

Westcon® Concrete Mix



Product Description Westcon® Concrete Mix is a pre-blended mixture of cement and aggregates for general structural uses, requiring only the addition of water.

Product Use

Westcon® Concrete Mix designed for pouring concrete 50 mm (2") thick or more and building or repairing anything out of concrete, including:

- Foundation walls and footings
- Sidewalks, curbs, steps, ramps, and walkways
- Appliance and equipment platforms
- Pipe and post footings
- Floor slabs and patios
- Pools, fish pools, stepping stones
- Splash-blocks and bird baths
- Riprap & slope protection
- Driveway repairs

Sizes

Westcon® Concrete Mix is available in:

25 kg (55lb) bag

Yield

A 25 kg (55 lb) bag yields approximately 11.7 L (0.41 cu ft)

TECHNICAL DATA

APPLICABLE STANDARDS

ASTM International - ASTM C387 Standard Specifications for Packaged, Dry, Combined Materials for Mortar and Concrete

PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Westcon® Concrete Mix exceeds the compressive strength requirements of ASTM C387, as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1 TYPICAL COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH 1
Compressive strength, ASTM C39

Age	Typical Values
7 days	17.2 MPa (2500 psi)
28 days	27.6 MPa (4000 psi)
Slump Range	50-75 mm (2" - 3")

INSTALLATION

PREPARATORY WORK

Stake out the planned area and remove sod or soil to the desired depth. Nail and stake forms securely in place. Tamp and compact the sub-base until firm.

MACHINE MIXING INSTRUCTIONS

Westcon® Concrete Mix can be mixed in a barrel type concrete mixer or a mortar mixer.

- Choose the mixer size most appropriate for the size of the job to be done
- Allow at least 24 L (1 cu ft) of mixer capacity for each 25 kg (55 lb) bag Westcon® Concrete Mix to be mixed at one time
- For each 25 kg (55 lb) bag of Westcon® Concrete Mix to be mixed, add approximately 1.9 L (0.5 US gal) of fresh water to the mixer
- Turn on the mixer and begin adding the concrete to the mixer
- If the material becomes too difficult to mix, add additional water sparingly until a workable mix is obtained
- If a slump cone is available, adjust water to achieve a 50 - 75 mm (2" - 3") slump

Note - Final water content should be approximately 1.9 – 2.9 L (0.5 – 0.75 US gal) of water per 25 kg (55 lb) bag of concrete.

HAND MIXING INSTRUCTIONS

- Empty concrete bags into a suitable mixing container
- For each 25 kg (55 lb) bag of mix, add approximately 1.9 L (0.5 US gal) of clean water
- Work the mix with a shovel, rake or hoe and add water as needed until a stiff, moldable consistency is achieved
- Be sure all material is wet
- Do not leave standing puddles

APPLICATION

Method for Pouring a Slab

- Dampen the sub-grade before concrete is placed
- Do not leave standing puddles
- Shovel or place concrete into the form; fill to the full depth of the form
- After concrete has been compacted and spread to completely fill the forms without air pockets, strike off and float immediately
- To strike off, use a straight board (screed), moving the edge back and forth with a saw-like motion to smooth the surface
- Use a darby or bull float to float the surface; this levels any ridges and fills voids left by the straight edge
- Cut the concrete away from the forms by running an edging tool or trowel along the forms to compact the slab edges
- Cut 25 mm (1") deep control joints into the slab every 1.8 - 2.4 m (6' - 8') using a grooving tool
- Allow concrete to stiffen slightly, waiting until all water has evaporated from the surface before troweling or applying a broom finish

Note - For best results, do not overwork the material.

Method for Setting Fence Posts

- Dig post hole about 3 times the diameter of the post. Hole depth should be 1/3 the overall post height
- Place 150 mm (6") of dry concrete mix in the bottom of the hole. Position the post, checking that it is level and plumb. Combine concrete mix with water and place into the hole
- When standing water has evaporated from the concrete, smooth the surface. Taper it away from the post so rain will flow in that direction. Wait 24 hours before post is subjected to any strain
- For load-bearing applications, follow local building codes for proper footing specifications

FINISHING

Any standard concrete finishing technique is acceptable for use with Westcon® Concrete Mix. Concrete can be hand troweled, power-troweled, broom finished or finished with other specialty finishes.

CURING

Curing is one of the most important steps in concrete construction. Proper curing increases the strength and durability of concrete, and a poor curing job can ruin an otherwise well-done project. Proper water content and temperature are essential for good curing. In near freezing temperatures the hydration process slows considerably. When weather is too hot, dry or windy, water is lost by evaporation from the concrete, and hydration stops, resulting in finishing difficulties and cracks. The ideal circumstances for curing are ample moisture and moderate temperature and wind conditions. Curing should be started as soon as possible and should continue for a period of 5 days in warm weather at 21oC (70oF) or higher or 7 days in colder weather at 10 - 21oC (50 - 70oF).

Specific Curing Methods

- Other methods of providing proper curing include covering the surface with wet burlap; keeping the surface wet with a lawn sprinkler and sealing the concrete surface with plastic sheeting or waterproof paper to prevent moisture loss
- If burlap is used, it should be free of chemicals that could weaken or discolor the concrete. New burlap should be washed before use. Place it when the concrete is hard enough to withstand surface damage and sprinkle it periodically to keep the concrete surface continuously moist
- Water curing with lawn sprinklers, nozzles or soaking hoses must be continuous to prevent interruption of the curing process
- Curing with plastic sheets is convenient. They must be laid flat, thoroughly sealed at joints and anchored carefully along edges

PRECAUTIONS

- Curing compounds should not be applied if rain or temperatures below 10oC (50oF) are expected within 24 hours
- Do not use curing compounds during late fall on surfaces where de-icers will be used to melt ice and snow. Using curing compounds at that time may prevent proper air drying of the concrete, which is necessary to enhance its resistance to damage caused by de-icers
- Protect concrete from freezing during the first 48 hours. Plastic sheeting and insulation blankets should be used if temperatures are expected to fall below 0oC (32oF).

WARRANTY

The Westcon® Companies warrant this product to be of merchantable quality when used or applied in accordance with the instructions herein. The product is not warranted as suitable for any purpose or use other than the general purpose for which it is intended. Liability under this warranty is limited to the replacement of its product (as purchased) found to be defective, or at the shipping companies' option, to refund the purchase price. In the event of a claim under this warranty, notice must be given to The Westcon® Companies in writing. This limited warranty is issued and accepted in lieu of all other express warranties and expressly excludes liability for consequential damages.

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