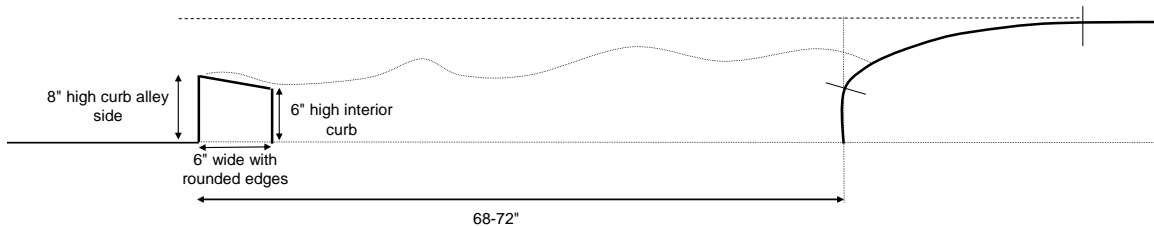


Guidelines for Building a Concrete Brisket Slope for Loose Bedded Freestalls

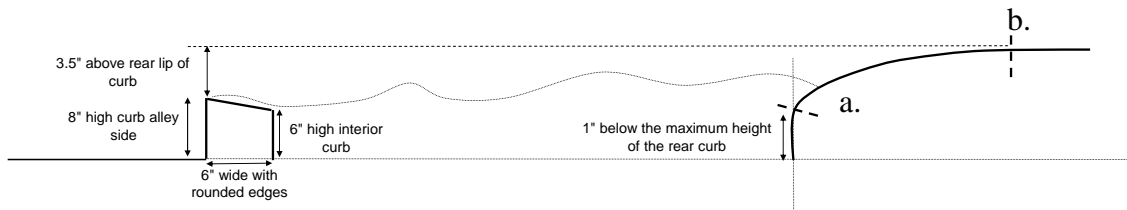
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1. Pour a rear curb 8-9 inches high and either level across the top or sloped slightly towards the bedded area. The curb need only be 6-8 inches wide, NO WIDER.
2. Decide how much space the cow requires for resting length. Measure forward from the rear point of the curb the required resting length depending on body size. We suggest the following range:

<u>Body Weight Lbs</u>	<u>Resting Length (inches)</u>
1400	68
1600	70
1800	72



3. Identify the starting and ending point of the brisket slope arc by marking two points:
 - a. Identify the point 1 inch below the highest point of the rear curb
 - b. Identify the highest point of the brisket slope 3.5 inches above the highest point of the rear curb.



4. Draw a smooth arc connecting the two points from a. to b. – shallow enough for a cow to safely land her front foot on the slope as she rises in the stall. Draw this out on the concrete wall of a cross alley or an end wall.



5. Locate a wooden form to create the vertical brisket edge and hold the concrete in place as it is poured.



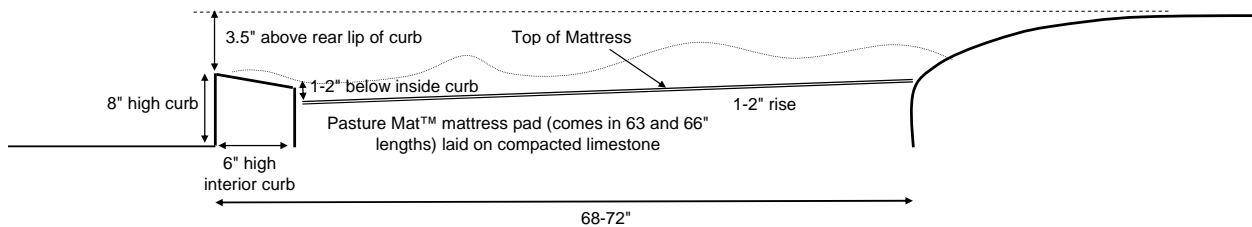
6. Create a wooden form to shape the concrete as it is poured into the brisket area using the wall drawing as a template. Drag the form across the concrete as it is poured to shape the brisket.



7. Paddle the concrete into a smooth slope before it sets and set any stall divider supports that need to be anchored.



8. Either bed with deep sand, or fit a PackMat™ with the upper edge of the Pasture Mat™ mattress pad 1-2 inches below the inside corner of the rear curb with a 1-2 inch rise to the brisket slope.



- Anchor the mattress cover to the inside of the rear curb and onto the brisket slope and fill with 2 inches of sand over the top. The aim is to use approximately 50% of the sand of a conventional deep bedded stall.



- Make sure that there is a 5 inch space between the top of the brisket slope and the lower edge of the lower divider rail to allow sufficient space for the cow's front leg to pass without getting trapped.



The brisket slope serves to position the cow relative to the rear curb. Larger cows may have to lie up the slope a little, while smaller cows sink down into the soft sand. The slope is shallow enough to allow the cow to lie with her leg outstretched and it also allows her to plant her front leg forward when rising.