



DIY PROJECT:

HOW TO BUILD A RETAINING WALL

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. LAY FOUNDATIONS:

Identify where you want the retaining wall and dig a trench 500mm deep x 500mm wide x the length of the proposed retaining wall. Box up the trench with boards constructed from 25mm thick timber, which is as wide and deep as the trench. Hold the timber frame in place with 50mm square stakes that are level with the timber frame when knocked in. Check the level of the work area with a spirit level. Allow for the desired slope and check the diagonals. Lay construction mesh on the floor of the boxed trench.

2. LAY THE CONCRETE:

Calculate how much concrete you will require (two 20kg bags of Cemix® Multicrete will produce concrete equivalent to 500mm x 500mm x 76.8mm) use the Cemix® Quantity Calculator on our website to calculate quantities. Empty the contents of the Cemix® Multicrete into a wheelbarrow, mechanical mixer or onto a smooth non-porous surface.

Add water gradually, mixing thoroughly until a smooth mix is achieved. Under ideal conditions one 20kg bag of Cemix® Multicrete will require 2L of water. Fill half the depth of the boxed trench with a firm mix of Cemix® Multicrete and lay a second layer of construction mesh on top. Work the concrete so that it is compact and air voids are removed. Fill the remaining depth of the boxed trench with a firm mix of Cemix® Multicrete. Level the top and allow to cure for 3 days.

3. LAY THE BRICKS

Use Cemix® Cemortar to build up the double brick wall. Calculate how much mortar you

will require (one 20kg bag of Cemix® Masonry Mortar Mix is enough to lay 20-25 standard bricks, or 15-20 concrete blocks). Empty the contents of the Cemix® Cemortar into a wheelbarrow, mechanical mixer, or onto a smooth non-porous surface. Add water gradually, mixing thoroughly until a smooth mix is achieved. Under ideal conditions one 20kg bag of Cemix® Cemortar would require 3L of water.

Dampen clay bricks before laying them, however concrete blocks should be laid relatively dry. Trowel a layer of mortar 15-20mm thick between the concrete foundation and the first row of bricks. Leave small gaps in the mortar of the first layer of bricks for drainage. Trowel mortar vertically between bricks so that it is 10-15mm thick. On the layers where the bricks extend past the length of the wall turn the bricks on the side so they fit. Continuously check the wall with a spirit level as you progress. Pointing bricks is easier after the mortar has initially set.

4. PREPARE DRAINAGE & FINISH THE WALL:

Apply Cemix Bituproof Plus protected by Form Flow to the back of the wall up to just past finished ground level. Just above the base foundation place a 15cm deep layer of gravel. Lay a nove coil drain in filter sock on the gravel with both ends protruding beyond the width of the wall. Cover drain with Scoria and then complete back fill with soil.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:



SPADE



STAKES



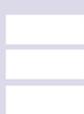
BRUSH



WHEEL BARROW



WATER



BRICKS



TROWEL



STRAIGHT
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MECHANICAL
MIXER

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