Stepping Up the Base

Walls built on a sloping grade must always be constructed with leveled, horizontal courses. Courses should not be sloped to match the slope of the surrounding ground levels. Walls built on a sloping grade require a stepped base (footing or leveling pad) which steps up the slope in 6-inch increments as often as required.

LOWEST POINT
Begin excavation at the lowest point and dig a level trench into the slope until it is deep enough to accommodate the base material and one entire block. Form the base and lay the first course of blocks starting at the bottom of the slope, working upwards.

STEP UP
At this point, step up the height of one block and begin a new section of base trench. Once compacted, the base must be exactly level with the top of the course of blocks previously installed. At each step-up point, the trench should also step back towards the rear of the wall to allow for the setback of each new base course and to ensure the wall remains centered on the leveling pad as it progresses up the slope.

Continue to step up as needed to top of slope. Always bury at least one full unit at each step.