Over Existing Concrete – A Latex Mortar Is Recommended
1. SURFACE PREPARATION: Mesh Backed units can be installed over a new or existing concrete sub base minimum of 3.5 inches. Surface must be clean and flat.
2. LAYOUT: Place mesh throughout the installation area with no mortar called a ‘dry layout’. This will ensure you will have enough material and show how the area will be covered. All adjustments can be made at this time.
3. MORTARING: Follow mixing instructions on mortar bag. A 1/2 to 3/4 inch notch trowel is used to spread mortar evenly. Work in areas a little bigger then size of the mat to be laid.
4. INSTALLING THE MESH: Set the mesh units the same way as the dry layout pressing firmly. Use a 4 ft. level to make sure you have a flat level surface from one piece to the next. A rubber mallet can be used to tap high spots. Repeat until all areas that don’t require cutting are covered.
5. TEMPLATES: When mesh backed units need to end against a wall or border, place the straight edge of a piece of cardboard along the wall or border and trace the area that needs to be filled and cut the cardboard following the traced lines.
6. CUTTING: Place the cut cardboard template on the mesh backed unit to be cut, trace and cut with a circular saw fitted with a masonry blade. Install the cut piece repeating sections 3 and 4.
7. COMPLETING: Joints can be filled by sweeping in polymeric or mason sand or applying a mortar mix with a bag. A natural stone sealer should be applied for protection.

Over Sand Or Patio Base
1. EXCAVATION: Stake out your designated area. Mark the perimeter with string or spray paint. Before you excavate you may need to contact utility companies to mark underground cables or pipes.
2. SLOPE & PITCH: Create a pitch by grading during excavation away from buildings for drainage.
3. BASE PREPARATION: The gravel base course is a critical step in successful installation. The material used for the base should be a course granular aggregate consisting of sand and stone from 3/8 to stone dust. A base of 8” is recommended for sidewalks and patios. The base must be compacted to prevent the patio from settling over time.
4. COMPACTING: Compacting should be completed in 3" to 4" layers, not all at once. Do not work over a frozen base. To achieve good compaction use a plate compactor or a tamper. Pay special attention to corners and tight spaces. A hand tamper may be needed.
5. SAND BED: Apply a 1" layer of sand over the compacted gravel base. Do not compact the sand, use a rake to level the sand.
6. INSTALLATION: The mesh backed units are laid directly on the sand. (DO NOT COMPACT ON TOP OF THE MESH, USE A 4 FT. LEVEL TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A FLAT SURFACE FROM ONE PIECE TO THE NEXT. A RUBBER MALLET CAN BE USED TO TAP HIGH SPOTS).
7. COMPLETING: Joints can be filled by sweeping in polymer or mason sand or applying a mortar mix with a grout bag. A natural stone sealer should be applied for protection.

These are recommendations only and careful consideration should be used and proper adjustments must be based on each job.