

# How to create a 200 gallon pond



## Shopping list

For creating a beautiful pond

## The Basics

- Pennington Aquagarden 200 gallon small pond liner ☐
- Pennington Aquagarden 5 in 1 200 pond filter ☐
- Pond Tap water treatment ☐
- Pennington Aquagarden Awesome pond pods ☐
- Sand and or underlayment ☐
- Mortar mix ☐
- Edging stones and or cobbles ☐

## Optional Accessories

- Pond Plants ☐
- Pond lighting ☐
- Pond net ☐
- Gravel & decorative stone ☐

## Required Tools

-  A spirit level
-  A Digging shovel
-  String and small ground stakes
-  A tape measure
-  A Knife or Scissors
-  A Garden hose

## Step 1.



Select the chosen area for your pond, avoid placing directly under a tree as this will result in excessive leaves falling into the pond and increase maintenance.

Measure out your pond using a tape measure, maximum pond size should be 6FT long x 3FT wide x 18" deep.

Mark out the ponds shape using string, marking spray, or wooden stakes, remember to add shelves for plants and a beached area for wildlife.

## Step 2.



Using a digging shovel excavate the hole, starting with the deeper sections first.

Take your time to sculpt in any planting shelves around the edges at around 6 inches deep from the ponds surface.

Keep the bottom of the pond level, this will help with the positioning of the filter.

Use a spirit level to check the pond edges are level, this will make hiding the pond liner a lot easier.

Retain the excess dirt, this can be used for landscaping around the pond.

## Step 3.



With the pond excavated you now need to add a barrier to protect the liner from potential punctures caused by stones or plant roots.

A good underlayment is recommended, all purpose sand can be used for the bottom of the pond, but this can be tricky to adhere to the pond sides.

Cut the underlayment into manageable sections and apply the underlayment to the bottom and sides of the pond, making sure all surfaces are completely covered.

**Top Tip:** wetting the underlayment will make it adhere better to the side of the pond and flatten/reduce creases.

## Step 4.



Pond liner

Before starting and if it's a sunny day, lay the liner out in the sun for a while, this will make the liner a lot more pliable and help reduce creases.

Now lay the liner into the hole, starting with the deeper section first and cover all surfaces, roughly putting it into position.

Using a pond hose, add a little water to the pond so the liner has some weight to pull against and keep it in position.



Slowly fill and use the weight of the water to adjust the folds and pleat over, don't sweat the small creases as the weight of the water will iron these out.

If you have larger creases or folds, try to manipulate these to corners or areas where they can be hidden with stones or plants, again the weight of the water will help reduce these and push them flat.

Do not leave it to fill, it will look terrible with lots of creases!



With the pond filled, use a sharp knife or a pair of scissors and remove the excess liner from the pond edges, we recommend leaving at least a 6" trim of liner around the pond to bed under any edging stones to hide and secure it in place.

Add a tap water treatment to neutralise the chlorine in the water and dose for 200 gallons.

## Step 5.

### Pond edging

With the pond liner in place and the pond filled you can finish off the pond by hiding the liner edges.

Natural rocks, flat or edging stones and cobbles can all be used to give the pond a more natural look and help hide and secure the liner in place.

If using edging stones it is recommended to lay them out around the ponds edge to achieve the overall look you want and then bed them in one at a time using a mortar mix.

Ensure that the mortar does not come into contact with the pond water as this can cause water quality issues.

Gravel and cobbles can be used for filling in the gaps or for shallow beached areas to give a truly natural finish and to encourage birds and wildlife to use the pond.



## Step 6.

### Pond Equipment

Now install your Pennington Aquagarden Inpond 5in1 filter for 200 gallon ponds, It is best to follow the instructions or use the enclosed quick starter guide.

Position the filter in a central position within the pond and use the fountain flow adjuster to adjust the fountain to the desired effect.

Top tips:

The filter should run 24 hours a day in order to maintain a healthy bed of bacteria to support fish life.

It is recommended to leave the pond running for a couple of weeks and then add fish sparingly and at weekly intervals thereafter.

Never clean the filter in tap water, the chlorine in tap water will kill the healthy bacteria that supports your fishes health.

It is recommended to use a bucket of pond water for filter cleaning.

Change the ultra violet bulb in the filter annually to maintain clear water (see instructions)

Use Awesome pond pods to reduce sludge build up and reduce filter maintenance.  
1 pod, doses 150 gallons of pond water!

Add pond plants to create a natural look, provide cover for fish, and help reduce algae growth.



[www.penningtonaquagarden.com](http://www.penningtonaquagarden.com)