



Level 1



1 day

## Watercourse with elements

Detailed instructions for creating a 3 m long watercourse with modular watercourse elements and a pre-formed pond

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Gentle splashing or noisy babbling? Easily said, easily done – because creating a watercourse can be done in a short time with just a few steps: With or without a pond, thanks to modular watercourse elements, it's easy to create your own little stream in the garden.

**We wish you plenty of fun and success with your DIY project!**



# 1. Step

## Requirements

Before we get down to the fine details, we first need to clarify how much time you should plan in for your project, and which products, tools and materials you will need.

**Building time:** If there is already a pond that can feed the watercourse with water, just create the watercourse and allow a day for the building work. If the pond is included in this project, the time required increases to around two days (see also the detailed instructions: DIY pond with pre-formed pond).

**A small tip:** You can do all the work on your own without any problems Å but it's more fun if you have someone else to help!

### Tools and materials you will need

To build the watercourse, you will need garden tools such as a shovel and spade, a wheelbarrow, a watering can or garden hose and string (e.g. cord), as well as a spirit level and a folding rule or tape measure.

Sand is also required for installing the pre-formed pond. We recommend about ½ m³ of fine play sand or masonry sand (without gravel or stones).

Once you've got all your materials together, it's on to the next step – preparation.



### OASE products you will need

**With the following watercourse elements, you can create a watercourse that is 3 m in length:**

- Source: Staubbach Falls, left-hand curve (item no. 33073)
- Staubbach Falls, right-hand curve (item no. 33071)
- Victoria Falls (item no. 33075)
- Staubbach Falls, left-hand curve (item no. 33073)
- Niagara Falls, overhang (item no. 33057)

**In this example, the end point, and thus the water supply of the watercourse, is a pre-formed pond:**

- Pre-formed pond PE organic 500 (item no. 36768)

**The appropriate watercourse pump ensures that the water flows from the pre-formed pond into the watercourse:**

- AquaMax Eco Classic 12000 C (item no. 73337)

**The watercourse pump and the topmost watercourse shell, also called the watercourse source, are connected with a hose:**

- 1½" spiral hose section, approximately 5 m long (item no. 57532)

Once you've got all your materials together, it's on to the next step – preparation.

## 2. Step

### Preparation

The materials and tools you need are now ready and at hand. The next step is to determine the exact location of the watercourse and draw a rough sketch of it.

If you are creating a completely new pond, we recommend that you consider the following criteria when determining the location:

- **Sun exposure:** Ideally, the location should be as semi-shaded as possible, allowing for around four to six hours of sunshine a day.
- **Vegetation:** Choose a location sufficiently far away from larger trees so that foliage does not fall directly into the watercourse in autumn.
- **Viewing angle:** Most importantly, the watercourse should be visible from your favourite spot in the garden.

Once you've found a suitable location, measure the surface area and make a rough sketch of it. Draw the route of the watercourse in this sketch. Remember to take into account the power supply for the pump when doing this.

**Tip:** Although the watercourse elements will be of a fixed shape, you can still vary the length of the watercourse a little. To do this, allow the modules overlap to varying degrees. Bear in mind, though, that any overlap should be at least 5 cm.



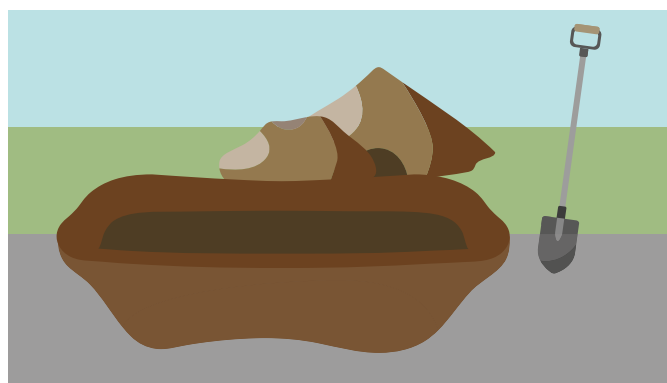
## 3. Step

### Construction

The sketch is now complete, and you can see that watercourse babbling away in your mind's eye. All that's left to do is to get down to work building your watercourse and make it a reality.

#### Marking the contours:

- First, lay out the watercourse elements and pre-formed pond as you want to install them.
- The top element is also your source, which will later be connected to the water source pump. To prepare it, drill the source at the pre-marked point.
- Optionally, draw the contour of the watercourse and the pre-formed pond with some sand or a string.



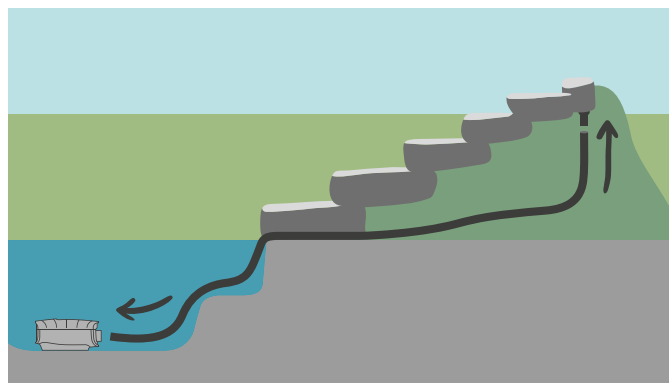
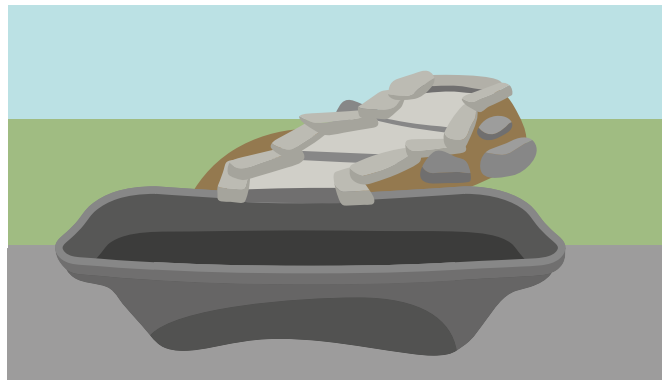
#### Inserting the pre-formed pond:

- Next, use the markings to dig out the pit for the pre-formed pond. Check the position and alignment of the pond basin with the spirit level and correct if necessary.
- To ensure that the pond basin stays in position, use the sand and water to slurry the pre-formed pond in the pit (see also the detailed instructions: DIY pond with pre-formed pond).

### 3. Step – Construction

#### Placing watercourse elements:

- To determine the total height of the watercourse, add up the heights of all the elements. You can use the excavated material from the pit to fill the calculated slope. If there isn't any excavated material available, sand is also suitable. Make sure that the subsoil is firm (when you stand on it, the subsoil should not give way).
- Once the pre-formed pond is firmly seated in the pit, position the lowest watercourse element with the slope towards the pond so that it protrudes about 10 cm over the edge into the pond.
- You now create the additional stream elements along the contours. Keep an eye on the correct direction of the slope and on a firm surface.



- The source forms the top and last element, which is connected to the watercourse pump by a hose. Adjust the stepped hose sleeves to the diameter of the hose and connect it at one end to the watercourse source and at the other to the pump.
- Then place the watercourse pump in the middle of the pond.

**Tip:** Hide the hose along the watercourse with soil or sand.

#### Letting the water flow:

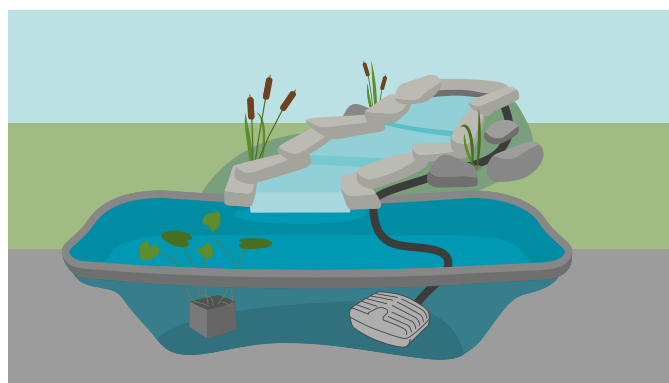
And now the time has come to fill the pond basin with water. Once the basin is full, turn on the watercourse pump to start a first test run. First, check:

Do the elements seal tightly, and is no water lost along the way?

If you discover a leak, check that the elements overlap sufficiently (at least 5 cm) and that the slope is in the right direction.

Is the water flowing in the desired quantity?

You can regulate the flow by adjusting the pump output.



#### Planting greenery along the waterline:

If you can hear a wonderful splashing sound at this stage, it means the water is flowing. Now only one thing is missing for that finishing touch to your watercourse – planting greenery along the waterline. You can choose from the range of waterline plants available from your plant market or supplier according to your taste and creativity. For example, different grasses or large-leaf hostas are suitable for a green design



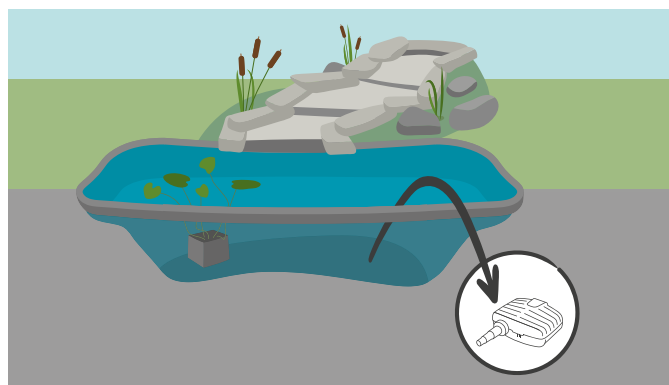
## 4. Step

### Maintenance

Once you've successfully completed your watercourse project, you'll no doubt want to make the most of the exhilarating new atmosphere in your garden for a long time to come.

To ensure that you can continue to derive enjoyment from your work, we would like to give you a few simple tips on how to maintain your watercourse:

- **Waterline:** Check the water level in the pond regularly and top up with water if necessary.
- **Vegetation:** Examine the surrounding vegetation from time to time. Cut back any plants that protrude too far into the pond or watercourse and remove any unwanted greenery that has begun to grow there.
- **Autumn leaves:** As the gardening season draws to an end, leaves gradually begin to fall from the surrounding trees. To prevent the water from silting up and becoming cloudy, remove fallen leaves and branches from the pond and watercourse.
- **Freezing temperatures:** If your watercourse pump should not be kept in the pond in sub-zero temperatures, make sure to remove it from the pond before winter sets in. This is also the perfect opportunity to clean the pump (for example, with AquaActiv PumpClean, item no. 75806). Once you've removed (and cleaned) the pump, make sure it is safely stored in a bucket of water in a warmer area.



**We hope you enjoy your new watercourse!**

Did you find this project interesting and are already itching to get started on another one? For more inspiration, including detailed DIY guides, visit [www.oase.com/diy](http://www.oase.com/diy).