of the wall face. When stepping up or down at the top of a wall using top blocks, a corner top block is used to make this transition. A corner top block can be laid with either the 2-foot or 4-foot face as the return side. Usually the wall layout elevation plan, prepared by the design engineer, will indicate the proper block location or type. In the absence of such a plan, the left and right corner top blocks designate which side the 2-foot return dimension is located as you face the finished wall. This is referred to as **standard placement**.



When the standard placement (4-foot face, 2-foot return) is used, it will be necessary for block stability to add a concrete shim beneath the portion of the corner top block that bears over the top block below. This shim is usually made or cut, if necessary, from a standard concrete masonry block (CMU). Gluing this shim in place will resist movement during the backfilling process.

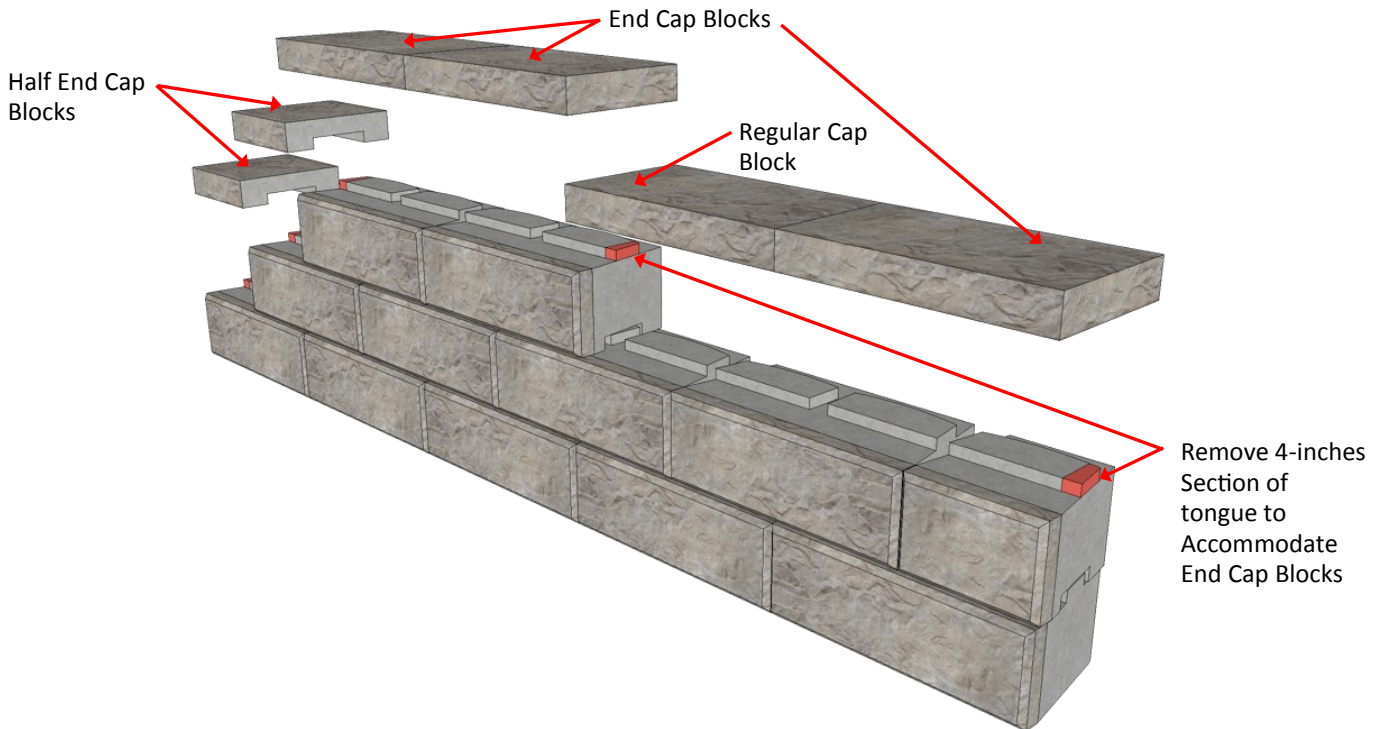
If it is desired that the 4-foot face returns into the retained soil, then a left corner top block will return (with respect to the wall face) on its right side and visa-versa for a right corner top block. This is referred to as **alternate placement** as shown in the figure on the next page.

When alternate placement is used, it will not be necessary to shim beneath the corner top blocks. In this scenario, the block will be resting entirely on half of a full block below. For the corner top block to lay flat and level, approximately 7-inches of the tongue on the lower block must be removed as shown in the figure.



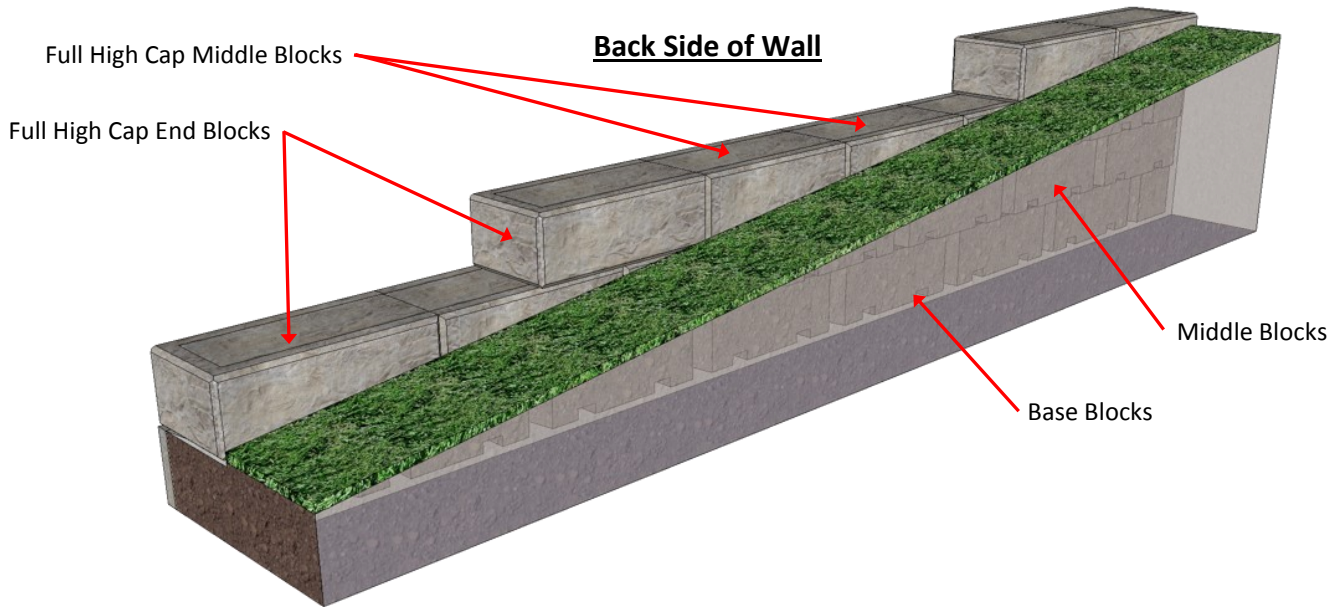
Cap Blocks

ReCon Cap Blocks are rectangular and are available in two types, a regular cap that has a groove along the entire bottom of the block and an end cap where the groove terminates 4-inches short of the end to provide a finished end appearance. These caps are placed with a scissor clamp and are intended primarily for straight walls. If cap blocks are to be used atop curved wall sections they will need to be cut to provide a continuous finished appearance. Additional installation time must be considered when cutting cap blocks around a radius.



Full-High Cap Blocks

ReCon Full-High Cap Blocks can be used when freeboard, above the top of wall finished grade, is required. This solution can be useful when the wall involves numerous step-ups at the top of the finished wall and a finished appearance is desired for all exposed block above grade.



The top of a ReCon retaining wall or free-standing wall can be finished using the ReCon Full High Cap (16-inches high). When the wall is curved, miter cutting will be required to eliminate the opening that will form between the blocks. Cutting the ReCon Full High Cap can require substantial effort since it is a solid piece of concrete, 24-inches thick and 16-inches in height. To reduce the time and energy required to complete this cut, ReCon offers a Full High Cap Middle FITTING Block. This block is precast with a recess on one end of the block that is 6-inches deep and leaves about 4-inches of concrete along the top and sides of the block. Thus, the time required to cut this thinner section is significantly reduced when using a standard 14-inch concrete chop saw.

