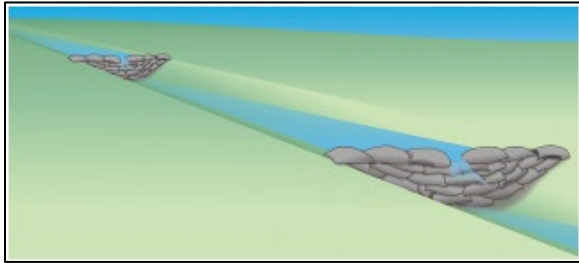


# INSTALLATION

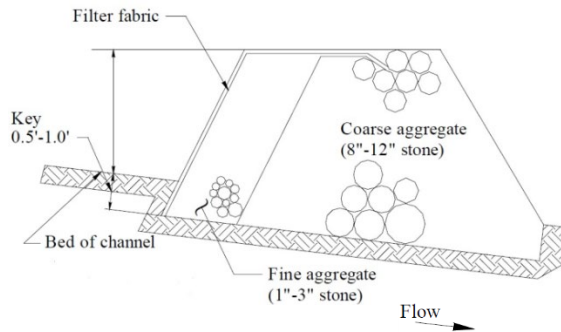


Center of rock checks should be 6-inches lower than sides to serve as an overflow.

## Rock Check Spacing Along Slopes

Ditch slope	Silt check dam spacing
30%	10 ft.
20%	15 ft.
15%	20 ft.
10%	35 ft.
5%	55 ft.
3%	100 ft.
2%	150 ft.
1%	300 ft.
0.5%	600 ft.

Calculated for 3-foot high rock checks.



Typical rock check installation.

# Contact Information

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<https://www.siswac.org/>

# CHECK DAMS



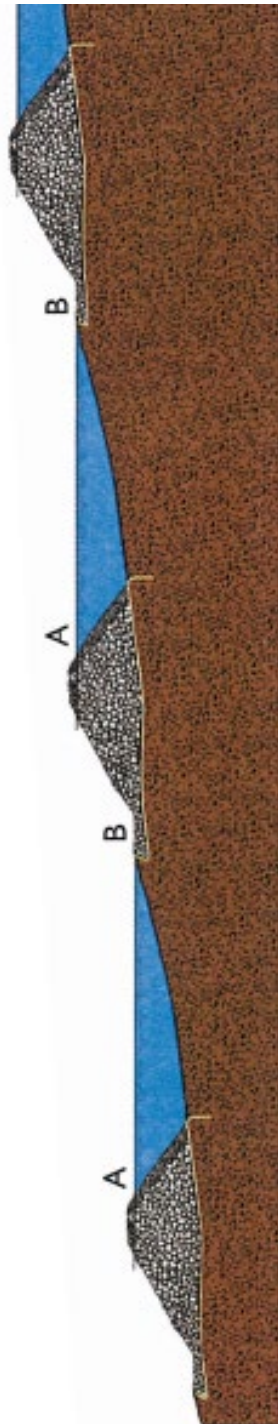
Drainage ditches need temporary silt check dams to capture sediment and reduce ditch bottom-down cutting (erosion). Check dams can be made of rock or stone-filled bags. They are only effective with smaller drainage areas, typically less than 5 acres. See table for correct check dam spacing for various channel slopes.

## Overview

- Check dams reduce erosion in a drainage channel by slowing velocity of flows.
- Seed ditches and install silt checks before excavating, filling, or grading uphill areas.
- Inspect, repair, and clean out sediment from upstream side of silt checks after each rainfall exceeding ½ inch, and when silt accumulations have reached ½ the height of the check dam.
- Do not place silt checks in creeks or streams. Sediment must be intercepted before it reaches streams, lakes, rivers, or wetlands.
- Remove temporary silt checks after the site is stabilized and vegetation is established.
- Placing filter fabric under the ditch check during installation will make removal much easier. Stone bag silt checks are easiest to remove and can often be reused.

# INSTALLATION EXAMPLES

A = Crest of Dam  
B = Toe of Dam



Downstream crest (A) shall be higher than toe (B) of upstream check dam.



Good installation of low-profile temporary rock silt checks. Remember to tie sides of silt check to upper banks. Middle section should be lower. Clean out sediment as it accumulates.



Routine inspections and maintenance are not taking place. Sediment buildup should be cleared, and missing bags replaced.



Poor installation of stone-filled bags to serve as check dam. Tied end of bag should be on the downstream end and the center should be lower than the sides.



Good installation of rock silt checks maintained until the project is completely stabilized. Now that the site is stabilized, checks are ready for removal.